

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the Thirty-fifth meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 5th October 2010 at 8.47 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 13 member of the public.

35.1 Public session.

There were no questions or comments on agenda items.

35.2 Absent. None.

35.3 Declarations of interest. None.

35.4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 7th September 2010 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Piccolo and seconded by Cllr Williamson.

35.5 Matters arising from the minutes

35.5.1 Verges damaged by builders at Chasedene, Bury Green. The Clerk said that he had spoken to the engineers' office at EHC. They were preparing a letter requesting that the owner of Chasedene reinstate the ditch.

35.6 Playgrounds.

35.6.1 Issues arising from the latest playground inspection. Cllr Williamson said that, with the exception of the Ridgeway seesaw, all the matters raised by the inspector were classed as low or very low risk. He said that he would contact the installers, SMP Playgrounds, to discuss adjustments to the aerial runway and roundabout at the village hall playground. Cllr Williamson said that he would make a scheme of work to address the other repairs.

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35.6.2 Ridgeway playground seesaw – safety of recent repairs and possible purchase of new end protectors. The Clerk said that Mr Waldock of EHC had spoken to the inspectors and was of the view that, as the Council had restored the seesaw to its original condition, it could safely continue in use. He advised the Council to send a photograph of the seesaw, showing the details of the repair, to the inspectors for their approval. Mr Waldock considered that adding plastic bumpers to the ends of the seesaw was not necessary as they were not original equipment and he thought they would add little extra safety. It was agreed that the seesaw would remain in use without plastic bumpers and that the Clerk would send a photograph to the inspectors.

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35.7 Road matters.

35.7.1 List of outstanding repairs. Cllr Purvis said there was nothing to report.

35.7.2 Damage to the war memorial. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that there had been at least three collisions with the memorial surround wall by vehicles trying to pass the

- numerous vehicles parked outside Readon Cottage. She said she had spoken to the owner of Readon Cottage who had said that the current work was due to finish shortly though work would soon start on an extension. The owner had offered to pay £300 towards a repair. The Clerk said that he was still pursuing an insurance claim against LeFarge, one of whose lorry hit the wall first, but he was not very hopeful as the registration number of the lorry had not been noted. It was agreed that, if the Clerk was unable to obtain money from the insurers, the Council should accept the offer of £300 and Cllr Mrs Piccolo's husband would organise a repair to be completed before Remembrance Sunday.
- 35.7.3 Refurbishment of the A120 bridge over the Ash.** The Clerk said that closure of the pavement on the bridge had made walking to school very dangerous. After some confusion, HCC had arranged for a minibus to ferry parents and children to and from Lloyd Taylor Close and the school.
- 35.7.4 HCC consultation on the Herts Local Transport Plan.** The Chairman asked Cllr Purvis to prepare a draft response for consideration at the November meeting. Agreed.
- 35.8 Parish Plan Group.**
- 35.8.1** Cllr Forgham said that he was consulting with the Head of the village school on organising an orienteering event around the parish.
- 35.8.2 Report on the natural history of the parish.** Cllr Forgham said that he had obtained funding to publish his biodiversity report of the parish. Copies of the book would be on sale in local shops. Cllr Purvis congratulated Cllr Forgham on his hard work in completing the book and obtaining the grant.
- 35.8.3 Talk on the history of Little Hadham.** Cllr Mrs Piccolo referred to an article in the Parish News. On November 10th Mr Chris Lydamore of Harlow Museum would be giving a talk on Roman Pottery Kilns 200-400AD at Bromley Hall Farm, Little Hadham.
- 35.9 Possible replacement of the Village Hall notice board.** Cllr Gregory said that a local resident had asked that the 'sad' notice board on the village hall wall be replaced. After some discussion the Chairman asked Cllr Gregory to present some proposals to the November meeting.
- 35.10 Chairman's report.**
- 35.11 Fair trade.** The Chairman said that he was still in negotiation.

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35.12 Clerk's Report

Period ending 5th October 2010

Barclay's Bank C/Acc		£15,212.46
StepSaver BP Acc		£5.19
BP Acc		£169.96
Petty cash		£11.29

Total **£15,398.90**

Included above

EDF Energy Networks - wayleave		£6.39
EHC - second half of precept		£6,750.00

Uncleared cheques

Miss A Windmill		£101.59
Mrs K Green		£44.40

To be agreed for payment

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (September)	£315.81	
	Exp (September)	£19.20	£335.01
Mrs K Green	Grass cutting & bins (Sept)	£44.40	
	Mower fuel	£5.85	£50.25
Miss A Windmill	Litter picking (September)		£97.59
Mower Services	2 cuts September		£284.35
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE		£240.80
Mr B Evans	Office computer software		£35.00
Mrs C Piccolo - gift to Mr M Smith	for carrying out internal audit		£6.97
East Herts Council	Allotment rent	£20.00	
	Playground inspections	£105.49	£125.49
CPRE	Subscription		£29.00
CDA for Herts	Subscription		£30.00

Total payments **£1,234.46**

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £14,018.45

35.12.1 Financial statement

35.12.2 Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.

35.12.3 Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Purvis, seconded Cllr Mrs Williamson. Agreed.

35.12.4 Registering Council land with the land registry. The Clerk said that the Land Registry was inviting Councils to register any land it owned. The village hall playground was already registered but not the Ridgeway playground or the war memorial. It was agreed that the Clerk should investigate what steps were needed to register these properties.

35.12.5 New Office computer software. The Clerk said that he had been obliged to buy a new computer as well as a copy of the latest office software costing £70. It was agreed that the Council would pay half the cost of the software [£35] as it was primarily used for Council work.

35.13 Democratic 10 minutes.

A resident noted that a number of residents at Westland Green had placed stones on the verge along the edge of the road outside their homes. She said that much of the verge belonged to Lord Salisbury's Estate. Should the stones damage cars the residents might be responsible. Cllr Purvis said that many residents owned the verge outside their homes.

35.14 Police matters. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said that the local police was holding a meeting with local residents at the Manor of Groves at High Wych on Wednesday 6th October 2010. She said that she intended to attend and invited other residents to join her.

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

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

CDA for Herts newsletter	CP
HAPTC Newsletter	AM/CP
'No need for nuclear' leaflet	MW
CPRE Herts magazine	CP
HCC sustainability feedback	MW
SSE newsletters	AM

35.17 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 2nd November 2010.

35.18 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:20 p.m.