

- 19.8.2.** Application for grants for footpath kissing gates. The Chair said that Cllr Hoodless had made an application.
- 19.8.3.** Painting of the bus shelter opposite the Nag's Head. The Clerk said that Mr Joel Hammond had given a Quotation of £250. The Chair proposed that this be accepted. Agreed. Action Clerk
- 19.8.4.** Inspection of trees for which the Council is responsible. The Clerk said he had met the inspector at Bury Green and he awaited his report.
- 19.8.5.** Safety of trees between the Ridgeway Playground and the C15 road. The Chair said that Cllr Pearson had met Mr Robin Noades of Herts Highways and he was waiting for a report from him. Action GP
- 19.8.6.** Maintenance of the C15 planters. Cllr Wilkinson said the planters needed some care. As no-one knew who had kindly maintained them last year, it was decided to keep a watching brief.
- 19.9. Groups and Amenities**
- 19.10. Community**
- 19.10.1.** Report on the campaign to improve broadband speeds within the parish. The Chair said that Mr Geoffrey Pratt had been working with Cllr McAndrew and that there appeared to be a possibility that Superfast Broadband might be supplied to Westland Green.
- 19.10.2.** The maintenance of Bury Green. The Chair said the Council had agreed to fund one cut a year like Westland Green. She had asked if any residents would like to volunteer though none had so far. However, she noted that the grass had recently been cut. Standing orders meant that the Council's decision could not be reconsidered for 6 months. Action ELT
- 19.10.3.** Millennium Wood. The Chair said she had no new information though she thought that the wood was not yet back on the market.
- 19.10.4.** Repairs to Westland Green byway. Cllr Wilkinson said that Mr Maddex, the HCC public rights of way officer, had agreed to inspect the byway.
- 19.10.5.** Playgrounds. The Chair said that Cll Tooke had reported that there had been no new vandalism. He was waiting for Mr Mick Foskett to repair one of the gates. Action GT
- 19.10.6.** Possible grant to replace the playground gates. The Chair said that Cllr Hoodless had applied for a grant from the Tesco Plastic Bag fund.
- 19.10.7.** Allotments. Cllr Wilkinson said there was nothing to report.
- 19.10.8.** To agree to payment of the donations agreed at the December 2016 meeting – Brownies £100, Little Hadham School £150, Little Hadham Mothers and Toddlers £100 and the Village Hall £500. The Chair said these were all one off payments. She proposed the payments be made. Agreed.
- 19.11. Consultation and Public Relations**
- 19.11.1.** Parish website. The Chair said the site was near the top of the Google search list.
- 19.12. Flooding.** There had been no recent issues.

19.13. Security Matters

19.13.1. The Chair said that Cllr Hoodless had not heard from the local PCSO.

19.14. Parish Council matters.

19.14.1. Progress on finding a replacement Councillor. The Chair said the post had been advertised with the deadline for applications being the Tuesday after the Assembly

19.14.2. Consideration of scrapping/sale of the council laptop and printer and payment for use of the Clerk's printer. Possible purchase of a new laptop. Action
GT

19.14.3. To consider a meeting to appraise the work of the Clerk and to consider the local government pay award. It was agreed to defer the last two items. Action
GT

19.15. Parish Assembly – Tuesday 25th April 2017

19.15.1. The Chair agreed to obtain a projector and arrange the catering. Action
ELT

19.15.2. Chair's report. The Chair said that Stop Stansted Expansion had submitted evidence to the House of Commons transport committee. Their main concerns were pollution and noise. Cllr Wright said that aircraft noise was an increasing problem in the parish and he asked that it be a regular item on the agenda. Action
Clerk
Agreed.

The Chair said that the allocation of responsibilities among councillors would have to be reconsidered. It would not be fair to give former Cllr Bhatt's responsibilities to a new member.

19.16. Clerk's Report**19.16.1. Financial statement****Period ending 4th April 2017****Unity Trust Bank**

£20,663.51

Petty cash

£33.05

Total £20,696.56**Included Above****Paid**

Carroll Planning & Design Neighbourhood Plan £240.00

Modicum Planning Neighbourhood Plan £845.00

Mr J Hammond Willow Tree cutting £130.00

Unity Trust Bank Service charge £18.00

Agreed but yet to be paid

Maydencroft Parish Council tree inspection £768.00

To be agreed**To Pay**

Staff salaries	March	£514.78
Clerk's expenses	March	£16.10
HM Revenue & Customs	January to March 2017	£246.80
Little Hadham School	Use school printer	£61.43
P Knott (Mower Services)	1 cut playing fields grass	£121.00
Little Hadham Brownies	Donation	£100.00
Little Hadham School	Donation	£150.00
Little Hadham Mothers & Toddlers	Donation	£100.00
Little Hadham Village Hall	Donation	£500.00
Little Hadham PCC	Delivery Assembly flyer with Parish News	£25.00
HAPTC	Annual subscription for year 2017/18	£572.02
	Total payments	£2,407.13

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £17,521.43

- 19.16.2.** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 19.16.3.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.
- 19.17. Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 19.18. Date of next ordinary Council meeting – Tuesday 2nd May 2017.**
- 19.19. The Chair closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 8:58 p.m.**

Appendix 1 Neighbourhood Plan meeting with EHC Planning Officer – Cllr Wright

On the 30th March, Jon and I had a good meeting with Laura Pattison of East Herts Council; she works in planning, dealing with policy and is the Neighbourhood Plan liaison for East Herts. We broadly followed the questions below as an agenda and I set out the responses we got.

