

Wareside Parish Council

Minutes of Wareside Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 28th November 2024 held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

PRESENT:, Cllr Paul Goodman (PG) (Chair), Cllr Bob Kerr (BK),, Cllr Kerry Raworth (KR) and Cllr Mike Ryan (MR).

Others: Rebecca Burdick (Clerk) (RB)

Members of the public: One member of the public was in attendance.

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 7.30pm.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence

Cllr Nicola Gildersleve (NG), Cllr Kim Nicholson (KN) and Cllr Stuart Richards (SR).

2. Declarations of interest and dispensations

- a) To receive declarations of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda (including non-pecuniary).
MR - agenda item 10 - due to living in close proximity to the ACV being discussed.
- b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests.
None.
- c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate.
None.

3. To receive petitions, comments and questions from the public

None received.

4. To approve and sign meeting minutes

- a) Thursday 24th October 2024 - approved by all Councillors present and signed by PG.

5. Planning

a) To consider planning applications received by EHDC received between 24th October 2024 - 28th November 2024

Application: 3/24/1805/FUL

Proposal: Change of use of land from B2 use and redundant horticultural land (formerly Bakers End Nursery) to C3 use. Demolition of B2 structures and the erection of outbuilding, to serve Bourne Villa.

At: Bourne Villa Bakers End Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7SH

WPC comments: None made.

Application: 3/24/1890/LBC

Proposal: Existing French doors removed and replaced with larger opening and proposed timber bi-fold doors.

At: The Moat House New Hall Farm Fanhams Hall Road Wareside Hertfordshire

WPC comments: None made.

Application: 3/24/1891/HH

Proposal: Existing French doors removed and replaced with larger opening and proposed timber bi-fold doors.

At: The Moat House New Hall Farm Fanhams Hall Road Wareside Hertfordshire

WPC comments: None made.

Application: 3/24/1583/HH

Proposal: Single storey side extension, rear patio and pond

At: Wareside Lodge Ware Road Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7RB

WPC comments: None made.

b) To review planning decisions made by EHDC received between 24th October 2024 - 28th November 2024

Application: 3/23/1629/FUL

Proposal: Creation of agricultural access track incorporating a protective buffer zone.

At: Agricultural Track On Land At Newgate Hunsdon Hertfordshire

EHDC decision: Granted

Application: 3/24/1583/HH

Proposal: Single storey side extension, rear patio and pond

At: Wareside Lodge Ware Road Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7RB

EHDC decision: Granted

Application: 3/24/1584/LBC

Proposal: Single storey side extension, rear patio and pond

At: Wareside Lodge Ware Road Wareside Hertfordshire SG12 7RB

EHDC decision: Granted

6. To receive reports from County Councillor and District Councillor

County Cllr Eric Buckmaster emailed his monthly report - please see appendix for full report. No District Cllr report received.

7. To receive updates from Councillors/Clerk on:

a) Little Oak Heath

i. LOH Maintenance

PG updated that Nicolas Buxton organised for the required areas of LOH to be cut using his machinery and operator, the cuttings have been put in the same place as the last cut. The PC is very grateful to Nicolas for doing this essential maintenance work at no cost to the PC, it enables the open space to be maintained without the hawthorn taking over.

ii. Playground maintenance

RB and PG visited the playground following the vandalism reported at the last PC meeting. 10 fencing slats and one main post is required to fix the damage, PG is happy to undertake the work with RB's assistance. The PC unanimously agreed for RB to purchase the required materials.

b) Larkshill

It was agreed that the "tidy-up" be arranged for the new year when people had better availability. MR proposed that a list of jobs to be done be agreed at the first meeting on site so that work can be done ad-hoc when people are free. This was agreed and to be organised at the first meet-up.

8. To discuss the next stage of the telephone box project

RB updated the council that a local electrician has visited the telephone box and has quoted £85 plus materials to fix a new light in the box. Following a post on the local

facebook group RB has been contacted by an electrician who lives in the village. RB to meet them at the telephone box to get another quote.

