

## Minutes of the meeting of the Watton-at-Stone Parish Council held in the Community Hall on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2010

Present: Mr. J. Meischke (Chairman) Mr. M. Smith (Vice-Chairman)  
 Mr. N. Poulton (Vice-Chairman) Mrs. C. Dinnin  
 Mr. D. Filer Mr. I. Knight  
 Mr. D. Stock The Clerk (Mrs. J. Allsop)

Public: None

### 1 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Clark, Mr. Harris and Mrs. McCash.

### 2 Public Participation

None.

### 3 Chairman's/Clerk's Report

None.

### 4 Declaration of Interests

Mr. Filer declared a personal interest in item 5 b, Review of actions - Contact Bob Adams re ferreting (Mr. Filer's son-in-Law, Peter Phillips, has applied to the Parish Council for a ferreting licence).

Mr. Poulton declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 6b ii. Planning decision – 2 Old School Orchard (Mr. Poulton has been helping with the application papers).

### 5 Minutes of the last meeting

#### a) Acceptance

- **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009**

Mr. Filer proposed that the minutes be accepted and signed by the Chairman as a true record. Mrs. Dinnin seconded the motion and all present at that meeting were in favour.

#### b) Review of actions

- **Inspect the drain in the car-park**  
Mr. Meischke said that Ted Brown cleared the drain, but it required doing again. This work has now been completed.
- **Upload the photographs from Mr. Stock into the website Gallery: completed.**
- **Attend Local Strategy Partnership Forum**  
Refer to item 7 e, Specific items, East Herts Council - Local Strategic Partnership Forum.
- **Write to East Herts Council re 5 Moorymead Close: completed.**
- **Write to East Herts Council re 2 Old School Orchard: completed.**
- **E-mail Parish Council Civic meeting dates for 2010/11 to Bryan Hammond (County Councillor), Oliver Heald MP and PC Andy Woodward: completed.**
- **Visit Alan Beadle re vandalised bench seat and request a quotation for a replacement seat**  
Refer to item 7 d, Specific items - Claim for vandalised bench seat.
- **Write to all contractors who submitted quotations for work in 2010: completed.**
- **Write to Sports and Social Club re review of hiring charges: completed.**
- **Return completed Precept form to East Herts Council**  
Refer to item 8a, Budget and Finance Sub-Committee - Precept billing form.
- **Send donation of £25 to River Beane Restoration Association: completed.**
- **Order a table trolley for the Pavilion from County Supplies: completed.**  
The table trolley has been ordered and will be delivered to the Clerk's home on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> February.
- **Inspect vandalised gate post onto Church Walk**  
Mr. Meischke said he had inspected the vandalised gatepost and agreed that a new post needs installing. John Phillips will do the work when the weather improves. **Action: J. Phillips**
- **Contact Hertfordshire Highways to ask them when the tree on Hazeldell will be planted**  
Mr. Stock e-mailed all Parish Councillors on 4<sup>th</sup> February as follows.  
'Just for your information, the tree funded by Bryan Hammond was today planted in Hazeldell, as per our specific request to do so.'
- **Contact Mr. Evernden re hedge cutting**  
The Clerk has spoken to Peter Evernden who informed her that he is arranging for his hedges to be cut before the bird-nesting season and will notify us when his contractor is due to start the work.

