

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the twenty-ninth meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 2nd March 2010 at 8.26 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:	Mr A Morris	Chairman
	Mr J Forgham)
	Mr R Gregory)
	Mrs C Piccolo) Councillors
	Mr J Purvis)
	Mrs M Wilkinson)
	Mr G Williamson)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 8 members of the public.

29.1 Public session.

A resident asked for details of the wedding reception to be held on Bury Green. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said they would be discussed later in the agenda.

29.2 Absent. None.

29.3 Declarations of interest. None.

29.4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 2nd February 2010 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and seconded by Cllr Mrs Wilkinson.

29.5 Matters arising from the minutes

29.5.1 Willow trees at the Ford. Cllr Williamson said that the largest tree had been pollarded at the expense of Mr Pyatt, Florence Cottage, The Ford. He would have the other trees cut back shortly.

29.5.2 Request for wedding reception at Bury Green. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that the wedding would be held on Saturday 17th July and about 50 guests would attend the reception. A returnable £500 deposit would be paid to cover any possible damage to the Green – no vehicles would be allowed on the Green or verges. The Council would not ask for a fee but the couple had agreed to make a donation to the village school and to the Parish Plan Group.

29.6 Inspection report on the playgrounds. Cllr Williamson said that he was waiting for the better weather of April and May before organising a work party to carry out the remedial works listed in the report.

Action
GW

29.7 Road matters.

29.7.1 List of outstanding repairs. Cllr Purvis said that he had received the latest list of repairs from Herts Highways. However, it was dated 2007 and nothing was outstanding. Cllr Purvis noted that there appeared to be a blocked drain on the A120 and there were numerous potholes awaiting repairs. The Chairman said that Herts Highways generally repaired damage reported to them. He proposed that councillors should report all potholes they found in their area of the parish. Agreed.

Action
All
councillors

29.7.2 Queue jumping at the A120 traffic lights. Cllr Mrs Williamson said she had seen the police monitoring the traffic at the traffic lights. The waiting times for the side roads had dramatically increased recently due to the temporary closure of Winding Hill for road repairs.

- 29.7.3 Notice board at Westland Green.** Cllr Williamson said that plans were in hand and the board should be ready by the end of March. Action
GW
- 29.8 Red telephone kiosks.**
- 29.8.1 Progress with adoption including electricity payment.** The Clerk reported that Bt had changed the rules – Bt would continue to be responsible for the electricity supply after the sale of the kiosks. The power would be eventually be disconnected. The Clerk said that he had received the signed contracts for the sale but the Council would not accept ownership until the telephone equipment had been removed.
- 29.8.2 Arrangements for the use and maintenance of the kiosks.** Cllr Williamson said that no plans had been made as he was waiting for the sale to be completed. Action
GW
- 29.9 EHC Summer Activities for young people.** Cllr Forgham said that his company had applied for grants and hoped to run activities for young people in the summer holidays using the village hall and the adjacent playground. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she was working with Cllr Forgham through the Parish Plan Group. Action
JF
- 29.10 Parish Plan Group**
- 29.10.1** Cllr Forgham said that a Fun Run was being organised for Sunday 13th June 2010. The run would be followed by a Fun Day to be held at the village hall playground.
- 29.10.2 Parish bio-diversity survey.** Cllr Forgham said that he had two years of observations of local flora and fauna to which he hoped to add some geological records. He said that he had applied for a grant from the Stansted Community Trust to help pay for 200 copies of an 80 page report. He expected the cost to be about £800 to £1,000 and he thought he might have to ask for a contribution from the community. Action
JF
- 29.11 Chairman’s report.**
- 29.11.1** The Chairman asked if councillors wished to attend the CPRE Herts Planning Training day. Sat 20th March, Knebworth Village Hall. Cllr Mrs Piccolo agreed to attend. Action
CP
- 29.11.2 Parish Assembly Thursday 22nd April 2010.** The Chairman said that invitations had been sent out to: Mrs Liz Stockley of the village school; Inspector Kennedy of the local police; a member of the HCC bypass team; a member of the EHC recycling team and Cllrs Tindale and Newlyn. Cllr Mrs Piccolo and Mrs Helen Snelling had agreed to organise the refreshments. He reminded the Council and the members of the public that, although the Council might organise the meeting, it was not a Council meeting and members of the public were encouraged to take an active role. Action
CP
- 29.11.3** The Chairman reported that the Environment Agency had issued a ‘Flood watch’ for the river Ash on Sunday 28th February 2010 but fortunately the riverbanks had not been breached.

29.11.4 Clerk's Report**29.11.5 Financial statement****Period ending 2nd March 2010**

Barclay's Bank C/Acc	£8,516.30
StepSaver BP Acc	£5.19
BP Acc	£169.92
Petty cash	£19.55

Total	£8,710.96
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To be paid

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (Feb)	£315.61	
	Exp (Feb)	£28.82	
	Float	£50.00	£394.43
Mrs K Green	Grass & bins (Feb)		£44.40
Miss A Windmill	Litter picking (Feb)		£97.53
HAPTC - 7 copies 'Councillor's Guide'			£83.72
	Total payments		£620.08

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £8,140.88

29.11.6 Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.

29.11.7 Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Williamson, seconded Cllr Mrs Piccolo. Agreed.

29.11.8 Precept for 2010/11. The Clerk reported that the Council had agreed to leave the precept unchanged from that set in 2009/10. However the tax base had increased meaning that local residents would pay about 5% less towards the Council during the next financial year.

29.12 Democratic 10 minutes.

A resident asked when the donation would be paid to the village school. The Clerk said that the Council had agreed to pay £300 in both 2009/10 and in 2010/11 and that he would write a cheque for £600 to be signed at the first meeting in the new financial year.

A resident asked if the proceeds of the Fun Run would be donated to charity. Cllr Forgham said that a donation would be made to 'CRY'.

29.13 Planning matters. The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.

29.14 Correspondence. The Clerk distributed items of correspondence to relevant members.

HAPTC newsletter	AM/CP
EHC Summer Activities leaflet	CP
EHC 1 st Aid training for groups working with children and babies	CP

29.15 Any other business. None

29.16 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 6th April 2010.

29.17 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:03 p.m.