9. To discuss work undertaken on communication within the village including the Winter online newsletter

RB presented the draft Winter newsletter she had put together with contributions from the community groups suggested at the last PC meeting. The PC were pleased with the draft and KR noted that it was as she had envisioned when she had suggested the idea of the online newsletter and it could be evolved as time went on. BK suggested that an update from the doctor's surgery in Much Hadham could be added, as their contribution to the monthly Widford magazine could be used - BK to send this to RB. It was agreed that RB would finalise this edition and publish mid-December. The next online edition will be a Spring newsletter for publication in March.

10. To discuss the ACV on Wareside CofE School, Sports and Playing Field.

PG updated the council that he and SR have spoken to Ruth Garman from the Diocese. Currently the Diocese is looking at proposals from surveyors and need to decide if the school site is going to be sold with or without planning permission. The price of the site is likely to be between 1.25-2 million pounds. PG explained that as the ACV is for both the school site (managed by the Diocese on behalf of the trustees) and the playing field (owned by HCC) he has emailed Cllr Eric to help pursue the purchase of the playing fields. The PC discussed the two sites and agreed securing one for the community should be their ultimate goal. It is thought that the school site will be a more achievable price for funds to be raised within the community and also require less money to redevelop. It was unanimously agreed that PG and SR are to continue to pursue investigating the purchase of the school playing field element of the ACV.

11. To discuss EHDC's Community Governance Review and agree the PC's view on the proposed boundary change between Ware and Wareside

RB updated the PC that East Hertfordshire Council is conducting a Community Governance Review (CGR). The CGR will focus on those Parish and Town Councils that previously submitted requests. The one request that affects Wareside is from Ware Town Council. They have requested that the Review move the boundary between Ware and Wareside so that the whole of the WARE 2 development as defined in the The East Herts District Plan 2018 becomes part of Ware. The Review has contacted the PC to seek their opinion - the deadline for this is 6th January 2024. RB noted that as there was no PC meeting in December and that the deadline falls before the January PC meeting a decision on if the PC would like to respond to the Review and if yes, what the response would be would need to be agreed at this meeting.

The PC discussed the benefits and disadvantages of the inclusion of Ware 2 within Wareside. Notably, the inclusion of Ware 2 within Wareside would bring with it a larger precept due to the additional houses contributing towards it. However inclusion of these houses would significantly alter the parish of Wareside and the PC. Currently this area of the parish (Wareside Urban) is represented by 4 parish Councillors and the remaining area of the parish (Wareside Rural) is represented by 3 parish councillors. Therefore rural councillors would be outnumbered. It cannot be ignored that the precept received currently from <10 houses in this area would be lost from the PC's precept (approximately £1000), funds the PC cannot afford to lose. It was unanimously resolved that a response would be made to the Review, it would outline the PC's concerns regarding losing a proportion of its already stretched precept if the boundary was changed and suggest objections could be

met if a mechanism could be found so that the lost precept could be made available to the PC.

12. To confirm the proposed 2025 Parish Council dates

RB sent round proposed meeting dates for the PC in 2025, meetings will be held at 7.30pm in Wareside Village Hall on the third Thursday of each month except March and April when the meeting will be on the fourth Thursday of the month. There will be no meeting in August or December. These dates were unanimously agreed by the PC. RB to inform the village hall and update the website.

13. Finance

a) To approve signing of orders for payment online via BACS

Payee	Work done/goods received	Amount
Rebecca Burdick	Salary (October)	£274.28

b) To discuss the draft FY25/26 budget and highlight any additions/amendments (for full approval at the January PC meeting)

Draft budget was reviewed and minor changes made.

14. Urgent matters not included on this agenda (for full discussion on the next agenda)

None.

Meeting finished at 9.15pm

Next meeting 16th January 2025 at 19.30

Signed:

Date:

Chair Cllr Paul Goodman