- **Inspect kicker boards that are coming away from their support posts: outstanding.**
- **Invite PC Andy Woodward and PCSO Sally Brooks to the March Parish Council meeting**  
PC Andy Woodward has e-mailed to confirm that he and PCSO Sally Brooks will be attending the March Parish Council meeting.
- **Instruct Adam Welch to proceed with the work to the Oak tree in the sportsfield hedge and notify Dr. Norden: completed**  
Refer to item 9 e, Correspondence received - Dr. Norden re Oak Tree in sportsfield hedge opposite 10 School Lane.
- **Contact Bob Adams re ferreting**  
Mr. Meischke has spoken to Bob Adams who is happy to share a ferreting licence with Peter Phillips, but not until the current ferreting licence year ends on 30<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Mr. Adams would like to draw up a map identifying ferreting areas for the Parish Council's approval.  
Parish Councillors approved in principal the ferreting areas and that Peter Phillips should be allowed a licence to ferret on agreed areas of the Lammas and Watton Green starting from 1<sup>st</sup> May 2010.  
Mr. Meischke to contact Peter Phillips accordingly. **Action: J. Meischke**
- **Write Parish News report**  
The following articles appeared in the February edition of the Parish News.
  - Parish Council meeting dates for the Civic Year 2010/11
  - Vandalism
  - Grants provided by Bryan Hammond
  - Request for photographs suitable for inclusion in the website gallery.
 The following article should have appeared in the February edition of the Parish News, however the Clerk has now submitted it for inclusion in the March edition.  
**'Watton-at- Stone Website**  
 A new section called **Village Events** has been added to the **Watton-at-Stone website**. The purpose of this section is to give local groups, clubs and organizations an additional way of advertising (free of charge) a forthcoming event taking place within our Parish. For further information please contact the Clerk, Jane Allsop, on 01920 830330.'

**c) Action points outstanding for more than two months**

- **Pass website entry for Watton School to Mr. Stock: outstanding.**
- **Inspect Whempstead notice board to decide how best to repair it: outstanding.**
- **Write to all parties with an entry in the Watton-at-Stone website: completed.**
- **Inspect slide at Great Innings play area and write to East Herts Council if required**  
Mrs. McCash was not present at the meeting to report on this item.  
Mrs. Dinnin inspected the Great Innings play area whilst carrying-out the monthly village-report. She said the tiles at the top of the slide looked to be in good condition.
- **Arrange for the removal of logs on Watton Green**  
Mrs. Dinnin said she spoke to Adam Welch this morning and if his colleague does not want the logs she will ask the Stanley family if they want them.

**6 Planning**

Mr. Stock reported on the following items.

**a) Applications**

None.

**b) Decisions**

**i) 103 Great Innings South (3/09/1819/FP/MC)**

Removal of back door and replacement garage door with window - East Herts Council – permission granted  
Mr. Stock said he was disappointed that East Herts Council had not responded to our letter of objection to this application, in particular to the points raised concerning the quality of, and confusion within, the documentation.

After making further observations on our working relationship with the planning department, which were endorsed by all Parish Councillors present, Mr. Stock suggested that we write to East Herts Council to make our point and request a response to the issues raised in our letter of objection dated 10<sup>th</sup> December 2009. This was agreed by all present.

Mr. Poulton said that the letter should be addressed to Kevin Steptoe, Head of Development Control at East Herts Council.

Mr. Stock to write a letter to Kevin Steptoe and then pass it to Mr. Meischke, Mr. Smith and Mr. Poulton for their approval before being sent. **Action: D. Stock**  
 The Clerk to send Mr. Stock and Mr. Meischke a copy of the Parish Council's letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> December. **Action: J. Allsop**

**ii) 2 Old School Orchard, Watton At Stone (3/09/1841/LC/JS)**

Demolition of existing dwelling - East Herts Council – permission granted

**iii) 138 Hazeldell (3/09/1894/FP/AK)**

Single storey front and rear extensions - East Herts Council – permission granted

## 7 Specific items

### a) Website

To avoid the retention of out-of-date information on our website, Mr. Stock said that it was important that items in the Village Events section be removed as soon as they have taken place (e.g. The Has Beane Players pantomime runs from 18<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup> February and should be therefore be removed from the site on 22nd February).

To achieve this, he suggested that the Clerk makes relevant diary-entries to ensure that expired items are removed from the Village Events section at the appropriate time. This was agreed by all present.

**Action: J. Allsop**

### b) Website diary

No new items were identified for the website diary.

It was agreed that both the website and website diary should appear on the monthly agenda as the final two items under Routine reports.

