

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the twenty-first meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 5th May 2009 at 8.27 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:	Mr M Fairchild	Chairman
	Mr A Morris)
	Mrs C Piccolo)
	Mr J Purvis) Councillors
	Mr T Skidmore)
	Mr G Williamson)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and **10** members of the public.

21.1 Public session.

There were no comments or questions.

21.2 Absent Cllr Mrs Wilkinson.

21.3 Declarations of interest. None.

21.4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 2009 had been previously circulated. Cllr Williamson noted that the date of the meeting was incorrect and that in item 20.10 the word “grant” should be “quotation”. With these corrections, the minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and seconded by Cllr Purvis.

21.5 Matters arising from the Council minutes. None.

21.6 Road works.

21.6.1 Near miss road accident near the A120 traffic lights. Cllr Skidmore reported that PC Tracey Fegan had told him that she was still in consultation with the CPS.

21.7 Flood warnings during the recent breaching of the Ash. Cllr Morris read a letter reporting a meeting with the Environment Agency on 22nd April 2009 [Appendix 1]. He said that flood warnings were telephoned to residents who signed up for the service.

21.8 Police matters. Meeting with members of the local police team. Deferred to the next meeting.

21.9 Playgrounds

21.9.1 Recommendations following the annual playground inspections.

Cllr Williamson said that a work party of volunteers had trimmed a tree at the Ridgeway playground. The damaged fence had been partially replaced – extra fencing was on order. Some of the tables in the Village Hall playground still had to be treated. Cllr Morris said that he had partially repaired the seat at Halfway House.

21.10 War memorial. Progress on funding for the replacement of the war memorial surround wall. Cllr Williamson said that he still awaited a quotation. He would circulate it to councillors when available. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that a grant application she was preparing required a firm quotation. She said that she had also applied for a smaller grant and she should discover if she had been successful by 10th May 2009.

21.10.1 Stansted Airport.

21.10.2 The Chairman said that there was little new to report except that BAA had made a pre-tax loss of £320 million in the first quarter of the year and the number of passengers using Stansted was still falling.

21.11 Parish Plan.

21.11.1 The Chairman said that the revised Parish Plan, together with the Village Guide had been circulated to all homes in the parish.

21.12 Chairman's report.

21.12.1 Feedback from the Parish Assembly. The Chairman said that the assembly had been very successful – 82 residents had attended. There was much interest in the bypass and brown bins. He would invite residents through the Parish News to send any questions they might have about the bypass to the Clerk. If there was sufficient interest the Council would hold a public meeting in the Village Hall.

21.12.2 Council Business Plan. The Chairman said that councillors had received a draft copy of the plan and he was awaiting comments. He said that he would propose the plan at the June Council meeting.

21.12.3 EHC Rural Parish Conference. 27th May 2009 at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre. The Chairman said that he and Cllr Skidmore would attend the morning session and Cllr Mrs Piccolo the afternoon session.

21.12.4 The Chairman said that he had spoken to the owner of Ford House, The Ford. The paint damage would be repaired shortly. The vandalism had been reported to the police.

21.12.5 Pharmacy in Much Hadham. The Chairman reported that there had been two applications to open a pharmacy in Much Hadham. This might result in the closure of the Health Centre dispensary. Dr Brookbanks had said that he was concerned that the practice could lose significant revenue. This might mean the closure of the satellite surgeries such as that at the Village Hall. Cllr Skidmore reported an email from Sharon York of the Herts Primary Care Trust [Appendix 2]. He noted that the Village Hall post office was dependant on the local surgery. The Chairman said that the Council should consult with Much Hadham Parish Council and with Dr Brookbanks. He proposed that the Council agree in principle to object to the application. Agreed. He would circulate a draft of a letter before the deadline at the end of May.

21.13 Clerk's Report**21.13.1 Financial statement**

Period ending 5th May 2009	
Barclay's Bank C/Acc	£4,744.77
StepSaver BP Acc	£5.19
BP Acc	£169.86
Petty cash	£27.14
Total	£4,946.96
Included above	
Received	
Sale of paper	£5.52
Paid	
Donation to Parish Plan Group - printing revised plan	£577.70

To be approved by the Council**To be paid**

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (Apr)	£320.86	
	Exp (Apr)	£33.85	£354.71
Mrs K Green	Grass & bins (Apr)	£44.40	
	Mower service	£40.00	
	Mower fuel	£4.75	£89.15
Miss A Windmill	Litter picking (Apr)		£97.53
Mr M Fairchild	Assembly refreshments		£67.53
Mr M Fairchild	Playground materials		£23.84
HAPTC	Subscription		£524.59
Broker Network	Annual insurance		£952.29
JFGraffix	Assembly flyer		£35.00
	Total payments		£2,144.64

