

Herongate and Ingrave Parish Council



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Minutes of the EXTRAORDINARY MEETING of the Parish Council of Herongate and Ingrave at St. Nicholas Hall on Wednesday, 11th March 2015 at 7.00pm

In the Chair: Cllr A. Kingsford

Present: Cllr. D. Harman (Vice Chairman), Cllr N. Amor, Cllr A. Bayless, Cllr M. Hannush, Cllr P. Hawkins, Cllr S. Murphy, Cllr K. Pegram and Cllr S. Theobald

Officers: Mrs T. Grainger (Clerk)

Members of the public: Approximately 150 residents plus Joe Sturdy (Brentwood Gazette)

Due to the excessive number of people in the hall (maximum capacity of 72), Rev. Paul Hamilton offered the use of St. Nicholas Church next door. The Clerk advised the Chairman that a Parish Council meeting should not be held in a place of worship, however Members decided that unless the meeting reconvened in the Church it would not go forward. The Parish Council accepted Rev. Paul Hamilton's kind offer and the meeting moved to the Church.

Cllr A. Kingsford thanked Rev. Paul Hamilton for his hospitality in hosting this Parish Council Meeting. Cllr Kingsford then addressed the meeting and expressed his concern regarding the inappropriate comments made on public forums regarding the decisions of the Parish Council minuted at the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of 25th February 2015. He went onto introduce the Motion for this Meeting.

The Meeting then progressed in the following order:

14/15.202 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies from the Parish Council Members but Cllr R. Hirst (ECC) and Cllr. J. Squirrell (BBC) both sent their apologies.

14/15.203 To receive member's declaration of interests in items on the agenda

None.

Before considering the Motion for this meeting, Cllr D. Harman reported that the Parish Council had asked for guidance from Brentwood Borough Council Legal Department as to whether a motion to be voted on by Herongate and Ingrave PC at this meeting would affect the PC's freedom to vote on subsequent planning. The advice of Brentwood Borough Council was as follows:

“You remain able to vote on subsequent planning matters. Indeed, as you indicate through the use of the word fettering, you are required to keep your mind open to persuasion. Councillors operate under the principle of democratic accountability, not judicially or quasi-judicially. This means that councillors through support for policy when standing for election and indeed once elected can be expected to have a predisposition towards a matter. What you cannot do is prejudge i.e. decide before hearing the relevant information.”

14/15.201 Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda only

Cllr P. Hawkins addressed the Public and stressed at length how important it was that every resident responded to the Dunton Garden Suburb Consultation giving objections to building on Greenbelt land. Cllr A. Kingsford highlighted the closing date of 16th March 2015 for all responses. Cllr D. Harman asked the Public voice their feelings regarding this development.

The majority of residents were not aware of the Dunton Garden Suburb Consultation and were dismayed that this information, together with the Strategic Growth Options Consultation, had not been circulated to all households within the Borough. Feelings were strong regarding the protection of Greenbelt land and it was understood that if the Dunton Garden Suburb project gets the go ahead then the Parish of Herongate and Ingrave would directly suffer with increased traffic and an overload of pupils attending local schools. **The residents voted unanimously that they objected to building on greenbelt as set out in Brentwood’s 2005 Local Plan.**

14/15.204 Members to consider a motion brought by Cllr P. Hawkins and Cllr N. Amor
Should Herongate and Ingrave Parish Council object to building on greenbelt as set out in Brentwood’s 2005 Local Plan?

Members voted unanimously against building on greenbelt as set out in Brentwood’s 2005 Local Plan

The meeting closed at 9.00pm

Signed:-----Chairman

Date:-----