**Action: J. Allsop**

### c) Rubbish on highways

Hertfordshire Highways have cleared rubbish in the High Street and along the by-pass area.

Mrs. Dinnin said that whilst doing the village report on Saturday, she found that all the litterbins she encountered were full.

Mr. Poulton said that there is currently a problem with people emptying carry-a-bags full of rubbish into the litterbins. He said that if the problem continues then East Herts Council might be forced to remove the bins.

It was agreed to put a notice in the parish news informing residents about the litterbin problem.

Mr. Poulton said that Adam Welch had done a very good job of clearing the leaves in the High Street. However, there are other areas in the village, such as the pump slope, that could also do with leaf clearance or additional litterpicking work. The Parish Council may need to consider putting some money in the budget to pay for additional leaf clearing and litterpicking work.

This item to be placed on the next Budget and Finance Sub-Committee agenda.

**Agenda: B&F**

### d) Claim for vandalised bench seat

Mr. Poulton said he had visited Alan Beadle to discuss the damage to the bench and to obtain a quotation for a replacement bench seat.

Mr. Beadle selected a Glenham 180 seat, retailing at £900, from Van Hage. Mr. Poulton e-mailed the manufactures, Barlow Tyre and managed to obtain a trade price of £604.68 including VAT and delivery.

The following items were e-mailed today to Aviva Insurance.

- A completed insurance claim form.
- A copy of Barlow Tyre's e-mail quotation
- Two photographs of the damaged seat.

Alan Beadle and his family have removed the seat and agreed to install the new seat.

### e) East Herts Council - Local Strategic Partnership Forum

Mr. Poulton said that many aspects of the forum were very interesting.

One item for concern is the lack of usage of the walk-in Urgent Care Centre at Hertford County Hospital. The clinic is under a 2-year contract and if the usage levels do not improve then funding will be withdrawn.

Mr. Knight agreed to submit the article he wrote about the Urgent Care Centre from the December Parish News for the March issue.

**Action: I. Knight**

Mr. Poulton to put Urgent Care Centre 'calling cards' on the village notice board.

Mr. Poulton (in his capacity as a District Councillor) will be attending the next Local Strategic Partnership Forums on 30<sup>th</sup> June at 1400.

Mr. Poulton said he will attend the Hertford Community Voice meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February. He said it was important that a member of the Parish Council attends these meetings.

## 8 Reports

### a) Sub-Committees

#### Budget & Finance

Mr. Filer reported on the following items.

- **Monthly accounts**

All Parish Councillors present were given a copy of the monthly accounts.

Mr. Smith proposed that the Parish Council approves the payments. Mr. Meischke seconded the motion and all present were in favour.

- **Precept billing form**

Mr. Filer proposed that the precept billing form be signed with the precept figure of £ 30,060 (as agreed at the January Parish Council meeting). Mr. Knight seconded the motion and all present were in favour.

Mr. Meischke, Mr. Filer and Mr. Smith signed the form, and the Clerk countersigned it.

- **Community Hall insurance**

The Community Hall insurance is up for renewal on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2010. Mr. Filer said that our current insurers are Suffolk Acre, who were the insurers for the War Memorial Hall in 2009. However, when they received their renewal papers there was a large increase in the annual premium and a quotation from Allied Westminster for considerably less was accepted.

Mr. Filer proposed that Allied Westminster be asked to quote for the Community Hall insurance.

Mr. Meischke seconded the motion and all present were in favour.

The Clerk to act accordingly.

**Action: J. Allsop**

#### Community Hall Trustees

Nothing to report.

#### Recreation & Amenities

Mr. Knight reported on the following items.

- **New Tennis Court**

Mr. Knight said that the Tennis Club would propose that the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Trustees to apply for a COMMA grant towards the building of the new tennis court. Having looked at the provisions for the grant, Mr. Knight is satisfied that the Community Hall Trustees are well qualified to apply for a grant.

He said that the planning approval for the new Tennis Court lapses in September 2010 and ideally he would like to obtain grant funding before that date.