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £2,802.32

- 21.13.2** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 21.13.3** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Mrs Piccolo, seconded Cllr Williamson. Agreed.
- 21.13.4** Cllr Purvis reported on a meeting between himself, the Chairman, Cllr Williamson and the Clerk to check the Council's control of finances, risks and legislative responsibilities. He made a number of proposals:
- 21.13.5** Propose: to review and approve the risk assessment document. Agreed.
- 21.13.6** Propose: to approve the effectiveness of the internal review. Agreed.
- 21.13.7** Propose: to agree to the financial statement for 2008/09. Agreed.
- 21.13.8** Propose: to approve and sign the Annual Governance Statement. Agreed.
- 21.14 Democratic 10 minutes.**
The meeting closed at 9:12 p.m.
 A resident spoke of the paint thrown at the barn at Ford House. He thought it might have been an accident. A number of people, including the Clerk, thought the evidence did not show this.
The meeting reopened at 9:14p.m.
- 21.15 Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 21.16 Correspondence.** The Clerk distributed items of correspondence to relevant members.
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| Standards Board – Newsletter | MF |
| HCC Consultation on common land | JP/MW |
| CDA for Herts Newsletter | CP |
| HAPTC newsletter | MF/AM |
| Clerks and Councils Direct magazine | MF |
- 21.17 Any other business.** None
- 21.18 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 2nd June 2009.**
- 21.19 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:15 p.m.**

Appendix 1

From: Sullivan, Mandy [mailto:mandy.sullivan@environment-agency.gov.uk]

Sent: 22 April 2009 18:03

To: andy@morris66.freerve.co.uk

Cc: Davis, Ian

Subject: Little Hadham Trigger Levels

Dear Andy

Firstly thank you for your time this morning. This is just to summarise what we discussed and the actions I am going to take.

I have now reduced the trigger levels that are set up within the water level monitoring equipment. Where we predict that levels are likely to reach 1200mm (previously 1415mm) at the sensor downstream of the bridge we will now issue a Flood Watch for the River Ash catchment, and where levels are expected to reach a level of 1500mm (previously 1715mm) we would issue a Flood Warning for the Little Hadham/Much Hadham flood warning area. This should be completed within a few days, it just requires a little bit of tweaking from our hydrometry folks to make the necessary adjustment to the monitoring equipment, which can be done remotely.

I have also raised the issue about the possibility of re-siting the telemetry station, upstream of the bridge, this alas is not so straight forward, I will however keep you posted.

I have arranged that you will now receive Flood Watches when they are issued.

I don't think I mentioned this morning, that a Flood Watch is issued upon a catchment basis, and there are 2 other telemetry sites along the River Ash (Furneaux Pelham, and Mardock), so it may be that a Flood Watch may well be issued as the result of the relevant trigger level being crossed at either of the other 2 sites. I have also reviewed and reduced the trigger levels at Mardock recently.

I think something that is particularly highlighted during times of high levels, is that unfortunately we cannot be everywhere at all time, and although our equipment may be giving us water level measurements quite accurately, what this actually means on the ground is often not known without the information we get from the people who are there. This is where photo's (particularly of the gaugeboard sited next to the bridge - but only where it is safe to do so!!!) and the information given to us by good folk such as yourself is really helpful. I have given you my email address and my direct contact number, and would be more than grateful to receive from you any information that may be of use.

Once again thank you for your time and assistance.

regards

Mandy Sullivan

Flood Incident Management Officer

Apollo Court, 2 Bishops Square Business Park, St Albans Road West, Hatfield, Herts.
AL10 9EX Tel 01707 632353

Appendix 2 Concerning the applications for a pharmacy in Much Hadham

From: Sharon.York@herts-pcts.nhs.uk
 To: ctonyskidmore@hotmail.co.uk
 CC: lindafarrant@fsmail.net
 Date: Tue, 5 May 2009 14:38:37 +0100
 Subject: RE: Much Hadham Application

Dear Tony

A sole trader, partnership or a body corporate can submit a pharmaceutical application for a 'new' pharmacy at any location, at any time, however all such applications have to go through due process, in line with the National Health Service (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005, and, in Hertfordshire, considered by the Hertfordshire Joint Pharmaceutical Services Committee; Chaired by an Non-Exec and including a patient representative.

The procedure for all new applications made under the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005 are:

- Application[s] received and any required checks completed i.e. Fitness to Practice
- Interested parties notified of the application[s] and requested to make any representations within 45 days
- Applicants' comments or clarifications are sought on any representations made
- Herts Joint Pharmaceutical Services Committee [JPSC] considers the application. At this meeting a large range of criteria are looked at, including the PCT's pharmaceutical needs assessment for the area, the rurality of the area and whether it is within a controlled locality, further that, if it is deemed that the area is a controlled locality, whether the granting of the application would 'prejudice' the proper provision of primary medical services and pharmaceutical services in the area. It will also be considered whether the 'new' pharmacy is 'necessary and desirable' to ensure adequate pharmaceutical services, included in this criteria is the availability, to patients, of 'competition and choice'.
- Following the JPSC meeting the decision will be notified to the applicant and the interested parties, following this both the applicant and the interested are given 28 days to appeal against the decision – appeals are made to the NHS Litigation Authority Appeal Unit.

Having re-read my previous email to you I have realised that it only refer to one application, I feel it should be noted that the East & North Hertfordshire PCT has received two applications for a pharmacy within Much Hadham, however please be assured that interested parties were notified of both applications as per the NHS (Pharmaceutical Services) Regulations 2005 and both will under go due process as stated above; unfortunately I am unable to provide details of the applicants at this point.

I hope that this has made the process a little clearer for you, please contact me again if you require anything further.

Kind regards

Sharon