

- **Pass website entry for Watton School to Mr. Stock**
- Mr. Stock received the website entry for Watton School from Mr. Clark today. He then forwarded it to the Clerk, who uploaded it onto the Watton-at-Stone website.

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1 Planning

Mr. Stock reported on the following items.

Applications

i) **Bardolphs Farm, Ware Road**

- Erection of barn for grain storage and associated landscaping erection of replacement dwelling
- Mr. Smith did not take part in the discussions.
- Mr. Poulton said that Bardolphs Farm current has no grain storage facilities of a suitable standard and it would not be cost effective to upgrade the existing barns.
- Mr. Poulton and Mr. Abel Smith met on-site at the proposed new barn location. ~~The route from the new barn to the main road is much better than the existing barns.~~
- **The route from the proposed new Mill Lane barn is safer than the access onto the A602.**

Mr. Stock proposed that the Parish Council write to East Herts Council informing them that they have no comment on the application. Mr. Knight seconded the motion and all present were in favour.

Action: J. Allsop

Decisions

- **i) 2 Old School Orchard, Watton At Stone, Hertford, Herts, SG14 3SS (3/09/1840/FP/JS)**
- Erection of replacement dwelling - East Herts Council – permission granted
- **ii) 5 Moorymead Close (3/09/1956/FP/JS)**
- Two storey side extension and roof light in existing rear roof - East Herts Council – permission granted

Additional salt bins needed in the village

Mr. Stock said that he asked for this item put on the agenda because of the problems during the recent spell of heavy snow.

It was agreed to ask Hertfordshire Highways to install two new salt bins in the village, before the start of the 2010 winter, at the following locations.

- High Street/ Walkern Road - adjacent to the Royal Mail post-box or between the letter box and Lammas Road (on the grass verge).
- Hazeldell – at the bottom of the hill on which the existing salt bin is sited and adjacent to lamppost 14.

The Clerk to write to Hertfordshire Highways accordingly. **Action: J. Allsop**

iv) Website

- Alan Rattue is unable to put in the time required to write a village history for the website.

Mr. Stock to speak to Mike Inman, who has also shown an interest in writing a village history.

Action: D. Stock

Letter from Dr. A. Norden to East Herts Council re work to Oak tree opposite 10 School Lane

On completion of the pollarding work to the Oak tree in the sportsfield hedge, opposite 10 School Lane, Dr. Norden e-mailed the Clerk to say that he was not happy with the extent of work done and felt that the tree needed further pollarding. The Parish Council e-mailed Dr. Norden asking him to contact Malcolm Amey (East Herts Council Arboricultural Officer) if he wished to pursue the matter further.

Mr. Smith read out Dr. Norden's letter to Malcolm Amey (dated 22nd February) in which he requests further pollarding work to the Oak tree because the tree has outgrown the original pollarded area and his concern for the foundations to his property.

Mr. Poulton said that the Oak tree was now unsightly because it has been pollarded so many times. Parish Councillors noted that this tree had not been planted but was a seedling that had grown in the hedgerow. Mr. Stock reminded Parish Councillors that over ten years ago (1997) the tree had been retained and maintained as a pollard on the advice of Mr. Drummond, who was the East Herts Council Arboricultural Officer at that time. An Ash tree that was also growing in the hedge was removed.

Mr. Poulton to speak with Malcolm Amey about the future of the Oak tree and its life expectancy.

Action: N. Poulton