

Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 25th meeting of the **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2015 – 2019 Session) held on Tuesday 3rd October 2017 at 8:05 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present:	Mrs E Lloyd-Williams	Chair
	Mr T Hoodless)
	Mr G Pearson)
	Mr G Tooke) Councillors
	Mr N Wardrop)
	Mrs M Wilkinson)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 6 members of the public.

- 25.1. Absent.** Cllr Wright [on business].
- 25.2. Declarations of interest by councillors on any items below.** None.
- 25.3. Democratic ten minutes.**
A resident said she was saddened to hear of the vandalism in the playground. She asked that the Council reconsider the installation of CCTV cameras. Parents wanted their children to be safe. Cllr Tooke said cameras would be expensive and would be difficult to site – only the gates could be covered. The vandals would likely try to disable the cameras. He said there had been some progress with investigations.
- 25.4. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 5th September 2017 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed with the correction that the Neighbourhood plan sites were being examined by AECOM not ACON.
- 25.5.** Matters arising from the minutes. None.
- 25.6. Strategic matters**
- 25.6.1.** Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Wardrop said AECOM continued assessing the viability of building sites suggested in the 'call for sites'. The desk work was complete but site visits were still to be made. The steering committee had yet to consider the sites. Cllr Hoodless asked if the site list would be open to developers. Cllr Wardrop said procedure had to be followed carefully. However, site owners were being contacted to confirm that they wanted their plot to go forward in the process, and that those sites that did choose to go forward would be made public. Cllr Wardrop said work on the parish character assessment continued.
- 25.7. Highways**
- 25.7.1.** Consultation with residents on traffic matters including: traffic calming measures, the Drive Safe Scheme and parking near the village pump.
The Chair said names were being collected for a petition for the Drive Safe scheme. She was talking to Much Hadham, Albury and Standon parish councils about 'working across borders' on the scheme. The Chair said she had spoken to Braughing PC about their flashing speed indication light and their 20MPH speed limit. The light had cost £4,000 + installation although they had some funding. 20MPH signs would only be installed if current speeds were not excessively over the existing speed limit. Cllr Wardrop asked if the light and speed limit had

- changed driver behaviour. Cllr Pearson said they lead to more cycle accidents as cyclists frequently exceeded 20MPH. The Chair agreed to investigate grants for a flashing speed light. Cllr Hoodless agreed to investigate villages with more than one site for a light. Cllr Hoodless said that Sgt Wallace wanted to talk to the Council about such issues. Action ELW/HH
- 25.7.2.** Vehicles jumping the A120 lights. The Chair said she had nothing new.
- 25.7.3.** Outstanding road repairs including potholes. Cllr Pearson said BT had installed fibre cabling at the C15 junction with the Ridgeway and numerous potholes had formed along the trench that they had re-filled affecting traffic on the bend. It had been reported to Highways and had now been repaired. The pothole currently forming on the C15 outside Halfway House was due to a water leak. Affinity Water were now dealing. Other current highway matters were on the rolling 18-month programme. The Chair noted that the bad pothole on Ford Hill had been filled. Action GP
- 25.7.4.** Bypass. The Chair read a progress report from the HCC bypass team. [Appendix 1]. The Chair said village enhancement schemes would follow a monitoring period after the bypass had opened. Cllr Hoodless said some enhancements were essential for consideration at the design stage such as cycleways and footpaths. The Chair said she would ask for another meeting to ensure the Council input was heard. Action ELW
- 25.8. Environment affairs**
- 25.8.1.** Condition of footpaths. Cllr Hoodless said three kissing gates were to be installed on 24th October by Groundworks volunteers.
- 25.8.2.** Bus shelter opposite the Nag's Head. Cllr Hoodless agreed to resource some new shingles for the roof. Action TH
- 25.8.3.** Inspection of trees for which the Council is responsible. Cllr Hoodless said he had spoken Gascoyne Cecil Estates but had received no reply. He would try again. He thought none of the tree matters were urgent. Action TH
- 25.8.4.** To consider the future of the C15 planters including relocation or possible removal. The Chair said they were being intermittently maintained. Cllr Tooke said he thought they were an eyesore as they were and should be removed. The Chair asked if they could be relocated around the parish. She wondered if the school might be interested and she agreed to talk to the Head. Action ELW
- 25.8.5.** Noise from aircraft using Stansted Airport. Cllr Wardrop said SSE were pleased to see an increase in reports on noisy and low flying from Little Hadham. If a number of planes were of concern, it was better to make one report rather than report each incident separately. SSE were concerned that not all residents received a flyer concerning Stansted Expansion and would like to know if residents had not received it.
- 25.9. Groups and Amenities** No new information.
- 25.10. Community**
- 25.10.1.** Report on the campaign to improve broadband speeds within the parish. Cllr Wilkinson said the local MP had met with Westland Green residents and he had agreed to raise the matter in the House of Commons as HCC appeared not to be dealing with the matter properly. Residents were raising an online petition so the

matter would be discussed by parliament. Cllr Tooke said that Superfast broadband was now available in the Ash.