Mr. Knight and Mr. Poulton have had a brief conversation about applying for grants. Mr. Knight said that as a Parish Councillor, Secretary to the Sports and Social Club and Chairman of the Tennis Club, he would be an appropriate person to be the main signatory on the grant application.

The Tennis Club has currently raised £7,500 towards the cost of a new tennis court. These funds will be given to the Community Hall Trustees. The funds will either be placed in a new bank account or placed in the Community Hall Trustees deposit account and earmarked for the building of the new tennis court only.

Mr. Filer asked about the money fundraised by Sports and Social Club for football facilities, following the Diocesan Board's refusal to lease the Parish Council additional land adjacent to the sportsfield. Mr. Knight said that these funds were specifically for football facilities only and the Sports and Social Club are still trying to find an alternative location within the village.

Mr. Knight and Mr. Poulton are requesting letters of support for the new tennis court from Mr. Abel Smith, County Councillor Bryan Hammond, the Lawn Tennis Association and Sport England.

Mr. Filer proposed that the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Trustees apply for a grant from COMMA for the building of a new tennis court. Mr. Knight to act on behalf of the Watton-at-Stone Community Hall Trustees for funding. Mr. Meischke seconded the motion and all present were in favour.

Mr. Knight to act accordingly.

**Action: I. Knight**

- **Frank Cooper and Son - Quotation**

Mr. Knight has obtained a revised quotation from Frank Cooper and Son. The quotation is for costing basis only because the sportsfield will need to be inspected after winter to verify its condition and decide exactly what work is required. Mr. Knight and Mr. Smith have discussed the sportsfield requirements and agreed that it is unlikely that all of the sportsfield will need re-seeding.

## Environment Sub-Committee

Mrs. Dinnin reported on the following items.

- **Allotments**

Mrs. Dinnin and Mrs. McCash attended the last meeting of the Allotment and Garden Association on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> February.

Mrs. Dinnin discussed the following with the Allotment and Garden Association.

- Redevelopment of the allotment plot 42 near the car park at the far end of the allotments.
- Allotment rent increase from 1st October 2010 (namely: from £18 to £20 for full plots and £9 to 10 for half plots).
- Request that in future all Parish Council renewal invoices will include the allotment plot number on them.

Mrs. Dinnin said that there was some confusion raised about the Allotment tenancy agreement. The Allotment and Garden Association thought that all plot holders were being issued with a revised tenancy agreement.

Mr. Meischke said that the Parish Council did not issue new tenancy agreements as no changes were made to the agreement. Instead, a document titled Expectations/Explanations was issued to all existing allotment holders. The Clerk issues this document to all new Allotment holders.

In 2009, the Allotment and Garden Association agreed to produce a newsletter, which the Parish Council would send out to all new allotment holders with their tenancy agreement. However, the newsletter has never been produced.

The Allotment and Garden Association agreed the following.

- Produce a newsletter for distribution to all new Allotment holders.
- To look into grant funding for developing the disused allotment area near plots 18 and 19.

The Allotment and Garden Association's AGM is on 18<sup>th</sup> May at 2000 in the Pavilion.

- **Lammas gate padlock and chain**

Mr. Phillips has found the missing chain to the Lammas gate. A new padlock with four keys has been purchased. The key holders are Mrs. Dinnin, Mr. Smith, Adam Welch and the remaining key is in the Community Hall internal storeroom.

## b) Routine reports

### i) Fire-alarm test

The fire-alarm was tested before the start of the meeting by Mr. Poulton.

### ii) Monthly village-report

Mrs. Dinnin completed the report on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2010.

- **Salt bins** - these were all empty at the time the report was done. However, Mr. Stock said that the salt bins were being filled today.
- **Sportsfield hedge** - The Holly hedge at the top of the sportsfield will need cutting back. The Holly hedge to be cut when the sportsfield hedge is next cut.
- **MPPA** - Mrs. Dinnin could not inspect the MPPA because it was in use.
- **War Memorial** - The Remembrance Poppies at the base of the War Memorial need removing. Mr. Poulton will be removing these poppies on Thursday.

