

# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2015 – 2019 Session) held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 at 8:08 p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

<b>Present:</b>	<b>Mrs M Wilkinson</b>	<b>Chair</b>
	<b>Mrs E Lloyd-Williams</b>	)
	<b>Mr G Tooke</b>	) <b>Councillors</b>
	<b>Mr N Wardrop</b>	)
	<b>Mr W Wright</b>	)

Mr B Evans – Clerk, and 10 members of the public including District Cllr Geoff Williamson.

**32.1. Absent.** Cllr Hoodless and Cllr Pearson.

**32.2. Declarations of interest by councillors on any items below.** None.

**32.3. Democratic ten minutes.**

A resident said that she had been in contact with the redundant phone kiosk removal team. The A120 kiosk should be removed by 2019.

**32.4. Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 1st May 2018 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed.

**32.5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting** held on Tuesday 1st May 2018 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed.

**32.6. Minutes of the Parish Assembly** held on Thursday 19th April 2018 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed.

**32.7. Matters arising from the minutes.** None.

**32.8. Strategic matters**

**32.8.1.** Neighbourhood Plan. To consider latest steering group recommendation not to allocate house building sites.

Cllr Wright said that the preparation of the Plan had been paused. The public meeting to consider possible building sites had been cancelled. He thought there should be an informal meeting of the Council before the end of June to discuss whether the Plan should allocate building sites. Agreed. Cllr Wright said the Character Assessment of the parish should be complete in two or three weeks.

Action  
All  
councillors

**32.9. Highways**

**32.9.1.** Outstanding road repairs including potholes. The Chair read a report from Cllr Pearson: *A resident has reported the poor state of the verge and footpath from Craigowan through to the school to highways who have attended and are assessing as part of their 18mth rolling programme. Large potholes on Chapel Lane at the bend near Westland Green have been filled in. Numerous potholes on the A120 from the traffic lights to Tesco have been filled in.*

**32.9.2.** Bypass. The Chair said that there were no objections concerning the Environment Agency. The public enquiry concerning objections to the compulsory purchase orders and the redirection of roads and public rights of

way was going ahead as planned for July 2018. HCC still expected work to start early 2019.

**32.10. Environment affairs**

- 32.10.1.** Condition of footpaths. The Chair read a report on the parish footpaths. [Appendix 1]
- 32.10.2.** Inspection of trees for which the Council is responsible. No new information. Action TH
- 32.10.3.** To consider request from the PCC to clean the War Memorial. Cllr Tooke said the memorial looked a little weathered but he thought cleaning, at great expense, could do more harm than good. The Chair proposed that the memorial not be cleaned. Agreed.
- 32.10.4.** Noise from aircraft using Stansted Airport. Cllr Wright said he would like more residents to be involved – in particular to attend the quarterly consultation meetings held by the airport. The Chair proposed setting up an aircraft noise working group. Agreed. The Chair asked that details of how to complain about aircraft noise be included in the Parish News. Action NW
- 32.10.5.** Damage to parish kiosks. The Chair proposed that the Council buy a new glass panel at a price of up to £30. Agreed.
- 32.10.6.** Repairs to the Cradle End bus shelter. Cllr Wilkinson said the damaged roof had been repaired by Connect Scaffolding. However, the window in the shelter, in order to allow residents to see the approaching bus, had not been created. Cllr Tooke agreed to obtain a quotation. Action GT
- 32.10.7.** Missing Bury Green sign. The Chair said the Herts Highways website redirected her to the local councillor. She agreed to contact Cllr McAndrew. Action ELW
- 32.11. Groups and Amenities** No reports.
- 32.12. Community**
- 32.12.1.** Replacing/repairs playground gates including use of Tesco grant. Cllr Tooke said he had a quotation for a new gate for £700 delivered. He had a quotation to fit the gate at the north end of the Village Hall playground and to repair the other playground gates and install the replacement signs for £480. He proposed the quotation be accepted. Agreed. Action GT
- 32.12.2.** Replacement litter bin for the Ridgeway playground. Cllr Tooke said the new bin had been installed.
- 32.12.3.** Quotation for cutting the playground hedges. Cllr Tooke said he had obtained a quotation that was much more than the price charged by Mower Services. The hedge could not be cut until the end of the summer because of nesting birds. He proposed that the quotation not be accepted. Agreed.
- 32.12.4.** Resiting of planter. Cllr Pearson said that one of the planters had been moved into the Village Hall carpark for use by the Brownies. She thanked Mr Steve Stigwood for his help.
- 32.12.5.** Allotments. To consider removal of newly planted fruit trees. The Chair said that Cllr Hoodless would talk to the allotment holder who had planted the trees. She asked that the vacant allotments be advertised in the Parish News. Action TH/NW

**32.13. Consultation and Public Relations** From the floor, Cllr Williamson said that the new Local Plan was almost ready to be adopted.

