

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the fourth meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2011 – 2015 Session) held on Tuesday 6th September 2011 at 8.34 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:

Mr J Forgham)	Chairman
Mr R Gregory)	
Mrs C Piccolo)	
Mr P Wells)	Councillors
Mrs M Wilkinson)	
Mr G Williamson)	
Ms W Woodgate)	

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 10 member of the public. District Cllr Michael Tindale arrived at 9:00 p.m.

4.1. **Absent.** None.

4.2. **Declarations of interest.** None.

4.3. **Public session.**

There were no comments or questions.

4.4. **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 5th July 2011 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Wilkinson and seconded by Cllr Williamson.

4.5. **Matters arising from the minutes.**

4.5.1. Dog bins. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that installation of the bin was still imminent.

4.5.2. Mowing of Bury Green. The Chairman thought the matter was generally resolved. Cascoyne Cecil Estates had been sympathetic but were unlikely to change the lease for the Green. Residents on the Green with no drive to their homes had asked for and had been given permission to mow a narrow path across the Green.

4.5.3. Bury Green seat. Cllr Wells said that the seat offered had been too small to fit the concrete base. The Council had offered £50 and donations of £100 had been received. Cllr Wells thought a collection from Bury Green residents would cover the remaining cost. He proposed that he advertise in the Parish News asking for local firms to submit designs and costs for a bench. Agreed. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson asked if recycled plastic could be used.

Action
PW

4.6. **Playgrounds.**

4.6.1. Programme of work to correct matters arising from the latest playground inspection. Cllr Williamson said that a new report should be available shortly.

4.6.2. **Roundabout.** The Clerk said that Mr Trevor Waldock had obtained quotations for installing a new surface round the roundabout. This could be installed without removing the roundabout first. The quote should be available at the next meeting. Cllr Mrs Piccolo asked if the Council should consider removing the roundabout to save an ongoing expense.

Action
Clerk

4.7. **Road matters.**

4.7.1. The Chairman said that the pothole outside Acremans, Acreman Street, had reappeared despite being repaired. The problem was a blocked gully. The Clerk said that the Council had written to Herts Highways on the matter. Herts Highways had said that they needed to know who owned the blocked waterway that the gully emptied into.

- 4.7.2. Road closures on the A120. The Chairman said it was anticipated that sections of the A120 would have temporary waiting restrictions in place between the hours of 8.00pm and 5.00am (Mondays to Sundays inclusive) for up to 10 days, sometime during the period 12 September 2011 and 18 November 2011. This would involve the whole of the road from Standon to the Tesco roundabout. It was not expected the road would be closed.
- 4.7.3. Repairs to the Much Hadham to Widford road. The Chairman said the work was now complete.
- 4.7.4. Blocked Bury Green ditch. Cllr Wells said that polo ponies cutting the corner had resulted in the ditch being filled in. He said that he would try to contact EHC and would also talk to the people leading the horses. Action PW
- 4.7.5. Traffic speed indicator equipment. The Chairman thanked Cllr Mrs Piccolo for organising a demonstration of the equipment. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that the initiative was community, not Council, lead. She said she would organise a schedule to fit in with volunteers and police. The Chairman noted that the police say that most people warned are local. Action CP
- 4.8. **Refurbishment of the bus shelters.** Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that Mr Foskett had completed the Cradle End shelter and would start work on the others soon. The Council had received £2,000 from HCC towards the cost.
- 4.9. **NHS update.** Cllr Gregory said that there were no current updates. He was considering whether the Council should write in support of the Much Hadham Health Centre's expansion plans. He said he would talk to Dr Haimes. Action RG
- 4.10. **Herts Policing Policy 2011-2014.** Cllr Mrs Wilkinson summarised the new policy and proposed that the Council write to Herts Police giving its general support to the policy. Agreed. Action Clerk
- 4.11. **Allotments.** The Chairman said that Mr Frank Green had decided to step down after several years' service as allotment rep. The Chairman thanked Mr Green for his help and proposed that Cllr Mrs Piccolo buy a small gift to thank him. Agreed. The Chairman Proposed Mrs Brenda Cain to take Mr Green's place. Agreed.
- 4.12. **Westmill incinerator.** The Chairman said that Biffa planned to build a 'massive' incinerator at the Westmill landfill site on the A10. Local councils had set up an action group, 'Burning Issues', to oppose the plans. The site would burn industrial waste as well as household. There would be a 90m chimney with a building 40m high. There would be a constant stream of vehicles taking waste and removing ash. Mark Prisk MP has said he is impressed by the resolution of councillors. The 'Burning Issue' website was raising support. The Perry Green and Green Tye Society would be holding a meeting on Monday 19th September 2011.
- 4.13. **Parish Plan Group.**
- 4.13.1. **Future Plans.** Cllr Forgham said that plans were in preparation for a celebration of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 2nd June 2012.
- 4.14. **Chairman's report.**
- 4.14.1. Parish Welcome Pack. The Chairman said the pack needed to be updated. He would find if the Parish Plan Group had sufficient funds. He noted that Much Hadham was building an index of local businesses. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said that an email pack would be cheaper and easier to keep up to date. The Chairman said that many residents did not have access to email. The Chairman said that he would ask Mrs Jan Finn if she had an electronic copy of the Welcome Pack. Consideration of the Business Plan was deferred to the next meeting. Action JF

