

# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the fifth meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2011 – 2015 Session) held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011 at 8.34 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

**Present:**        **Mr J Forgham**        **Chairman**  
                       **Mrs C Piccolo**        )  
                       **Mrs M Wilkinson**     ) **Councillors**  
                       **Ms W Woodgate**     )

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and **10** member of the public.

- 5.1. Absent.** Cllr Gregory [family matter], Cllr Wells [holiday] and Cllr Williamson [holiday].
- 5.2. Declarations of interest.** None.
- 5.3. Public session.**  
There were no comments or questions.
- 5.4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2011 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate. Proposed by Cllr Mrs Wilkinson and seconded by Cllr Ms Woodgate.
- 5.5. Matters arising from the minutes.**
- 5.5.1.** Bury Green seat. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that Cllr Wells had placed a notice in the Parish News inviting local people to submit designs and quotations for a new bench. Cllr Mrs Piccolo stressed that this was a community project to which the Council had agreed to make a donation. Action  
PW
- 5.6. Playgrounds.**
- 5.6.1.** The Chairman said that the latest playground inspections had revealed no urgent problems. Most issues were marked as low or very low risk. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that she was investigating a Community Capital Grant from EHC to help pay for adjusting the ground level round the roundabout. Action  
GW/CP
- 5.7. Road matters.**
- 5.7.1.** Outstanding matters. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said that she had received complaints about the danger to children walking to and from the school bus stop in Westland Green. Many vehicles were travelling too fast round the many blind corners in the hamlet. The Clerk said that he had written a letter to Herts Highways asking for ‘Slow’ signs on the road from Wellpond Green and for the existing ‘Slow’ signs on the road in Westland Green to be refreshed.
- 5.7.2.** Road closures on the A120. The Chairman said that there would be complete closures of parts of the road between the A10 and Tesco roundabout between 20:00 and 5:00 on a number of nights although it was hoped that there would be only partial closure on most nights.
- 5.7.3.** Blocked Bury Green ditch. The Chairman said that Cllr Wells was still finding who owned the ditch. Action  
PW
- 5.7.4.** Potholes outside Acremans, Acreman Street. The Chairman said that it was still not clear who owned the overgrown pond that the drain emptied into. Action  
JF
- 5.7.5.** Traffic speed indicator equipment. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said she had about six residents interested in using the equipment. She hoped to arrange a training session when the responsible PCSO returned from holiday. Action  
CP

- 5.8. Refurbishment of the bus shelters.** Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that Mr Foskett had started work on the shelter at The Ash. After clearing the undergrowth Mr Foskett had found that many shingles needed to be replaced. Cllr Mrs Piccolo proposed that £200 for extra shingles be added to the original quoted price for the work. Agreed.
- 5.9. Contract negotiations at the Much Hadham Health Surgery.** The Chairman said that Dr Haimes had requested that the Council write in support of its plans to expand the Centre. The practice was in dispute with the leaseholders over the plans and legal action was imminent. It was agreed that the Chairman would find the details of the dispute before a letter was proposed to the Council. Action JF
- 5.10. Westmill incinerator.** The Chairman that he had attended a presentation given by ‘Burning Issues’ at Green Tye village hall. Biffa intend to build an incinerator with a 25 year life. There would be 500 lorry movements a year carrying rubbish to the site and ash away. Any emissions from the chimneys would land on the surrounding parishes – including Little Hadham. The Chairman said that he was in consultation with Burning Issues to give a presentation before the November Council meeting. It was agreed that the Chairman should also invite a representative of HCC to give the other side of the argument. Action JF
- 5.11. Parish Plan Group.**
- 5.11.1.** The Chairman said that there would be a meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2011 to discuss plans for the Diamond Jubilee celebrations. These would be a week before the Fun Run.
- 5.12. Chairman’s report.**
- 5.12.1.** Parish Business Plan and Welcome Pack. Said that he would email proposals to Councillors for discussion at the next meeting. Action JF
- 5.12.2.** Chairman’s Charity. The Chairman said that he intended to organise events, together with the Parish Plan Group, to collect money for the Willow Charity. He hoped to give a presentation to local people at a social event he would help organise in the Village Hall early in 2012. The Chairman agreed with Cllr Mrs Piccolo that events should be community lead through the Parish Plan Group rather than by the Council. Cllr Mrs Piccolo agreed to include a notice in the Parish News. Action JF/CP
- 5.12.3.** East Herts Rural Parish Conference and group meetings for town and parish councils in the Ash Valley on Thursday 15th September 2011. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said that it had been an upbeat meeting. BT had given a presentation on improving broadband speeds. £1 million would be spent in East Herts though mainly in the large towns. BT had offered to install broadband in the Village Hall – free installation and rent for the first year. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said she would ask the Village Hall Committee to consider this. Action CP
- Funds from Europe were available for setting up small businesses. Cllr Mrs Piccolo said she would include a note in the Parish News.
- The Chairman encouraged local organisation to apply for funding from EHC. EHC have set up an online calendar for local councils and organisations to advertise events.
- On a more worrying note, Cllr Mrs Piccolo said there had been a presentation about localism and changes to the planning laws. EHC planned to encourage developers to visit possible development sites in the district.

**5.13. Clerk's Report****5.13.1. Financial statement****Period ending 4<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

Barclay's Bank C/Acc		£14,148.81	
StepSaver BP Acc		£5.19	
BP Acc		£170.06	
Petty cash		£4.10	
	<b>Total</b>		<b>£14,328.16</b>

**Uncleared cheque**

RNLI donation		£25.00	
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**To be agreed for payment**

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - (September)	£315.81	
	Exp (September)	£19.20	
	Float	£50.00	£385.01
Karin Green Garden Services	Grass cutting (September)		£44.40
Mr A Purvis	Litter picking (September)		£106.86
CPRE - annual subscription			£29.00
HM Revenue & Customs - PAYE			£236.80
East Herts Council - allotment rent			£20.00
Mrs C Piccolo	Gift [bottle of wine]		£3.99
Mower Services	2 cuts in September		£290.40
	<b>Total payments</b>		<b>£1,116.46</b>

**Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £13,236.70**

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

**5.13.3.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Proposed Cllr Mrs Piccolo seconded Cllr Ms Woodgate. Agreed.

**5.14. Democratic 10 minutes.**

A resident said that the hedge on a house in Albury Road had overgrown over the pavement. The Chairman said he would ask Cllr Williamson to talk to the owner. A resident reported a sunken gully near the Albury Road/A120 junction. The Chairman said that, as the gully had been marked for repair, he would leave the matter for the moment.

A resident reported that vehicles were driving too quickly through the A120 traffic lights making it dangerous for him to turn into his drive.

Action  
JF/GW

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

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

**5.17.** CPRE Guide to how to respond to planning applications  
NALC LCR magazine

CP  
JF

**5.18. Date of the next meeting Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2011.**

**5.19. The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 8:46 p.m.**