**Action: N. Poulton**

### iii) Weekly sportsfield-report and action

- **Sewage on sportsfield**

Mr. Poulton emailed all Parish Councillors, on 19<sup>th</sup> January, to report that raw sewage was overflowing from the manhole cover by the Community Hall. He reported the problem to Chris Kitts (East Herts District Council, Environmental Health Department).

Residents who use this drain were given 24 hours notice to repair the problem themselves before East Herts Council were able to ask contractors to clear the drain. This work has now been completed and the raw sewage removed.

## 9 Correspondence received

### a) Hertfordshire Police Authority – Safer Neighbourhood Awards 2010

Prior to the meeting, all Parish Councillors were e-mailed a copy of Hertfordshire Police Authority's letter dated 18<sup>th</sup> January requesting nominations for the Safer Neighbourhood Awards 2010.

Parish Councillors decided not to submit a name.

### b) Sustainable Communities Act Amendment Bill

All Parish Councillors were forwarded a copy of an e-mail (dated 12<sup>th</sup> January) requesting that we urge our local MP to support the Sustainable Communities Act Amended Bill so that it can become law.

It was agreed that the Parish Council write to Oliver Heald accordingly.

**Action: J. Allsop**

Mr. Meischke said that individual Parish Councillors can also write to their MP requesting his support.

**c) Hertfordshire County Council - Application for a Modification order to amend the Definitive Map of Public Rights of Way in Sacombe and Watton-at-Stone areas**

Mr. Poulton said that the modification order outlined in Hertfordshire County Council's letter of 12<sup>th</sup> January does not actually affect Watton-at-Stone because the deviation of the footpath is on the boundary of our parish.

Parish Councillors agreed write to Hertfordshire County Council informing them that they have no comment on the order amendment.

**Action: J. Allsop**

**d) Hertfordshire Village of the Year 2010**

It was agreed that due to the amount of work involved and our previous experience of this event, the Parish Council will not enter Watton-at-Stone into the Hertfordshire Village of the Year 2010 competition.

**e) Dr. Norden re Oak Tree in sportsfield hedge opposite 10 School Lane**

Dr. Norden e-mailed the Clerk on 20<sup>th</sup> January stating that he was not happy with the work.

'The work was much less extensive than previously and the tree has much more growth on it than after it was last pollarded.

I am no expert on these things but I wonder whether you could seek further advice on whether some further work can be performed. Adam said the work done is all he was asked to do.

We do, of course, remain concerned about the potential for damage to the house - though it is only potential at present. The expert formal Arboricultural and structural surveyor advice we had was that the tree should be pollarded. A test dig and microscopic analysis did apparently disclose roots from this tree.

I shall, of course, pay Adam's invoice anyway but wonder if a bit more work should be arranged?

Thank you for your help.'

The Clerk replied to Dr. Norden as follows.

'Please find attached a letter from Malcolm Amey (Arboricultural Officer, East Herts Council) regarding the work to the Oak tree opposite your property at 10 School Lane.

Parish Councillors have inspected the Oak tree and confirmed that Adam Welch has pruned it as per the instructions outlined in Malcolm Amey's letter dated 16<sup>th</sup> December 2009.

If you feel more work needs to be done, please contact Malcolm Amey directly.'

Dr. Norden e-mailed his thanks to the Clerk for getting back to him so promptly.'

The Parish Council has not received any further communications on this subject.

**f) East Herts Council - The Trading Place**

Mr. Meischke read out a letter (dated 17<sup>th</sup> January) from Lizzie Clarke, Community Safety Co-ordinator at East Herts Council.

**'Re: The Trading Place**

I am writing to let you know that East Herts Council is in the process of developing an online Trading Place, initially for redundant ICT equipment and is currently looking for partners to become members of the Trading Place.