- 4.14.2.** Chairman's Charity. The Chairman said that he would like to see ways of raising money for local groups and activities and for local Charities. He would particularly like to raise money for the Willow Organisation which worked to meet terminally ill teenagers' wishes. Cllr Mrs Piccolo asked whether the Parish Plan Group was a suitable organisation to do this rather than the Council. The chairman said that he would investigate and report to the Council. Action
JF
- 4.14.3.** East Herts Rural Parish Conference and group meetings for town and parish councils in the Ash Valley on Thursday 8th Sept. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she hoped to attend. The Chairman said that he wanted to extend co-operation with surrounding councils – for example that could make joint responses to consultations. Action
CP
- 4.14.4.** HCC Bus Strategy. The Chairman said that he could see nothing in the strategy that would affect transport through the parish.

4.15. Clerk's Report

4.15.1. Financial statement

Period ending 6th September 2011

Barclay's Bank C/Acc		£14,975.28
StepSaver BP Acc		£5.19
BP Acc		£170.04
Petty cash		-£44.82
	Total	£15,105.69

Included above

Received

EHC litter picker salary		£1,282.26
HCC bus shelter grant		£2,000.00

Paid

Mower services	2 cuts in July		£290.40
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To be agreed for payment

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (August)	£315.61	
	Exp (August)	£19.20	
	Float	£50.00	£384.81
Karin Green Garden Services	Grass cutting (August)		£44.40
Mr A Purvis	Litter picking (August)		£106.86
RNLI - Donation in memory of Mrs Joan Ward			£25.00
Mower Services	2 cuts in August		£290.40
	Total payments		£851.47

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £14,304.22

- 4.15.2.** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 4.15.3.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Mrs Piccolo seconded Cllr Williamson. Agreed.
- 4.16. Democratic 10 minutes.**
 A resident said that a Biffa Grant was used to pay for the playground. He wondered if any money was on offer from the incinerator.
 Speaking about local councils working together, a resident said that the Parochial Parish Council had a community of parishes.
 A resident noted that 4 Acres, New Road wanted to convert agricultural land to residential. The Council would have to be alert to the fact that four houses might be built on the site in future.
 A resident asked about the 275 homes suggested for Bury Green Farm. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that the owners had suggested the site but that did not mean it would be

accepted. Cllr Tindale said the ‘call for sites’ was part of the new Development Framework. There was a website on which people could comment though he admitted that the site was not easy to use. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that new government plans might make developments like this more likely.

A resident asked if there had been any developments on the possible gypsy and traveller site at Millfield Lane. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said she had heard nothing.

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

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

HCC Transportation Facts leaflets

Chairman

HCC Bus Strategy letter

Chairman

Herts Police Policy booklet

MW

CPRE Countryside Voice magazine

GW

CPRE Fieldwork magazine

Chairman

CPRE Yearbook

Chairman

Clerks and Councils Direct magazine

Chairman

NALC LCR magazine

Chairman

4.19. Date of the next meeting Tuesday 4th October 2011.

4.20. The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:47 p.m.