

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 38th meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2011 – 2015 Session) held on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 at 8:21 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:

Mr J Forgham	Chairman
Nr C Bhatt)
Mrs E Lloyd-Williams)
Mr G Pearson) Councillors
Mrs M Wilkinson)
Mr G Williamson)
Ms W Woodgate)

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

- 38.1. Absent.** None.
- 38.2. Declarations of interest.** None.
- 38.3. Public session on matters on the agenda.**
There were no questions or comments on agenda items.
- 38.4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 2nd December 2014 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate.
- 38.5. Matters arising from the minutes.**
- 38.5.1.** Business being carried out at the former McVeigh Parker site. The Chairman said he had been unable to discover who owned the site. The resident of the caravan had apparently been moved in to guard the site. However, a business was being carried out that involved large bonfires of old wood, oil and old tyres. Much Hadham PC had contacted EHC planning enforcement, the Environment Agency and Environmental Health. Action to prevent the pollution was imminent.
- 38.6. Allotments**
- 38.6.1.** Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said that she had visited the site which was neat and tidy. Work on the picnic area would start soon. The Chairman said he had asked Mr Joel Hammond to remove the three fruit trees as agreed.
- 38.7. Playgrounds.**
- 38.7.1.** Damage to Ridgeway hedge, gate and fence. Cllr Ms Woodgate said the repairs had been completed.
- 38.8. Road matters.**
- 38.8.1.** Maintenance of the verge outside homes on Standon Road. Cllr Bhatt said he was still waiting for anything to be done following Mr Jordan's letter. Cllr Pearson said that Mr Andrew Stephenson, EHC land drainage officer, and Mr Noades from Herts Highways planned to visit the site to investigate the flooding on the A120 from Hadham Hall to the traffic lights. Action
CB
- 38.8.2.** Potholes. The Chairman said most roads were dreadful though most damage had been reported.
- 38.8.3.** Installing two extra planters. Cllr Mrs Woodgate said the planters would be installed before the next meeting. Action
WW
- 38.8.4.** Vehicles jumping the A120 traffic lights. The Chairman said the police had visited the site before Christmas though he had seen a number of incidents since then. He noted that PCSO Karen Broad had resigned following her transfer from the rural area to the town. He said he would invite her to a Council meeting and present her with a small gift. Agreed. Action
JF

- 38.8.5.** Excessive speed of traffic on the Cradle End, Bury Green, Ford Hill roads. The Chairman said he and Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams had spoken to the local papers. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams asked about police speed checks and the speed cameras that could be used by residents. The Chairman said the police check needed at least 100m of straight road. The camera used by residents was a deterrent that could not lead to prosecution. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said that ROSPA encouraged the use of village signage and village gateways. She said she was investigating 'Quiet Lanes' though there appeared to be none in Hertfordshire so far. Action
ELW
- 38.8.6.** Repairs to the fence surrounding the village pump. Cllr Ms Woodgate said the work had been done.
- 38.8.7.** The Chairman said a hedge that had become overgrown on a house that appeared to be unoccupied on Albury Road had been cut back.
- 38.9. Footpaths.**
- 38.9.1.** Condition of footpaths. The Chairman said most paths were in good repair if very muddy.
- 38.9.2.** Footpath between Albury Road and the church – hand rail on the bridge and overgrown hedge on Albury Road reducing visibility. The Chairman said there had been no progress. He would ask Mr Hammond to cut back the hedge. Action
JF
- 38.9.3.** Damaged stile on Footpath 10 at Westland Green. From the floor Mr Stephen Stigwood said he would temporarily remove the stile as he had no stock in the field. The Chairman said he would investigate the installation of a kissing gate. Action
JF
- 38.9.4.** Willow trees next to the river near Ford Fields. The Chairman said he expected Mr Joel Hammond to cut back the trees to about 5ft very soon.
- 38.10. Flooding.**
- 38.10.1.** Cllr Pearson said the Environment Agency had removed the concrete sill from the river bed near the Village Hall playground and had dredged the river near the Nag's Head. He said that the C15 had been flooded again by run-off from the fields. Green Street would be closed soon for flooding works. The Chairman thought the works would probably not solve the problems. He noted that the side road from Green Street to Bury Green had also flooded. Cllr Pearson said that the promised funding for the new sewage pump had not yet arrived. Oliver Heald MP had agreed to chase the matter.
- 38.11. HCC consultation on changes to subsidised bus services.** Cllr Williamson said that the new proposals meant that the latest 351 bus would now be 7:30 p.m. The 700 service would be cut on Sundays and after 7:30 p.m. He encouraged residents to respond to the consultation.
- 38.12. Bury Green**
- 38.12.1.** Dog fouling on the Green. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said her campaign continued. She had more posters to display. Action
ELW
- 38.13. Westland Green**
- 38.13.1.** Installation of posts to protect the byroad. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said they were still waiting for permission. Action
MW
- 38.14. Chairman's report.**
- 38.14.1.** Councillor recruitment. Cllr Bhatt said three councillors planned to stand down so it was important to encourage new recruits. He agreed to write an article for the Parish News. Action
CB

