

# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 15<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Little Hadham Parish Council (2015 – 2019 Session) held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 at 8:07 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

**Present:**        **Mrs E Lloyd-Williams**    **Chair**  
                       **Mr T Hoodless**                    **)**  
                       **Mrs M Wilkinson**                **) Councillors**  
                       **Mr W Wright**                        **)**

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 9 members of the public.

- 15.1**        **Absent.** Cllr Bhatt [on business], Cllr Pearson [family matter], Cllr Tooke [on holiday]
- 15.2.**        Declarations of interest. None.
- 15.3.**        **Democratic ten minutes.**  
 A resident asked about parking on Bury Green near to Farm Place. The Chair said she thought the owner was having building work done. She said she would speak to the owner. Action  
ELW  
 A resident spoke about Church End Industrial Estate. She said that there had never been an agreement that this was a suitable site for an Industrial Estate. The Clerk said that he had written many times and had numerous phone calls with the planning office on the matter with no success. The Chair said the Council had objected to the latest applications.  
 A resident spoke of a newsletter from HCC, sent to all residents, in which HCC promised a blitz on county road repairs including cleaning and repairing road signs. He noted that most of the parish speed limits signs were obscured by dirt and overhanging branches making it difficult to enforce the speed limits. Many of the road markings were badly worn.
- 15.4.**        **Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed.
- 15.5.**        **Matters arising from the minutes.**
- 15.5.1.**      Excessive road closures. The Chair said she would discuss the matter with Cllr Pearson. Action  
ELW
- 15.6.**        **Strategic matters**
- 15.6.1.**      Neighbourhood Plan. To consider whether building sites should be recommended or allocated. Cllr Wright said the questionnaire sent to all residents would be completed by 5th November. On the 12<sup>th</sup> November there would be training on how to conduct a character assessment of the parish. There would be a walk around the parish to take photographs and take notes. On 10<sup>th</sup> December there would be a public workshop in the Village Hall. On site allocations, Cllr Wright said the consultant had recommended a revised housing needs survey to be carried out by the Neighbourhood Plan group. Action  
WW
- 15.6.2.**      Draft East Herts District Plan. Meeting with the Head of Planning Policy. The Chair said she had arranged a meeting for 14<sup>th</sup> November. Action  
All Cllrs  
 The Chair spoke of the Pre-submission District Plan. The Council would have to agree a response at the December meeting. She encouraged residents to study the plan and make their own comments.

**15.7. Highways**

- 15.8.** Consultation with residents on traffic matters including: traffic calming measures, the Drive Safe Scheme and parking near the village pump. The Chair said she had had no update from Cllr Bhatt. She noted that Sgt Wallace had thought many of the parish signs needed renewing. Cllr Wright asked if the local newspaper could give the matter publicity. The Chair said she would contact Cllr McAndrew and Cllr Wright said he would make a list of poor signs when touring the parish with the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chair said she would ask Cllr Bhatt to reconvene the residents meeting to discuss road safety. Action ELW/WW
- 15.8.1.** Vehicles jumping the A120 lights. The Chair agreed to chase Sgt Wallace. Action CB
- 15.9.** Outstanding road repairs including potholes. The Chair said some patching had been carried out on the C15. Action ELW
- 15.9.1.** Damage to the war memorial and the A120 bus shelter. The Chair said the repairs had been made.
- 15.9.2.** Bypass. The Chair said she had made contact with the bypass steering leader. The planning application for the bypass had been resubmitted. The main alterations from the original application were that: The bypass would not now cross the access road near Hadham Park on a bridge but the road would be on the level with the track on an underpass. This would reduce visual intrusion and allow bats to migrate more easily; there would not now be a new pond for great crested newts; the lights at the roundabouts would be redesigned to reduce light pollution and the deer proof fence would be sited on the top of the bund along the road rather than at the bottom. The Chair said she thought that the changes were, if anything, a slight improvement and she proposed that the Council write in support of the changes. Agreed. [Appendix 1] Cllr Wright said that he would speak to the residents of Hadham Park and Savernake to make sure they had no objections. Action Clerk
- 15.10. Environment affairs**
- 15.10.1.** Condition of footpaths. Cllr Hoodless said he had no further news. Action WW
- 15.11. Groups and Amenities**
- 15.12. Community**
- 15.12.1.** Millennium Wood. The Chair said the appeal needed a boost. The moratorium on the sale of a community asset ran out in January 2017.
- 15.12.2.** The Chair noted that a gate had been broken and a sign at the Ridgeway moved. Action Clerk
- 15.12.3.** Playground hedges. The Clerk said he was waiting to hear from the contractor.
- 15.12.4.** Allotments. Cllr Wilkinson said there was nothing to report.
- 15.12.5.** Reports of excessive numbers of power cuts. The Chair said that there would be a note in the Parish News to report any places where trees were affecting power lines. She noted that Oliver Heald MP had taken an interest in the matter.
- 15.12.6.** To consider organising a Christmas Dinner for senior residents. The Chair said that Cllr Bhatt had applied for a grant – the dinner last year had been very successful. The Dinner would possibly be on 17<sup>th</sup> December. Action CB
- 15.12.7.** To consider inspection of trees for which the Council is responsible. The Chair said there were a number of trees for which the Council was responsible and they Action TH/Clerk

