

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF  
WELWYN PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007 AT 7.45PM  
AT THE PARISH CENTRE LOCKLEYS DRIVE WELWYN**

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There were no members of the public who wished to speak during the 15 minutes allocated for Public Participation.

**Present:** Chairman, Councillor J Roper and Councillors M Benson, J Blackburn, S Butler, C Hukin, C Passmore and I Skidmore.

**In Attendance:** R Findlay (Clerk) and J Lewis (Office Administrator).

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. P Neville

**2007/35 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.** There were none.

**2007/36 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 27<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2007.**

These were **Resolved** as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**2007/37 MATTERS ARISING.**

Cllr. Skidmore reported that he had written regarding the proposals for Commuter Parking at Digswell to various interested persons and bodies and had Received responses from County Cllrs. R. Smith and District Cllr. C. Storer and Grant Shapps MP.

**2007/39 REVIEW OF THE COUNCILS STADING ORDERS.**

The Clerk presented a paper with suggested amendments to the Standing Orders. It was **Resolved** that Councillors should consider the proposed changes and that the matter be put on the agenda at the next meeting of the Council.

**2007/40 REVIEW OF THE COUNCIL'S FINANCIAL STANDING ORDERS.**

It was **Resolved** that this matter be put on the agenda at the next meeting of the Council.

**2007/41 ANNUAL PARISH ASSEMBLY 2007.**

The Chairman reported that this assembly was scheduled to take place on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 2007 at the Civic Centre and the meeting would start at 8.00pm.

The Clerk reported that she had written to regular hirers of the Council's rooms asking if they would like to attend the Assembly and make a presentation to the meeting. She reported that she had received several favourable responses.

It was **Resolved** that the Chairman would present a report on the Council's activities during the year and that Cllr. Skidmore would also make a presentation on the Finances of the Council.

It was **Resolved** that any Matters Arising from the Minutes of the 2006 Annual Parish Assembly be put on the agenda for the next meeting of the Council.

It was **Resolved** that the Clerk produce posters advertising the Assembly for display in retail businesses in the Parish and Cllr. Blackburn offered to organise the distribution of the posters.

It was **Resolved** that the Clerk place an paid notice in the Welwyn and Hatfield Times newspaper advertising the Assembly

**2007/42 APRIL REPORTS OF COMMITTEES.**

1) **Planning Committee.** Cllr. Hukin presented the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2007 and answered questions arising from them.

2) **Leisure Facilities Committee.** Cllr. Benson presented the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2007 and answered questions arising from them.

- 3) **Allotments Cemetery and Churchyard Committee.** Cllr. Blackburn presented the minutes of the Committee Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007 and answered questions arising from them.
- 4) **Finance Committee.** Cllr. Skidmore reported that the Finance Committee had been unable to meet on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2007 because of a lack of a quorum. Cllr. Skidmore presented invoices for payment for the period to 17<sup>th</sup> April 2007 totalling £15,246.87 with a recommendation that these be paid.  
**Resolved.**

**2007/43 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES.**

There were none.

**2007/44 LOCAL NATURE RESERVE- SINGLERS MARSH.**

Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council had written to the Council advising that it was considering designating Singlers Marsh as a Local Nature Reserve. The Clerk was requested to contact Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council requesting more information on their proposals with particular regard to any consequences to the Special Expenses charged by them to the Council.

**2007/45 MARDLEY HEATH.**

The Chairman reported that he had received a request from The Friends of Mardley Heath for funding by the Council for the purchase of tools. It was **Resolved** that the Clerk reply requesting more information on how The Friends of Mardley Heath is currently funded.

**2007/46 COUNCILLORS' WRITTEN REPORTS.**

There were none.

**EXEMPT BUSINESS.**

*Under section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and accredited representatives of newspapers were excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.*

**2007/47 CIVIC CENTRE UPDATE.**

Cllr Skidmore reported to Council on further developments.

**2007/48 CLOSE OF MEETING.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 9.50pm.

Signed.....Chairman of the Council

Date: 8<sup>th</sup> May 2007

**EXEMPT BUSINESS.**

**PRIVATE AND CONFIDENTIAL.**

**MINUTE 2007/47 CIVIC CENTRE UPDATE OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
HELD ON TUESDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2007.**

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Cllr. Skidmore presented a report on advice received from NALC.

It was **Resolved** that Cllr. Skidmore would make a brief presentation on the Civic Centre lease to the 2007 Annual Parish Assembly.

It was **Resolved** that the Clerk should obtain estimates for the cost of preparing a valuation of the Civic Centre from a list of suitably qualified and experienced Valuers recommended by HAPTC.

It was **Resolved** that the Clerk should obtain a list of suitable qualified and experienced solicitors from HAPTC and NALC.