

Minutes of Barkway Parish Council
Held in the Reading Room on 19th June 2007 at 7pm

Present: K McCormick Chairman
I Sanders Vice Chairman
G Penning
T Terry
A Young
J Cockerton
R Atkins

Wheatsheaf Meadow House:

Chairman McCormick welcomed everyone to the Meeting. The meeting was adjourned.

Chairman McCormick stated the Parish Councils concern about this possible closure of Wheatsheaf Meadow House & invited those present to discuss this very serious issue. Residents attending this meeting were asked to voice their concerns & then put their thoughts in writing to the Parish Council. A list of attendee's was made & will be kept for the Parish Council's records.

Chairman McCormick thanked all those present for the information given and explained a further meeting will be held at Wheatsheaf Meadow when County Councillor Tony Hunter would be present.

The meeting then re-convened at 8pm.

Chairman McCormick welcomed Alan Fleck from NHDC to talk about Parish Grants. Mr Fleck talked about the various grants that were available. Cllr Terry explained that the Youth of Barkway had no where to congregate under cover on the Recreation Ground. It was suggested that we put together a plan of what we needed and source which type of grant that would be suitable. A plan to be drawn up to show the style of extension to the Pavilion and relative costs sourced. Local builders will be approached for quotes to build this item.

Mr Fleck that he would be happy to advise us on any problems that we might incur. Chairman McCormick thanked Mr Fleck for his time & advice.

P3 Cllr Penning reported that Jon Harris had sent further drawings to Dieter Iwan at CMS for his comments.

A further plaque is to be placed on the Bench at the junction with the Royston Road (Byway 2 to Reed). Clerk to order this item. This will be called Henry's Bench.

Kissing Gate: Still no response from either of our letters to Mr Powles.

Recreations Ground:

Cllr Terry reported that new equipment has now been installed & one further item is to be bought. This is called a Hang Glider and will be for the older children. More remedial work is needed to the play area. A RoSPA report has been received & placed in the box for perusal by the Parish Councillors.

Clerk to check on the "offer" of free Safety Tiles/Matting & if still available will contact Mr King to transport these back to Barkway.

Up-date on the Summer Party 23rd June 2007.

All requests by the Parish Council have been upheld this includes extra toilets & use of the Social Club toilets if needed. Insurance increase will be met by the Village Hall. Police, Fire & Ambulance Services are all on duty during the Event.

Reading Room.

Two letters have now been sent to Mr Wallace, of Reading Room Cottage, as yet no reply has been received to either.

Web Site:

Up to date and looking great. Village Organisations need to send their site information to Cllr Atkins. It was discussed about payment towards the cost of the Web site. A suggestion that Commercial Organisations should make an annual contribution for the running and updating of the site. A sum of £25 per annum was suggested. A time scale to get items in is to be considered. 1st October would be a possible date.

Clerk to contact Tom Doig to ask if he would be prepared to contribute his "100years ago" to the Web Site.

Bus Shelter Tiles

Some tiles on the Bus Shelter still need replacing. Clerk to check with Mr King.

Dog Bin: It was agreed to go ahead and purchase a new dog waste bin. Clerk will order and organise the emptying of this item.

Royal Mail – Post Box

No reply has been received from the Royal Mail regarding the re-positioning of the Post Box from the Royston Road to the corner of Windmill Close. Details of the letter to Chairman McCormick who will then follow this item up.

Wheatsheaf Meadow House:

After the Open Meeting earlier, the Councillors were in total agreement to follow this up as quickly as possible. Clerk to find out the names of the Chairman & Chief Executive of North Hertfordshire Homes. It was suggested that we raise a petition this will be discussed further at our next meeting.

Correspondence:

Letter received from Mr J Cliff in connection with the Milestone at the end of this drive. This will be discussed at the next Parish Council Meeting.

FINANCE:

The internal auditor Mr R Allen has completed, approved and signed the Annual return for Barkway Parish Council for the year end 31st March 2007.

PLANNING: Deferred to 20th June at 7pm in the Reading Room to discuss the plans received for a new house for the Stud Manager at Newsells Park.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

Cllr Atkins reported the poor state of the road surface to Newsells Village. Pot holes & drainage repairs, trimming of trees & scrub all need urgent attention. Clerk to contact Highways & ask Mr Barnaby to contact Cllr Atkins direct.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.15pm.