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MINUTES of a Meeting of Wellington Heath Parish Council held in The Peter Garnett Room, Memorial Hall, Wellington Heath on Tuesday, 28th July 2009 at 7.30pm.

PRESENT – P. Adams (in the Chair –PA) R. Hurley (RH) J Jones (JJ)H. Ransome-Williams (HRW) and J. Harrison (JH) .

APOLOGIES for inability to attend the meeting were received and approved from W. Hill for family reasons.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST in items on the Agenda – None received.

MINUTES – The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 30th June 2009 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

MEMORIAL HALL REQUEST for additional storage – Attending the meeting were Ian Mackie, Lucy Hall and Ann Abbott from the Memorial Hall Committee. Ian Mackie explained that they were obliged to have regular fire risk assessments every year as otherwise they would be liable to criminal charges. At the present time, the equipment has to be stored at the back of the stage which does constitute a fire risk, as does the existing shed. He explained the request for permission to provide additional storage by way of a steel container, painted to fit in with the area which would also be vandal proof. This would be approx. 8’ in height, with doors of a similar height to enable the flats to be taken in and stored. The cost would be £1,500. Including delivery, plus VAT. The container would not be visible from the road. He confirmed the neighbours had been consulted who raised no objection , and access to the rear of the hall did not provide any problems. He also advised that they had spoken with the Planning Officer who had expressed a more “personal” worry as he did not wish to see these containers in common use in rural communities.

RESOLVED – On a proposal by PA, seconded by JJ and carried, it was agreed the Parish Council, as Landlords, accept the Memorial Hall’s request to proceed with provision of a container and it was also agreed a letter would be sent to the Memorial Hall Committee to accompany any planning application advising that the Parish Council have discussed this and raised no objections to a planning request for provision of a steel container at the rear of the Memorial Hall.

PROGRESS REPORT –

SIGNS/SIGNAGE – The Clerk reported Herefordshire Council had promised the agreed work would be done during August, the reason for delay had been quoted as shortage of staff members.

SAFE WALKING FOOTWAY INTO LEDBURY – RH advised he had heard nothing from Vince Playdon. Next stage was to arrange meeting with land owners and Ledbury Council. The Chairman and Vice Chairman would decide who to contact regarding the meeting.

SIGNS FOR HGVs at Floyds Lane – RH advised he had met with Fiona Miles from Herefordshire Council who could not agree to position the signs where the Parish Council wanted them. Clerk to forward Fiona Miles a sketch indicating the position for the sign at the top of Floyds Lane as the land owner had indicated he would be happy with it in that position.

INSURANCE COVER for roadside furniture and play equipment – The Clerk had contacted the Insurance Co. who had agreed to hold this equipment covered pending further detailed information. Numbers of benches, notice boards and play equipment was agreed with individual values as the Clerk was to arrange for the “replacement new for old insurance” to be finalised.

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ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION –

Emergency Co-ordinator – This was discussed and it was agreed that the Parish did not need to appoint an Emergency Co-ordinator. However, it was decided to include an article in the next Newsletter concerning help to neighbours during adverse weather conditions.

ROSPA Report for Pool Piece – An inspection had been carried out and Report received that there were no high or medium risk items. Two or three low risk items were raised which would be monitored. The Clerk was to advise Herefordshire Council that we were disappointed not to be given the chance to attend when the inspection was carried out, as had been requested, and would they please note this for future inspections.

Bus Shelter at top of The Common – RH felt members might wish to consider installation of a bus shelter and advised that a grant might be available of about £1,500., although total cost could be anything up to about £6,000. Some brochures were produced, and it was agreed to ascertain the amount of grant which might be available and item to be added to the Agenda for the September meeting. It was noted that the bench at this bus stop had been damaged, although it was felt safe for use. There was also a fallen tree at the top of The Common.

Overhanging trees & hedges – It was reported these were causing problems for both pedestrians and larger vehicles such as delivery vehicles and buses. The Vice Chairman had cut back some of the overhanging foliage near Hill Top Farm. It was agreed to draft a standard letter which the Parish Council can send out regarding offending hedge rows. In the meantime, the Clerk was to send a letter to Mr. William Taylor regarding a hedge which was encroaching out onto the public footpath in Ochre Hill by about 2-3ft and asking if he would kindly arrange to have this cut back.

NEWSLETTER – Latest edition has been printed and delivered. Vote of thanks expressed to Richard Hurley for the overall quality of the Newsletter.

PLANNING Report – The Chairman of the Planning Committee advised no applications had been received during the month.

FINANCIAL MATTERS – The following Accounts had been received for payment -

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| • Lengthsman – | £200.00. |
| • Ledbury Fencing at Pool Piece | £50.00. |
| • Herefordshire Council, ROSPA inspection | £50.85. |
| • E. Pattison, printing Newsletter | £218.50. |
| • Clerk – salary | £471.85. |

On a proposal by JJ, seconded by JH and carried, cheques were signed for these Accounts. The Clerk advised that some advertising charges remained unpaid and JJ agreed to chase these up.

MEMORIAL HALL REPORT – new work top in kitchen yet to be fitted, all electrical circuits have been tested of which a few items require some expenditure, gardens shrubs and trees will be cut back. New cork surface in the notice board requires attention along with some adjustment to the doors. New chairs have arrived, summer fete very successful. Key safe requires some attention. Cheque received for £72. For some parking charges which was donated to the Memorial Hall. Table tennis group had asked for a reduced charge due to lack of membership. A query had also been received as to why the fete could not be held in the Village Hall rather than taking place at The Farmers Arms.

CORRESPONDENCE – Letters from Insurance Co. regarding cover for play equipment and roadside furniture. They had also supplied information regarding fete/tug-o-war and special events guidelines and also Playground safety leaflet. A letter had also been received from Herefordshire Council regarding rural settlement hierarchy background paper which was used for the UDP - this was handed to the ViceChairman.

LITERATURE – Folder handed to RH for circulation.

PUBLIC QUESTION TIME – No members of the public in attendance.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING – 675 Bus service, stops, shelter and tendering, area of land owned by Mr. Fred Cobb, Report from Tree Warden also covering The Pleck, P3 Footpaths Scheme, safe walking way to Ledbury plus the usual progress reports etc.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

SignedP. Adams.....

Dated29th September 2009.....

Chairman.