The Trading Place will exist through a web page on the East Herts Council website where members will be able to publish a photograph and description of any redundant ICT equipment they wish to part with, express their requirements for ICT equipment and select equipment they would like to acquire from others. Depending on uptake and development, the Trading Place has the potential to expand into other equipment such as furniture.

The Trading Place has the potential to save all organisations money by minimising the requirement for purchasing new items, whilst reusing equipment and therefore minimising wastage within the district and the region. Furthermore, we do not envisage there being any costs involved other than the cost of item collection.

East Herts Council sees this as an exciting opportunity and would like to invite your organisation to join us.

If you are interested in being involved in the Trading Place I would encourage you to express your interest by simply completing the form attached and post or email back to me(lizzie.clarke@eastherts.gov.uk, 01992 531596).

Should you require any further information please do not hesitate to contact me in the first instance on the above telephone number.'

Mr. Poulton said that there are a number of computer items in the Community Hall loft that might be of some use to another organisation.

After discussion, it was agreed to join up to the Trading Place scheme.

**Action: J. Allsop**

All the old computer equipment to be looked at carefully to assess what items would be suitable for trading and which should be destroyed.

**Action: J. Meischke/N. Poulton/J. Allsop**

**g) Neighbourhood Watch - Street Briefing by Hertfordshire Constabulary**

Karen Broad (Police Community Support Officer) e-mailed the Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinators on 4<sup>th</sup> February as follows.

Hello, just to make you all aware of the dates, times and places for our street briefs.

These are for members of the community to come and talk to us about any problems/Concerns in the area or just to come and meet us and know who we are.

Dates for your diary:-

04/02/10	1000 - 1100	Tewin Village Stores
15/02/10	1000 - 1100	Aston Village Hall
08/03/10	1200 - 1300	Aston Village Hall
08/03/10	1600 - 1700	Stapleford Lay-by opposite Papillon
26/03/10	1700 - 1800	Community Hall Watton at Stone
06/04/10	1430 - 1530	Little Berkhamsted Village Shop

These dates are also on the neighbourhood web page for your ward.

We look forward to seeing lots of you at the meetings as we don't want to stand there like spare parts!!!!!!!!!!!!

If you need to reply by email click on my address here: [karen.broad@herts.pnn.police.uk](mailto:karen.broad@herts.pnn.police.uk).

Concern was shown that this item did not appear to have been advertised locally and therefore would receive a poor response.

It was agreed to advertise the Neighbourhood Watch Street Briefing date for Watton-at-Stone in the Parish News.

**Action: J. Allsop**

The Parish Council to discuss this item with PC Andy Woodward and PCSO Sally Brooks at the March Parish Council meeting.

**Agenda: 03/10**

The Clerk to check the Community Hall diary to see if there is a booking for this event on 26<sup>th</sup> March.

**Action: J. Allsop**

**h) CPRE Hertfordshire Skills Seminar - The Planning System - How it Works**

Mr. Smith agreed to attend the seminar on how the planning system works on Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> March.

The Clerk to e-mail Mr. Harris, Mr. Clark and Mrs. McCash to ask them if they are able to attend.

**Action: J. Allsop**

Mr. Smith to complete the booking form and return it to the Clerk for posting.

**Action: M. Smith**

**i) Community Voice – Public meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February**

Mr. Poulton will be attending the Community Voice public meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> February.

**Action: N. Poulton**

**j) Society of Local Council Clerks – CDP course – Managing paper**

The Society of Local Council Clerk's are running a one-day course on managing paper. The course will deal with the essential and non-essential paperwork as well as explain what to include in information, from writing minutes and reports to disclaimers and press releases. The course will also cover the following.

- **The legal basis for local councils** - Freedom of information 2000, Data Protection Act 1998, Local Government Act 1972.
- **The Information Commissioner** - what is notification, and why notification is needed.
- **Freedom of information** - the publication scheme and sensitive information; who can ask for what.
- **Practical aspects** - notice boards, offices, minute book. What must be displayed and what to include in the minute book. How to write minutes.
- **Paper retention** - how long to keep papers, and where legal documents should be kept. Minutes and financial paper, cemetery records, staffing records, VAT and Inland Revenue items and so on, the importance of a paper policy.
- **Archiving** - how and where to store items.
- **Electronic communication** - content, signatures and legal commitment, copying and acknowledging.
- **Handling the press** - the press release.

