

# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the twenty-third meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009 at 8.58 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Mr M Fairchild</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
	<b>Mr A Morris</b>	)
	<b>Mrs C Piccolo</b>	)
	<b>Mr J Purvis</b>	) <b>Councillors</b>
	<b>Mr T Skidmore</b>	)
	<b>Mr G Williamson</b>	)
	<b>Mrs M Wilkinson</b>	)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 5 members of the public.

## 23.1 Public session.

There were no questions or comments.

## 23.2 Absent None.

## 23.3 Declarations of interest. None.

**23.4 Minutes of the Annual Council meeting and of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2009 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and seconded by Cllr Williamson.

## 23.5 Matters arising from the Council minutes.

**23.5.1** Cllr Skidmore asked if any decision had been made concerning the application for a pharmacy in Much Hadham. The Clerk said that the Council's letter of objection had been acknowledged but he had received no information about a decision.

## 23.6 Playgrounds

### 23.6.1 Recommendations following the annual playground inspections.

Cllr Williamson thanked those who had volunteered to help complete the repair to the Ridgeway fence. He would confirm the date shortly. Cllr Williamson said that he had logged the complaint about the stiff roundabout at the village hall playground with SMP the suppliers. An engineer would visit the site.

**23.6.2 Playground inspections.** The Clerk said that he had booked inspections for the two playgrounds through EHC at a total cost of £96 + VAT – slightly under the budget.

**23.7 War memorial.** Cllr Williamson said that he had spoken to Herts Highways. They would not insist on an approved contractor to carry out any work though the contractor would need to be licensed to carry out work on the highway. He had asked a licensed company to give a quote. Although £10 million public indemnity insurance would be needed, this could be covered by the Council insurance. Cllr Purvis proposed that, if the new quotation was within budget, the Clerk should be delegated to place an order. Agreed.

### **23.8 Parish Plan.**

- 23.8.1** The Chairman distributed copies of the Parish Plan and Village Guides to councillors. These were for any new residents that moved into their areas.
- 23.8.2** The Chairman said that the Fun Run had been very well supported – a third of the runners were from the parish. The very good spirit of the occasion helped to bring the different hamlets together. There had been many demands to a Fun Run next year.  
The money raised by the run meant the Parish Plan Group would donate approximately £1,000 to CRY and generate funds towards future events.
- 23.8.3** Future events included a parish walk on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2009 organised by Jonathon Forgham who is working on a parish biodiversity study, a 5-aside soccer competition in September and a Barn Dance on 14<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Cllr Wilkinson said that CMS had been consulted over the plans for a footpath survey, which was due for completion by October.
- 23.8.4** The Chairman said that Rural Action East had used the Parish Plan as an example to other councils and Little Hadham's 'Top Tips' were now published on The Hadhams website.
- 23.8.5** The Chairman said that, following a top-up grant from the Grassroots scheme, the Parish Plan Group had repaid the £577 loan to the Council.

### **23.9 Chairman's report.**

- 23.9.1 Council Business Plan.** The Chairman said the plan was still under review. He was considering comments that the Business Plan should be integrated with the aims of the Parish Plan. He had looked at plans from other councils and had sought advice from EHC. He noted that the government had plans to increase the powers of local councils and had written to Oliver Heald MP asking what plans the Conservative Party might have should they win the next election. The Chairman said that he would circulate a draft plan for consideration at the September meeting.
- 23.9.2** The Chairman said that he had received no requests from residents to organise a public meeting with HCC concerning the bypass.
- 23.9.3** The Chairman reported that Dr Colin Brookbanks had been presented with a crystal dish and a cheque for £7,000 as gifts from local residents to mark his retirement. The Chairman proposed that he should write to Dr Brookbanks expressing the thanks of the parish and wishing him well for the future. Agreed.
- 23.9.4** The Chairman reported the sad death of Mrs Grace Burton of Albury Road.

## 23.10 Clerk's Report

### 23.10.1 Financial statement

#### Period ending 7<sup>th</sup> July 2009

Barclay's Bank C/Acc		£9,023.55
StepSaver BP Acc		£5.19
BP Acc		£169.88
Petty cash		£41.80
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£9,240.42</b>

#### To be approved by the Council

##### Received

EHC litter picker salary		£1,170.37
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##### To be paid

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (June & July)	£641.72	
	Exp (June & July)	£37.17	£678.89
Mrs K Green	Grass & bins (June & July)		£88.80
Miss A Windmill	Litter picking (June & July)		£195.06
Mower Services	Grass cutting May & June		£257.60
Mrs E Booth	P.O. cleaning		£30.00
HM Revenue & Customs			£320.80
Village Hall	Hire of hall		£80.98
	<b>Total payments</b>		<b>£1,652.13</b>

**Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £8,758.66**

**23.10.2** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.

**23.10.3** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Williamson, seconded Cllr Purvis. Agreed.

### 23.11 Democratic 10 minutes.

There were no question or comments.

**23.12 Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.

**23.13 Correspondence.** The Clerk distributed items of correspondence to relevant members.

EHC Sawbridgeworth Community Voice **MF**

NALC Quarterly Magazine **MF**

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine **MF**

**23.14 Any other business.**

**23.15 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2009.**

**23.16 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:29 p.m.**