- 38.14.2.** Defibrillator. To consider purchasing a defibrillator for use in the parish. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said she was investigating three options: Community Heart Trust who recommended locked sites; British heart foundation who recommended unlocked boxes; an organisation who advocated 'First Responders' – one or two residents who would keep a defibrillator and receive special training. The Clerk asked if there was an organisation that would be willing to be responsible for a defibrillator that the Council would buy and pay to maintain. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said she would talk to the Health Centre. Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said she thought the box should be unlocked though Cllr Bhatt was concerned about security. Cllr Pearson said the Doctors' phone line could be connected to an emergency phone next to the defibrillator. It was agreed that Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams would fill in the form from CHT asking for more advice. The Chairman said he would like the matter to be decided by the May 2015 Council meeting. Action
ELW
- 38.14.3.** To consider making a donation to the Bishop's Stortford Citizen's Advice Bureau. Cllr Pearson said that the CAB provided helpful advice to many residents. He proposed a donation of £250. Agreed. Action
Clerk
- 38.14.4.** To consider a replacement Council noticeboard for the Village Hall. Cllr Williamson said he had obtained a quotation for an oak noticeboard for £900. The Clerk had a quotation for a recycled plastic board for about £1,200. The oak board would require regular maintenance. It was agreed to buy the plastic board. Action
Clerk
- 38.14.5.** Changes to the Bury Green Conservation Area. The Clerk said that HCC had consulted on removing new houses, on or near the former GSK site, from the Conservation area. The map included clearly showed the area but the written list of houses affected was incomplete. HCC was consulting on the revised document that included the correct list of affected homes. It was agreed not to object.

38.15. Clerk's Report**38.16. Financial statement****Period ending 3rd February 2015**

Barclay's Bank C/Acc	£18,323.96
StepSaver BP Acc	£5.19
BP Acc	£170.32
Petty cash	£2.96
Total	£18,502.43

To be agreed**Paid 16/1/15**

Mr M Foskett	Repairs to playground and pump fence	£325.00
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To Pay

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - January	£318.76
	Exp January	£13.70
	Float	£50.00
Mr Joel Hammond	Grass, bins & allotments - January	£382.46
Mr J Forgham	Christmas meeting refreshments	£70.00
		£21.46
Little Hadham Village Hall	Hire hall	£68.62
	Disposal of rubbish	£58.50
		£127.12
Little Hadham PCC	Donation towards printing Parish News	£290.00
Mr Ben Petch	Litter picker January	£137.37
		£137.37
	Total payments	£1,353.41

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £17,199.02

- 38.16.1.** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 38.16.2.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.
- 38.16.3.** To agree two replacement cheque signatories. The Clerk said that two of the current signatories did not plan to stand for re-election at the May 2015 election. It was important that there were at least two councillors able to sign cheques. It was agreed that Cllr Bhatt and Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams would replace Cllr Forgham and Cllr Williamson.
- 38.17. Democratic 10 minutes.**
 A resident said that the reflectors warning of the entrance to Stonehouse Farm had been knocked over. The Chairman said he would report to HCC. Action
JF
 A resident said that the A120 verge had been badly damaged – especially outside the garage. The Chairman said it had been reported. The resident complained about speeding through the C15. He thought the timing of the A120 traffic lights needed to be changed to give more time to the side roads. This would reduce queue jumping and the risk of collision when drivers stopped suddenly when the lights changed. The Chairman said he would talk to HCC and the police. Action
JF
- 38.18. Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 38.19. Correspondence**
 HCC Transport Facts and Casualty leaflets **CB**
 NALC LCR magazine **JF**
 Clerks & Councils Direct magazine **JF**
- 38.20. Date of the next meeting Tuesday 3rd March 2015.**
- 38.21. The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9.38 p.m.**