The course costs £95 and is open to Clerks, Chairman and Councillors.

It was agreed not to attend the course.

**k) E-mails for British Telecom re K6 kiosk outside 105 High Street**

All Parish Councillors were copied with the following emails.

- **E-mail dated 14<sup>th</sup> January 2010.**

'I refer to a letter that you sent to Rick Thompson on 22 November 2009 and I apologise accordingly for the delayed response.

As you say, the kiosk is currently listed and BT can only remove it if the kiosk becomes delisted.

BT may however decide to remove the equipment from inside the kiosk at a future date as there is no evidence that there is a clear social need for a kiosk in this particular location. It is only the kiosk itself that is listed, not the interior.

You may be interested to know that BT has this week agreed to pay for the power supply to all kiosks that are adopted. We are hoping that this will encourage even more communities to adopt local kiosks. It is a programme that should ensure the longevity of as many of these red kiosks as possible. Further details of this can be found at [www.bt.com/payphones](http://www.bt.com/payphones).

Please feel free to contact us if we can be of any further assistance in this matter.

Kind regards, Paul McDonald, BT Payphones'.

- **E-mail dated 17<sup>th</sup> January 2010**

'Thank you for enquiry regarding the above payphone , I am sorry for the delay in responding to your email , but we currently have a backlog of correspondence to deal with and am sorry that this response will have missed you latest meeting.

Should the Parish Council have decided to "adopt" the kiosk at your meeting, in the first instance you should contact East Hertfordshire Council (this is normally handled by the Chief Planning Officer or his/her office) as they should have returned their final notification by the consultation closure date of the 2/1/10.

If the District Council are agreeable to the Parish Council adopting the kiosk you should then apply online at [www.payphones.bt.com/adopt\\_a\\_kiosk/HTMLpayphone/index.htm](http://www.payphones.bt.com/adopt_a_kiosk/HTMLpayphone/index.htm).

Best regards, Jon Furnues, BT Payphones'.

Parish Councillors agreed that the receipt of these emails did not change the decision they made at the January 2010 Parish Council meeting; i.e. The Parish Council does nothing for the time being (namely, does not adopt or sponsor the kiosk).

## 10 Village organisations

- **Watton Youth Drop Inn**

Mr. Poulton said that the Watton Youth Drop Inn are still looking for additional volunteer members to help out for a couple of hours once a month.

- **Watton-at-Stone School Governors**

Mr. Poulton said that the school are holding a race night evening on 20<sup>th</sup> March. He will be attending with his wife and invited Parish Councillors to join him.

- **Watton-at-Stone Neighbourhood Watch:** Nothing to report.

- **Watton-at-Stone Allotment and Garden Association:** Nothing to report.

- **Watton-at-Stone War Memorial Hall Management Committee:** Nothing to report.

- **Watton-at-Stone Pre-School Playgroup:** Nothing to report.

- **Watton-at-Stone Scout & Guide Group:** Nothing to report.

- **Watton-at-Stone Sports & Social Club:** Nothing to report.

- **Police Authority:** Nothing to report.

- **River Beane Restoration Association:** Nothing to report.

## 11 Items for Parish News

The following items were identified for inclusion in the March 2010 issue of the Parish News.

- Rubbish
- Neighbourhood watch
- Urgent care - Mr. Knight to submit the same article he submitted in December 2009.

The Clerk and Mr. Knight to write the entries accordingly.

**Action: J. Allsop/I. Knight**

### Apologies for absence

Mr. Meischke and Mr. Stock gave their apologies for the March 2010 Parish Council meeting.

In Mr. Meischke's absence, Mr. Smith will chair the meeting.

- **The meeting closed at 2020.**

- **The date for the next Parish Council meeting is Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2010.**