

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 39th meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2011 – 2015 Session) held on Tuesday 3rd March 2015 at 8:32 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:

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

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 18 members of the public.

- 39.1. Absent.** Cllr Bhatt [on business].
- 39.2. Declarations of interest.** None.
- 39.3. Public session on matters on the agenda.**
There were no questions or comments on agenda items.
- 39.4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 3rd February 2015 had been previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as accurate.
- 39.5. Matters arising from the minutes.**
- 39.5.1.** Business being carried out at the former McVeigh Parker site. The Chairman said he had not heard from County Councillor Graham McAndrew. However, work at the site appeared to have stopped and there had been no recent bonfires.
- 39.5.2.** New noticeboard for the Village Hall. The Clerk said he had placed the order. It was agreed that the Clerk would calculate the cost of a new noticeboard for Cradle End. **Action Clerk**
- 39.6. Allotments**
- 39.6.1.** Cllr Mrs Wilkinson said that Mr Foskett planned to install the picnic area in mid April. The Chairman said Mr Joel Hammond would remove the three fruit trees as agreed.
- 39.7. Playgrounds.**
- 39.7.1.** Cllrs Mrs Woodgate and Williamson said they had nothing to report.
- 39.8. Road matters.**
- 39.8.1.** Maintenance of the verge outside homes on Standon Road. The Chairman said there had been no progress. **Action CB**
- 39.8.2.** Potholes. The Chairman listed a number of potholes including those at the bottom of Chapel Lane, Acremore Street, Green Street / Cradle End and Westland Green. He said all had been reported. **Action WW**
- 39.8.3.** Installing two extra planters. Cllr Mrs Woodgate said the planters would be installed soon.
- 39.8.4.** Vehicles jumping the A120 traffic lights. The Chairman said he would contact Inspector Hunt to tell him that things had got worse again. **Action JF**
- 39.8.5.** Excessive speed of traffic on the Cradle End, Bury Green, Ford Hill roads. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said Sgt Wallace was willing to monitor traffic speed through the hamlets. She would ask him about speeding through the 30MPH section of the A120. From the floor, a resident said speeding on Albury Road made it difficult to pull out of local house driveways. **Action ELW**

- 39.9. Footpaths.**
- 39.9.1.** Condition of footpaths. The Chairman said most paths were in good repair and a little less muddy.
- 39.9.2.** Damaged stile on Footpath 10 at Westland Green. It was agreed that the Chairman would complete the paperwork to apply for a Countryside Management Grant for a kissing gate. Action
JF
- 39.9.3.** 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 on Thursday 6th March. Action
JF
- 39.10. Flooding.**
- 39.10.1.** Cllr Pearson funding for the new sewage pump was still awaited. He noted that the fields were still waterlogged so residents should be aware of possible flooding in a heavy rain.
- 39.11. Garden bonfires.** To consider how to reduce the annoyance to neighbours. Cllr Pearson said that bonfires for garden waste were apparently legal though he hoped that, with the warmer summer weather, residents would be thoughtful about their neighbours. It was agreed that Cllr Pearson would write a note for the Parish News. Action
GP
- 39.12. Parish Assembly – Thursday April 16th**
- 39.12.1.** To consider who to invite to give presentations. It was agreed to invite: The Chairman; the Police; Mrs Stockley, Head of Little Hadham School; Little Hadham Charities; Cllr McAndrew and Mrs Piccolo of the Little Hadham Social Club.
- 39.12.2.** To consider static displays. Cllr Mrs Woodgate said she would like to make the displays open to more people such as those who would like to promote their hobbies and activities. She agreed to put a notice in the Parish News.
- 39.12.3.** To agree arrangements for catering. It was agreed the Cllr Mrs Woodgate would arrange the catering. She said she would like to make the assembly less formal – possibly with tables and chairs rather than rows of seats.
- 39.13. Chairman’s report.**
- 39.13.1.** Councillor recruitment. Cllr Bhatt said three councillors planned to stand down so it was important to encourage new recruits. The Chairman said he would speak about recruitment at the Parish Assembly. Action
JF
- 39.13.2.** Defibrillator. To consider purchasing a defibrillator for use in the parish. Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams said she was in discussions with the Community Heartbeat Trust. East Herts Ambulance Trust would donate a defibrillator. The Council would buy a locked stainless steel box and she would discuss with the Village Hall where it should be sited, how an electrical supply could be connected and whether an emergencies only phone could be installed. Action
ELW
- 39.13.3.** Maintenance work on the Bury Green pond and the Millennium Wood. The Chairman said there had been reports of leaks into the pond from the Farm Place sewage digester. He understood the digester had been serviced though he would check the state of the pond. The Chairman said he had yet to fix a date for a Millennium Wood work party. Action
JF
- 39.13.4.** Phone kiosks. Cllr Ms Woodgate said she was pleased to see that the book exchanges seemed to be working well. She hoped to refresh the stock soon.

39.14. Clerk's Report**39.15. Financial statement****Period ending 3rd March 2015**

Barclay's Bank C/Acc		£17,010.33	
StepSaver BP Acc		£5.19	
BP Acc		£170.32	
Petty cash		£42.43	
	Total		£17,228.27

To be agreed**To Pay**

Mr B Evans	P/Clerk - February	£318.76	
	Exp February	£13.70	£332.46
Mr Joel Hammond	Grass, bins & allotments - February		£70.00
East Herts Citizens Advice Service - Donation			£250.00
Mr Ben Petch	Litter picker February		£114.57
	Total payments		£767.03

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £16,461.24

- 39.15.1.** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 39.15.2.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.
- 39.15.3.** To agree a work party to consider the internal control of the Council. The Chairman and Cllr Mrs Lloyd-Williams agreed to meet the Clerk. Action Clerk
- 39.15.4.** To review and agree: Council Standing Orders; Council Financial Regulations; Internal Audit arrangements; Council asset list; Council Risk Assessment. The documents were agreed.
- 39.16. Democratic 10 minutes.**
 A resident asked that any traffic speed surveys not be carried out in the school holidays.
 A resident said that the District Councillor should be invited to speak at the assembly. The Chairman said that, as Cllr Tindale did not intend to stand for the district council in May 2015, the Council would add him to the list of speakers.
- 39.17. Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 39.18. Correspondence**
 EHC Neighbourhood Planning Guidance GW
 EHC Invitation to Neighbourhood Training Event GW
- 39.19. Date of the next meeting Tuesday 7th April 2015.**
- 39.20. The Chairman closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9.19 p.m.**