

# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the Thirty-ninth meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2007 – 2011 Session) held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011 at 8.08 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

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

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

## 39.1 Public session.

A resident spoke of the problem of dog fouling on pavements in the parish and presented a letter expressing his concerns for the Council to consider.

## 39.2 Absent. None

## 39.3 Declarations of interest. None.

**39.4 Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2011 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Williamson and seconded by Cllr Purvis.

## 39.5 Matters arising from the minutes.

## 39.6 Damage caused to Westland Green by ‘off roaders’.

**39.6.1** Cllr Purvis said that the Clerk had written to Mr Maddex – the HCC Right of Way Officer. Mr Maddex was seeking funding and had applied to the secretary of state for a temporary closure. He was seeking quotations from contractors and expected to have a decision in about two months. Cllr Purvis noted that off roaders had used the byway as recently as the last week – usually at least two vehicles at a time were involved.

## 39.7 Playgrounds.

**39.7.1** Programme of work to correct matters arising from the latest playground inspection. Cllr Williamson said that he would organise a work party when the weather improved. Action  
GW

**39.7.2 Repairs to the SMP apparatus.** Cllr Williamson said Mr Trevor Waldoock of EHC was on sick leave. He hoped to seek his advice on his return to work. Action  
GW

**39.7.3 Hedge cutting.** The Clerk said that Mower Services would not charge for the recent cutting of the hedges and did not wish to quote for this work in future. They were willing to continue with the grass cutting of the playgrounds at the same cost as last year. The Clerk said that the costs were reasonable and, in the past, the work had been carried out reliably. The Council agreed to continue with the grass cutting being carried out by Mower Services. The Clerk said that he would like to investigate contractors for cutting the hedges. The work would not need to be done until the end of July. Action  
Clerk

### 39.8 Road matters.

**39.8.1 List of outstanding repairs.** Cllr Purvis said there was nothing to report. However, he again encouraged residents to report road damage to Herts Highways as soon as it appeared.

**39.8.2 Damage to the Cradle End to The Ford road.** Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she had inspected the road from Cradle End to Wellpond Green. The damage caused by the heavy traffic, particularly where they had pulled off the road to allow other vehicles to pass, was permanently changing the appearance of the parish. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she had discussed the problem with Herts Highways who were very sympathetic. However there were no workable solutions to the problem. The bypass was possibly 30 or 40 years away and part time 'one way systems' or part time 'no entry' signs would affect local people and would prevent the use of the road as an emergency alternative route if the A120 were to become blocked. Cllr Williamson asked if nothing could be done about keeping HGVs from using the road. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that many of these were visiting farms and development sites in the parish. There were already signs saying the road was unsuitable for heavy vehicles but little notice seemed to be taken.

### 39.9 Flooding matters

**39.9.1 Flooding of gardens at Lloyd Taylor Close and Standon Road.** The Chairman said that he had arranged a site meeting with Mr Stephenson of EHC to discuss the problem on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March. The Chairman said that he would invite those residents affected to the meeting. Action  
AM

**39.9.2 Flooding at Pigs Green.** The Clerk said that he had reported the matter to EHC.

**39.9.3 New fence at Ashcroft Farm possibly restricting the free flow of flood water from the A120.** The Clerk said that he had written to the Environment Agency. The Chairman asked that the item be included on the agenda for the next meeting.

### 39.10 Parish Plan Group.

**39.10.1** Cllr Mrs Piccolo said the Fun Run would be on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

**39.10.2 Little Hadham Ecology Survey.** Cllr Forgham said that the launch date would be 20<sup>th</sup> March 2011 in the Nag's Head. The price would be £8.00 a copy. Action  
JF

**39.10.3 Dawn walk.** Cllr Forgham said that he would lead a dawn walk at 5:00 a.m. on 27<sup>th</sup> March. He said that he hoped to organise a bird survey for children at the village school later in the year. Action  
JF

**39.11 Telephone kiosk. Progress with the art exhibition.** Cllr Forgham said that the exhibition of textiles was likely to be held by Mrs Connie Flynn using the kiosk at the Ford on 12<sup>th</sup> June 2011 – the day of the Fun Run. Action  
JF

### 39.12 Chairman's report.

**39.12.1 Parish Assembly Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2011.** The Clerk said that he had sent invitations to Mrs Stockley, Cllr Newlyn, Mr Mike Smith, Mr Richard Beckett and Mr Don Gibson. Mr Gibson had replied saying that there was little to report for the Little Hadham Conservation Society. After some discussion, the Council decided that it was more appropriate for Mr Hurford, Bishops Stortford Civic Federation, to talk at a Council meeting rather than the Assembly. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Piccolo would contact Mr Hurford. Action  
CP

**39.12.2 Other arrangements for the assembly including refreshments.** Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that arrangements for the refreshments were in hand. She had also contacted local clubs and societies about supplying static displays for showing at the assembly. Action  
CP

### 39.13 Clerk's Report

#### 39.13.1 Financial statement

##### Period ending 1<sup>st</sup> March 2011

Barclay's Bank C/Acc	£11,953.45
StepSaver BP Acc	£5.19
BP Acc	£170.00
Petty cash	-£12.27
<b>Total</b>	<b>£12,116.37</b>

##### Uncleared cheques

Mr B Evans	£334.81
Mrs K Green	£44.40
Mr A Purvis	£101.59
Little Hadham PCC - contribution to Parish News	£95.00
Mr T P Mearing - notice board	£45.00
Little Hadham Village Hall - Use of Hall Oct to Dec	£50.61
<b>Total uncleared</b>	<b>£671.41</b>

##### Received

S A Stigwood - Westland Green rent	£300.00
UK Power Networks Ltd - Village Hall playground wayleave	£34.74
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>£334.74</b>

##### To be agreed for payment

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (February)	£315.81	
	Exp (February)	£25.21	
	Float	£50.00	£391.02
Mrs K Green	Grass cutting & bins (February)		£44.40
Mr A Purvis	Litter picking (February)		£101.59
<b>Total payments</b>			<b>£537.01</b>

**Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £11,292.69**

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

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

#### 39.14 Democratic 10 minutes.

A resident said that he thought it inappropriate for a member of Bishop's Stortford Civic Federation to use the assembly as a platform to talk against new homes in Bishop's Stortford. This was not a parish matter. If he were to talk, the resident thought that members of EHC should have the right of reply. The resident's view was supported by Cllrs Purvis, Morris, Forgham and Gregory though Cllrs Mrs Piccolo, Mrs Wilkinson and Williamson thought the views of the federation should be allowed to be presented at the Assembly. The Council agreed that Mr Hurford should be invited to speak at a Council meeting rather than at the Assembly. A resident said that EHC councillors had been given funding for any projects in the district. The Council agreed that the Clerk should write to Cllr Tindale to find if he had funding that might be used to improve the local roads or flood prevention at Lloyd Taylor Close.

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

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

HAPTC Newsletter

**CP/AM**

Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

**AM**

**39.17 Any other Business.** Cllr Gregory reported that on two occasions polo ponies had been allowed to escape onto the A120 by people who had failed to secure field gates when using footpaths in the Bury Green area. Fortunately no accident had occurred but Cllr Gregory asked that a notice be included in the next Parish News. Agreed.

Action  
CP

**39.18 Date of the next meeting Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> April 2011.**

**39.19 The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 8:58 p.m.**