**32.14. Security matters**

**32.14.1.** The Chair reported a number of burglaries in Much Hadham.

**32.14.2. Flooding.** The Chair read a report from Cllr Pearson: *The new Environment Agency Inspector for the area is Jasper Llewelyn. I took him on a tour of the Parish and showed where the main issues are. He says he will continue to assist with the problems in the area and would be happy to attend our next annual parish assembly. There have been 8 weather warnings for significant rain since the last meeting.*

**32.15. Parish Council matters.**

**32.15.1.** To consider finding a replacement Clerk. The Chair said she thought councillors would have to, temporarily, take on some of the Clerk's responsibilities. Cllr Wardrop said that the post would have to be advertised – possibly in the local newspaper and HAPTC as well as the Newsletter.

**32.15.2.** General Data Protection Regulation. The Clerk said there seemed to be some disagreement among the various companies and organisations and what was required. He said that he had posted the Council policy on the website, registered with the Information Commissioner's Office and removed a number of out of date records. He stressed that the Council held very few details of residents and those it did have were collected for legitimate purposes.

Action  
ELW

**32.15.3.** To consider removal of historic Council documents to the county archive. The Chair said that the Council had agreed to send documents to the archive. She proposed that she should collect the documents held by a resident and make a list for consideration by the archivist.

Action  
ELW

**32.16. Chair's report.** There was no report.

**32.16.1.** The Chair said that the Village Hall was making a schedule of repairs and quotations especially for doors and windows and possibly heating. When complete, they plan to apply for grants with the help of the CDA.

**32.16.2. Clerk's Report**

**32.16.3. Financial statement**

**Period ending 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

**Unity Trust Bank**

£29,588.66

Petty cash

£4.03

**Total**

**£29,592.69**

**Included above**

Received [31/5/18]

Groundworks East - Little Hadham  
walks leaflet

£1,000.00

**To be agreed****To Pay**

Staff Salaries	May	£517.42
Clerk's expenses	May	£17.90
Petty cash float		£50.00
P Knott (Mower Services)	3 cuts playing fields May	£363.00
Stop Stansted Expansion	Annual subscription	£10.00
Darren Carroll	Neighbourhood Plan Character Assessment support	£960.00
Information Commissioner's Office - registration fee		£40.00
<b>Total payments</b>		<b>£1,958.32</b>

**Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £27,584.37**

- 32.16.4.** Proposed to accept payment of accounts. Agreed.
- 32.16.5.** Proposed to accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Agreed.
- 32.17.** **Planning matters.** The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
- 32.18.** **Date of next ordinary Council meeting – Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018.**
- 32.19.** **The Chair closed the meeting to the Public and the Press at 9:17 p.m.**

### **Appendix 1 Report from Mr Robin Rogers concerning parish rights of way**

The points from my latest walk around Little Hadham are as follows:

1. LH Fp 18 Part of this footpath goes through a green lane which is fine at the present time. However, the path either side of this green lane i.e. from the farm track to the start of the green lane and from the end of the green lane to the horse fields is waist high in vegetation and is very difficult to walk through.
2. LH Fp 25 From MH Fp 33 the first part of this footpath crosses a field. There is a faint line across the field which proves that it is walked but the field path is certainly not reinstated.
3. LH Fp 28 This footpath is mown from junction LH Fp 27/29 to the stile. Then, not for the first time, the path is then mown straight on from the stile instead of diagonally across the field.
4. LH Fp 22 I intended to walk this footpath from Bury Green. However, I abandoned the plan when I saw how overgrown the start of the path was. The first part of this path goes straight on from Bury Green and then goes diagonally across horse fields. I checked the situation where the path crosses a farm track having crossed the horse fields and my impression was that the path was blocked by an electric fence. It may be significant that the flag pointing across the horse fields has been turned around and is no longer pointing in that direction. The path is mown from the junction of LH Fp 23 to the waymark post, which is broken, and then stops. The path is not reinstated across the field and it is impossible to carry on as it is too overgrown.
5. LH Fp 20/23/24a These paths are mown as per the mowing schedule.

As for the checking of the mown paths I will do what I can but I am unlikely to be able to check them all as I have done in previous years. One of the reasons is the scatter gun approach (your words) to the mowing. The situation is not helped when I do a walk in the Bury Green area and find that some of the paths covered by the mowing schedule have been mown and others have not been mown.

With best wishes

**Robin Rogers**