- 25.10.2.** Millennium Wood. The Chair said she had no news.
- 25.10.3.** Playgrounds. Cllr Tooke said there had been new vandalism. Part of a picnic bench had been sawn off and the table had been damaged by fire. A fence had been broken and a tent put up in the river bed. The matter had been reported to the police together with names of possible culprits given by local residents. Cllr Tooke said he had spoken to the EHC antisocial behaviour officer. Cllr Pearson said the Environment Agency had removed the tent as it restricted the river flow in times of flood. The Clerk was asked to get a quotation for the bench repair from Mr Mick Foskett.
After some discussion it was agreed that the hedge near the football stand be cut at the same height as the hedge near the play apparatus to enable people to see into the area more easily. Action Clerk
- 25.10.4.** Replacing/repairs playground gates including use of Tesco grant. Cllr Tooke said the gates were very expensive. However, he had been offered some gates by a local contractor who would fit the gates, including an appropriate closing device, at cost. Cllr Tooke agreed to get the gate installed and obtain quotes for the other three gates. Action GT
- 25.10.5.** Thee Chair said the bus shelter near Cradle End had been damaged. Cllr Hoodless said he would investigate. Action TH
- 25.10.6.** The Chair said that the war memorial had been damaged and asked The Clerk to get Mr Foskett to quote for a repair.
- 25.10.7.** Allotments. Cllr Wilkinson said there was nothing to report.
- 25.11. Consultation and Public Relations**
- 25.11.1.** Council website. Cllr Wardrop said he and the Clerk were working on designs for the front page. He would consider adding Council news to the Council Facebook site. Action NW
- 25.12. Flooding.** Cllr Pearson said there were no issues in September.
- 25.13. Parish Council matters.**
- 25.14. Chair's report.**
- 25.14.1.** The Chair said that work to replace the litter picker was ongoing
- 25.14.2.** The Chair noted the Cllr Wardrop was to attend a New Councillor training session in December. Action MW
- 25.14.3.** The Chair said that the inspector would be holding a public enquiry into the new District Plan in October. Residents could attend in person or watch online.
- 25.14.4.** Finally, the Chair noted that a new newspaper, the Bishop's Stortford Independent, was to be published. It would include Mr Jonathan Forgham's Nature Notes.

25.15. Clerk's Report**25.15.1. Financial statement**

**Period ending 3rd October
2017**

Unity Trust Bank			£32,401.20
Petty cash			£16.49
		Total	£32,417.69
Included above			
Received			
EHC	Litter picker salary	£1,437.28	
	Half precept	£6,645.00	£8,082.28
To be agreed			
To Pay			
Staff Salaries	August		£401.82
Clerk's expenses	August		£13.40
Little Hadham PCC	Contribution to graveyard maintenance		£300.00
HM Revenue & Customs	PAYE July to September		£248.80
Seiretto	Website hosting		£58.80
EHC	Allotment rent		£20.00
P Knott (Mower Services)	2 cuts playing fields in September		£242.00
Mrs E Lloyd-Williams	Book token - leaving gift for litter picker		£30.00
		Total payments	£1,314.82
Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills			£31,102.87

25.15.2. Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed

25.15.3. Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.

25.16. Planning matters. The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.

25.17. Date of next ordinary Council meeting – Tuesday 7th November 2017.

25.18. The Chair closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:22 p.m.

Appendix 1 HCC report on the bypass

Ahead of your Parish Council meeting tonight, please find below a brief update on the progress made with the A120 (Little Hadham) Bypass and Flood Alleviation Scheme.

As you will be aware, we are progressing proposals to build a bypass of Little Hadham and reduce flooding in the area. We received planning permission for the scheme in January 2017 and we are now working towards securing the land we need to build the scheme.

On the 10th August (and 17th August), Hertfordshire County Council published The Hertfordshire County Council (A120 Bypass (Little Hadham) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017 ('the HCC CPO') and The Hertfordshire County Council (A120 (Little Hadham) Bypass Classified Road) (Side Roads) Order 2017 ('the HCC SRO'). This coincided with the Environment Agency's publication of The Environment Agency (Little Hadham Flood Alleviation Scheme) Compulsory Purchase Order 2017 ('the EA CPO') for land required for the flood alleviation scheme.

The objection period for the HCC CPO and EA CPO closed on 8th September, and the objection period for the HCC SRO closed on 30th September. Responses received during the objection period are currently under review by HCC and the Environment Agency. Both

acquiring authorities are now in discussions with the Department for Transport and the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs regarding the next steps – this may involve a call for a Public Inquiry. Our discussions with affected landowners are ongoing.

Alongside our work to secure the land needed to build the scheme, the detailed design for the bypass and flood alleviation scheme continues to be developed. It is our intention to start a tender process in late autumn to appoint the contractor who will build the scheme.

Works could start on site between autumn 2018 and Spring 2019, dependant on the outcome of the legal process for the confirmation of the CPOs and SRO. We may begin some early enabling works in advance of the main programme of construction, however this is subject to any appropriate agreements being in place.

We will keep you updated on the progress of the scheme as we reach key milestones.

I hope this update is helpful, but please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any further questions.

Kind Regards

Helen McCormick MEng (Hons)

Major Projects

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