should be inspected to ensure their safety. Cllr Hoodless said he knew a tree surgeon and asked the Clerk to send him maps of the tree locations.

**15.13. Consultation and Public Relations**

**15.13.1.** Parish website. The Chair said she would talk to the Clerk. An editor was still required.

Action  
ELW/  
Clerk

**15.14. Flooding.** There were no recent reports.

**15.15. Security Matters**

**15.15.1.** The Chair said she was concerned that there had been no contact with the local PCSOs. She asked Cllr Hoodless to contact Sgt Wallace.

Action  
TH

**15.16. Parish Council matters.**

**15.17.** Financial review 2016/17 and budget for 2017/18 for agreement at the December 2016 meeting. The Chair said she and Cllr Tooke had met the Clerk to review the Council's finances for this year and to consider the budget for 2017/18. She said the Council was currently in surplus but this would quickly disappear as the New Homes Bonus was withdrawn. The Council would have to look closely at donations. She thought the Council could not commit to a regular donation to the Village Hall but she would be proposing a £500 donation for this and next year. Future donations would be subject to consideration once the Council's finances became clearer.

**15.17.1. Chair's report.** The Chair reminded residents of the Remembrance Service to be held at the War Memorial at 10:30 on Sunday 13<sup>th</sup> November.

**15.18. Clerk's Report**

**15.18.1. Financial statement**

**Period ending 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016**

<b>Unity Trust Bank</b>			£29,351.15
Petty cash			£28.55
		<b>Total</b>	<b>£29,379.70</b>
<b>To be agreed</b>			
<b>To Pay</b>			
Staff salaries	October		£514.78
Clerk's expenses	October		£12.50
Seiretto	Registration of domain name		£213.60
Little Hadham Village Hall	Use of hall July and Sept	£44.30	
	Use refuse bin	£58.50	£102.80
M A Foskett	Bus shelter repairs	£495.00	
	War memorial wall repairs	£285.00	
	Playground repairs	£175.00	£955.00
CPRE	Annual subscription		£36.00
P Knott [Mower Services]	2 playground grass cuts October		£242.00
		<b>Total payments</b>	<b>£2,076.68</b>

**Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £27,303.02**

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

**15.18.3.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.

- 15.19. Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 15.20. Correspondence**  
EHC District Plan Pre-submission Consultation **ELW**
- 15.21. Date of next ordinary Council meeting – Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**
- 15.22. The Chair closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:02 p.m.**

#### **Appendix 1.**

**To:** Ria Griffiths,  
Planning & Systems Support Officer  
Spatial Planning & Economy Unit  
HCC Environment & Commercial Services

**Re. Proposed 3.9km northern bypass of the A120 and flood alleviation scheme, comprising a new 9.3m wide single carriageway road, verges, roundabout junctions (including lighting), bridges, embankments, drainage, landscaping and associated engineering at A120, Land north of Little Hadham, Hertfordshire**

The revised planning application was considered by the Council at its meeting on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016.

The Council agreed that the alterations to the eastern end of the bypass would, if anything, improve the visual impact of the new road. The Council supports the measures taken to protect the important wildlife of the area – in particular the local bat population.

The Council understands the reasons for relocating the deer fencing to the top of the bund and consider that it will have minimal effect on local residents.

The Council continues to support the proposed bypass and flood alleviation scheme and hopes that construction work on the project can start as soon as possible.