

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the Thirty-third meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 6th July 2010 at 8.06 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

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

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 6 member of the public.

33.1 Public session.

There were no questions or comments on agenda items.

33.2 Absent. Cllr Forgham [attending a ‘New Councillor’ training session]; Cllr Gregory [on holiday].

33.3 Declarations of interest. None.

33.4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 1st June 2010 had been previously circulated. Cllr Purvis said that Cllr Williamson should be shown as responsible for the kiosk at the Ford [Item 32.9]. With this amendment, the minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and seconded by Cllr Williamson.

33.5 Matters arising from the minutes

33.5.1 Verges damaged by builders at Bury Green. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that all work on the house was complete except for the drive and parking area. The builder assured her that the verge would be repaired within a few days. The Chairman asked Cllr Mrs Piccolo to check that the ditch between the house and the road was also repaired.

Action
CP

33.6 Playgrounds.

33.6.1 Ridgeway playground seesaw. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that Mr Northcote, a resident at the Ridgeway, would carry out repairs to the see-saw shortly. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson asked if the insurers would accept a repair not made by a playground specialist. Cllr Mrs Piccolo agreed to consult Mr Trevor Waldock of EHC on the suitability of the proposed repair.

Action
CP

33.7 Road matters.

33.7.1 List of outstanding repairs. The Chairman said that there was a persistent water leak at the top of Ford Hill that had created a dangerous pothole. HCC had failed to make a satisfactory repair for several years. There was also a blocked gully on the Standon Road near Ash Farm that caused flooding at Ash Cottages. It was agreed that the Clerk should report the two matters to Herts Highways.

Action
Clerk

33.8 Arrangements for the use and maintenance of the telephone kiosks.

Cllr Williamson said that he had fitted shelves in the Ford kiosk ready for its use as a ‘book swap’. The Clerk suggested that a nearby resident should take responsibility for the kiosk – it should not be the sole responsibility of the Council. It was agreed that Cllr Williamson should install shelves at the Bury Green kiosk.

Action
GW

33.9 Parish Plan Group

33.9.1 Fun Run. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said there had been more runners than last year and £1,400 had been raised. Some would be donated to CRY and the remainder used for future events. The Cricket Club had raised £400 and the school £400.

33.9.2 Future events. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that Cllr Forgham would be organising another nature walk shortly.

33.10 Bury Green wedding. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that plans were well advanced. The Council had received notification of third party insurance for the event and had received a £500 deposit that would be returned following a satisfactory inspection of the Green following the reception.

33.11 EHC Rural Parish Conference. Cllr Mrs Piccolo reported on a number of matters raised at the conference. £2.5 million had been assigned, half from government and half private money, for local businesses. The business had to be centred around reducing the country's carbon footprint.

The LDF proposed an extra 8,500 new homes in Hertfordshire by 2031.

Policing reports showed the area to have a low crime rate that was going down.

Funding and all manner of help with setting up a village Youth Club was discussed – Cllr Mrs Piccolo had placed an advertisement on this subject in July Parish News.

33.12 Government consultation on GP provision 'Your GP, Your choice, Your say'.

Cllr Mrs Wilkinson proposed that the Council retrospectively accept the response she had previously circulated to councillors [Appendix 1]. Agreed.

33.13 Chairman's report.

33.13.1 Fair trade. The Chairman said that he hoped to make Bishop's Stortford a Fair Trade town and associate Little Hadham with it. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson asked what the practical effects to the parish would be. Cllr Mrs Piccolo suggested that someone be invited to the next Parish Assembly to talk about it.

Action
AM

33.14 Clerk's Report

33.14.1 Financial statement

Period ending 6th July 2010

Barclay's Bank C/Acc	£11,604.81
StepSaver BP Acc	£5.19
BP Acc	£169.96
Petty cash	£54.17

Total £11,834.13

Included above

EHC - Litter picker salary	Received 4/6/10	£1,219.05
HM Revenue & Customs - credit for reporting online	2008/10	£170.30

Uncleared cheques

Uncleared cheque - Mr G Williamson	£45.41
Uncleared cheque - Little Hadham School	£600.00

To be agreed

Received

Mr R H Hills - returnable deposit for use Bury Green	£500.00
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To be paid

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (June & July)	£631.42	
	Exp (May)	£38.40	£669.82
Mrs K Green	Grass cutting and bins		£88.80
Miss A Windmill	Litter picking (June & July)		£211.29
Mower Services	2 cuts June		£284.35
HAPTC	Cllr training		£25.00
HM Revenue & Customs			£66.30

Total payments £1,345.56

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £10,343.16

- 33.14.2** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 33.14.3** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Williamson, seconded Cllr Mrs Piccolo. Agreed.
- 33.15 Democratic 10 minutes.**
A resident asked if there had been any developments on the gypsy and traveller site. The Chairman said there and been no news though there was a feeling that the site was inevitable. Such a decision would likely generate many objections.
- 33.16 Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 33.17 Correspondence.** The Clerk distributed items of correspondence to relevant members.
NALC LCR magazine **CP**
Clerks and Councils Direct magazine **AM**
- 33.18 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 7th September 2010.**
- 33.19 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 8:41 p.m.**

Appendix 1 Council response to Government consultation on GP provision ‘Your GP, Your choice, Your say’

Having read through the Consultation document it seems to me that it must be better for people to be able to choose which GP they register with.

1 If you work away from the area you live in it is likely to be much more convenient and possible to go to a GP near your place of work than have to try to get an appointment before or after work. I know this is always a pain.

2 If you wish to see a female or male GP then you may need to change GP to find a gender suitable GP

3 If you have a particular illness that your local GP does not specialise in or another surgery has a specialist nurse who has particular knowledge of that disease you may wish to register with that GP

4 If your GP is not particularly accessible because of bus routes etc it might be easier for you to register with another GP.

The only issue they do not cover is the cost – would it cost lots more I would say that it could and one practice may have lots of patients and another very few, what issues would this raise? Moving premises I suppose?

Overall I feel our Parishioners would benefit from choices. **Cllr Mrs Wilkinson**