Overall, following the meeting with Laura I think there are two key messages:

Site Allocations

Although allocating sites does give the NP more weight it is relatively marginal. And considering the context that general policy seems to be in continuous flux and the presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key political motivation nothing is guaranteed.

The key point is that without site allocations the NP can be over-ruled and targets imposed on the parish if East Herts cannot demonstrate a deliverable five year new housing supply. If however, we allocate sites the NP can only be over-ruled if they cannot demonstrate a three year housing supply.

Housing Needs Survey

There is no realistic support available to conduct and analyse a survey. The suggestion is to use census and other data / evidence to assess what local needs are likely to be.

<p>- If Little Hadham were to undertake a parish level call for sites, what thresholds would East Herts wish LH to apply?</p>	<p>No need for a minimum threshold and recommends that we do not set one.</p>
<p>- Are there specific housing types that East Herts would support LH to ask for?</p>	<p>Not really; indications are that modest sized / valued homes are lacking.</p>
<p>Without the neighbourhood plan being in place, what infill development could come forward under draft policy GBR2 Rural Area Beyond the Green Belt?</p>	<p>Within the two black lined developed areas at the Ash and The Ford, infills of up to five sites per plot will be permitted (subject to policy ie. being appropriate / daylight / flooding etc)</p>
<p>- Without the neighbourhood plan being in place, what are the implications of the draft Local Plan for brownfield land in Bury Green and other sites such as the industrial areas at Church End?</p>	<p>Policy does encourage sustainable development on Brown Field sites. These sites would therefore be considered favourably subject to detail and not over-developing and in particular if they gave something back, ie. reinstated some woodland etc. that would be seen positively.</p>
<p>- Although it is often mentioned, we do not have any real facts available on the type of Housing Need required by residents in our Parish. Do you have any information and can you help us with carrying out a Housing Needs Survey of residents?</p>	<p>There is no support available. District wide the most demand is for up to three bed homes. Accessible and adaptable homes are considered important. There is little evidence to support that older generations will realistically give up their family homes even if good downsize options are available.</p>
<p>- What are your views on development in the Parish of Little Hadham, bearing in mind :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the significant new scheme at Bishops Stortford North (on our boundary) and other schemes such as Harlow North? - Little Hadham does suffer from flooding, albeit we know that some of this will be alleviated by the proposed bypass works; more development will surely make this worse. - Little Hadham does lack public services and infrastructure, hence its low Category status - Little Hadham is predominately an open and rural area with special natural and built environs. 	<p>Little Hadham is not a current target for major new development, based on sustainability. However, there is an expectation that some development will be brought forward and they would welcome site allocations. A key issue we skirted around is that if more development does take place and if we were to improve say the bus service, or other facilities, we would potentially be improving the sustainability of the parish which could consequently knock on to us being targeted for development!</p>

<p>- When EH's consider land for strategic development of homes do you have a minimum size / number of units in mind? We have some sites that are potentially more generous than usual and the concern we have is that if we identify something for say 4 or 5 homes, you might see it as suitable for say 20?</p>	<p>There is no set number to define Small Development, however, the current Local Plan assume up to 5 homes in the infill. The new Local Plan is vague on the point but Laura thought that anything up to 15 would be considered Small Development; certainly no more than 30.</p>
<p>- We will bring the Parish plans that we have so that we can point out sites identified on the SLAA etc, but if you can we would be interested to if you could help us understand the thinking behind some of the markations such as the Village Envelope black line, and is there scope to vary this?</p>	<p>The black line was basically just set very close to the existing settlement. Should the NP wish to amend the line with site allocations we can.</p>
<p>OTHER:</p> <p>- The Draft Local Plan is now with the Planning Inspectorate. Expect adoption Easter 2018.</p> <p>- Ribbon Development is absolutely discouraged. Mirroring however, ie. other side of road opposite existing schemes, is not considered Ribbon Development. Subject to protecting views etc. this could be seen positively.</p> <p>- I asked (it feels important to state that this was my enquiry not Jon's) if bearing in mind the Village Hall needs significant renovation, whether there would be scope for a new Community Centre with homes built on top to fund it. Subject to flood issues and design etc. Laura thought that this could be an option. Or at least, she could not think of a policy that would discount it immediately, but we did not give her time to consider more fully.</p> <p>- S.106 / Affordable Housing. Under the new Local Plan this will only be due on developments with 11 or more dwellings or over 1,000 sq M.</p>	

Neighbourhood Plan Vision

By 2031, the parish of Little Hadham will still be a rural haven, rich in biodiversity and heritage assets, within easy commuting distance to London and Cambridge rail services, Bishop's Stortford and Stansted Airport.

The by-pass will have been built which, along with other traffic calming measures, will result in;

- increased tranquillity, cleaner air and a flood risk free area in the environs of the A120;
- the built up environment around the Ash will be more attractive and safer for all users;
- pedestrians, cyclists and horse riders will connect safely and easily between the hamlets using the quiet rural roads.

New housing will have come forward in the parish that meets local needs and is necessary to sustain a mixed and balanced community. All development will have come forward in a sustainable way, reflecting the existing settlement pattern and contributing positively to the rural character of the parish.