



# North Weald Bassett

## PARISH COUNCIL



Jim Davis Room, Parish Office, North Weald Library, 138 High Road, North Weald, CM16 6YZ

Tel: 01992 523825

Fax: 01992 524756

Email: [clerk@northweald-pc.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@northweald-pc.gov.uk)

Web Site: [www.northweald-pc.gov.uk](http://www.northweald-pc.gov.uk)

Clerk to the Council  
Susan De Luca

29<sup>th</sup> December 2015

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### TO ALL COUNCILLORS

You are hereby summonsed to attend **A Meeting** of the **Parish Council** which will be held on **Monday, 4th January 2016**, in the **North Weald Library**, High Road, North Weald Bassett at **7.30pm** to transact the business shown in the Agenda below.

**Susan De Luca**  
Clerk to the Council

*Members of the public and press are invited to attend this meeting*

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### AGENDA

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To **RECEIVE** any apologies for absence.

#### 2. OTHER ABSENCES

To **NOTE** any absences for which no apology has been received.

#### 3. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

 To **APPROVE**, as a correct record:

- the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2015
- the Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Meeting, and the **CONFIRMATION** of the Budget & Precept within, held on the 21<sup>st</sup> December 2015

To **NOTE**

- the Minutes of the Parish Hall at Thornwood Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2015.

**As attached at Appendix 1.**

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To **RECEIVE** any Declarations of Interest by Members.

*A Member with a personal interest in a matter must consider whether it is a Disclosable Pecuniary, Non Pecuniary or Other Pecuniary Interest, and declare it accordingly. A Member who is unsure as to how to declare their interest should seek independent advice*

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## 5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

To **RECEIVE** questions from members of the public.

*In accordance with an agreed procedure, the time allocated for public questions shall be limited to 15 minutes or such other period determined by the Chairman of the Meeting.*

## 6. CLERKS COMMUNICATIONS AND CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

 To **RECEIVE** the report of the Clerk on matters which may be of current interest to Members and which require a formal update, and to **RECEIVE** such correspondence and communication as the Clerk may place before the Council, details of which are attached at **Appendix 2**.

*NOTE: Any Member wishing to have a communication brought to the attention of the Council should give prior notification to the Clerk.*

## 7. REPORTS & MEMBERS REPORTS

 **Members are reminded that in order to ensure smooth and prompt running of the meeting it would be prudent to provide the Clerk with a written copy of their report in order that this can be circulated to all Members with the Agenda.**

To **RECEIVE** any questions emanating from any reports from Members who wish to give a report and/or who are representatives on Committees, Working Groups, Outside Bodies and other meetings that Members or the Clerk have attended and which, **if available**, will be reproduced **if they have been submitted by Members for inclusion**

a) Chairman's Report

b) Vice Chairman's Report

c)  District Councillors Reports – **All District Councillors are now invited to send a written Report, if they are unable to attend the Meeting, which the Clerk will read out.**

d) Parish Councillors Reports – To be given by Members at the Meeting

e) Environmental Issues – Cllr Mulliner

## 8. FINANCIAL REPORTS

a) List of Cheques & Monthly Statement of Accounts

To **APPROVE** the lists of payment which were made up to the 31st December 2015 and **NOTE** the account balances at the end of the month. **(to be tabled)**

## 9. NEIGHBOURHOOD AREA PLAN

Members are **REMINDED** that there are two remaining Mopping Up Events to be held in January.

**The two dates are:**

North Weald Village Hall – Saturday – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016 – 9.30am – 11am

Parish Hall at Thornwood - Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2016 – 11.30am – 1pm

These have been advertised in Village Life and on the Parish Council Noticeboards also on the Parish Council Web Site.

## 10. 100 YEARS OF NORTH WEALD AIRFIELD

The 100 Year Celebratory Event for North Weald Airfield has been discussed previously. The Clerk has sent an email to Darren Goodey the Airfield Manager to try to ascertain the costing for a Marquee, and is also investigating the cost of a mobile 'Tea Facilities' provider. A further update

will be given at the next meeting, however, suggestions of Parish organisations to approach regarding who is intending to attend and what type of stand they are going to have in the Marquee and what they intend to be advertising are requested from Councillors, as it would not be viable to have a situation with all organisations turning up with stands running tombolas or similar stands all in the Marquee.

### **11. QUEENS ROAD ALLOTMENTS – ACCESS FOR ALLOTMENT TENANTS DURING BUILDING WORKS BY EPPING FOREST DISTRICT COUNCIL TO THE GARAGE SITE**

Members are advised that as well as advising Epping Forest District Councils Development Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2015 of the Access concerns and problems in relation to the Queens Road Garage site, and both Nigel Richardson – Assistant Director Planning and Paul Pledger Deputy Head of Housing, following the granting of Planning approval of this site. The Clerk has been advised that Epping Forest District Council is unable to answer these issues at the current time. An officer from District Council telephoned the Clerk on Christmas Eve and advised that they will not be able to advise the Parish Council until the end of January or the beginning of February at the earliest. The Clerk has also contacted both Nigel Richardson – Assistant Director of Planning and Paul Pledger Deputy Head of Housing following the granting of Planning approval of this site.

### **12. POLICY DECISION NORTH WEALD PARISH COUNCIL LIBRARY SERVICES AND OFFICE**

North Weald Parish Council moved into the Office within the Library in April 2008. This Council has a 10 year Agreement with Essex County Council. This is due to end in April 2018. There is a 7 ½ year ‘break clause’ on both sides which could have been acted upon from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2015.

Whilst the majority of the time the relationship between the Essex County Council and the Parish Council has been a fairly ‘harmonious’ one there have been a number of trying and problematic concerns for all the staff. The main one being that of a ‘Front Line’ Reception for Essex County Council Issues, such as Highways, Social Matters, Education, and Libraries. Whilst we realise that we opted to undertake a partnership working with Essex County Council it does seem to be somewhat ‘one sided’ especially on the:

**Library** – they will not give us access to their computers – therefore we can only offer a part service, and Mitie who are the Maintenance Company for Essex Council are often making it very difficult in other ways for us to operate within the office, ie – with no heating in the actual office.

**Highways** – are in a seemingly dreadful state over the last couple of years and they do not seem to be getting any better with Jo spending between 4 – 5 hours a week, on average on Highway Issues.

Members should remember that we also undertake ‘Front Line’ Reception for Epping Forest District Council.

Because we are in the Library, we are very visual, easy to access, and Residents see the Parish Council as the Front Line and the only way of communicating to anyone in authority – especially if those in authority will not communicate with them, as could be seen in the recent case with the Police who the residents perceived (and to some extent quite correctly) had not been listened to in relation to Halloween and Fireworks Night. Added to this, the Parish Council has always had a very good record of acting on, and actioning residents concerns.

Members may recall that a couple of years ago the Clerk had suggested applying for some Grant funding from the Governments Communities Fund and bidding for Leader Lodge to and then look to build a new Parish Council Office on land at Leader Lodge, however this was not agreed by Members as there was No policy decision in place as to what the Parish Council would want to do in the future.

What Members need to **DISCUSS** is that now as there is less than 2 ½ years of the Agreement left with Essex County Council what they wish to do in the future.

### 13. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND THE PRESS

In the event that the Agenda contains Exempt (pink) pages, or an item needs to be discussed confidentially, to **CONSIDER** the following motion to be proposed by the Chairman:

“That the public and the press be excluded from the meeting, the Council believing that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business about to be discussed.”

There are currently **NO** confidential items to be considered