



Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 3rd meeting of **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2019 – 2023 Session) held on Tuesday 2nd July 2019 at 8.17 in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present: Cllr L Lloyd-Williams - Chair
Cllr M Attwell
Cllr T Hoodless
Cllr R Mardell
Cllr M Wilkinson

Also: Acting Clerk Mr Bev Evans and 6 members of the public

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1. To receive and accept apologies for absence. None.
 2. To co-opt new councillor. The Chair introduced a resident in the public area who was considering applying for a place on the Council.
 3. Declaration of interest and dispensations – to receive Declaration of Interest from councillors on items on the agenda. No declarations received.
 4. Approval of minutes held on June 4th, 2019. Minutes agreed and signed as a true copy. Minutes were accepted as accurate
 5. Matters arising from the minutes – The Chair said she had yet to meet the U3A walking group. She had taken a number of photographs of footpath problems that she would pass on to HCC. The Chair said that Mr and Mrs Bhatt were willing to organise an Easter lunch for senior citizens. **She said she would look into possible sources of funding.**
 6. Reports from members representing the Parish Council on Outside organisations and attending meetings on behalf of the Council
 - a. **Update from Cllr Williamson.** The Chair read a report from Cllr Williamson:
Westland Green – On Thursday 20 June, the council received written confirmation from the court's listing office that the committal hearing has now been fixed for Thursday 25 and Friday 26 July 2019 at the Royal Courts of Justice, The Strand, London. We will not know the time of the hearing until Wednesday 24 July. The council continues to robustly prepare its case.
Trundle's Pit – A number of residents have expressed interest in the works going on at the land known as Trundle's Pit, to the south/east of South Cottages, The Ford. Various reports are circulating as to what is the intended use which have not yet been verified. EHC Planning Office are aware of the works which will need to be in accordance with the existing land use permissions.
Cllr Wilkinson said she was concerned about the damage to the ecology caused by the work at Trundle's Pit – particularly to bats and rooks. **Cllr Wilkinson agreed to contact EHC planning.**
 - b. **Highways** – Cllr Attwell. Cllr Attwell said he had contacted Much Hadham Council concerning vehicle speed indicator signs. The Council had paid £5,000 for one sign and HCC had paid for the other. **Cllr Attwell said he would contact Cllr McAndrew to discuss possible funding.**
Cllr Attwell said that he was in discussion with the contractor for the bypass about any pudding stones that might be discovered that could be used to protect the corners of the war memorial wall. The Acting Clerk said that many solutions to the wall had been proposed but many had been rejected because of risk to vehicles in collision. He wondered whether lumps of pudding stone would be dangerous. Cllr Attwell said that he hoped to draw the contractors into helping to find a solution to the problem.
The Chair said she had sent a list of parish road signs for posting on the website. She would ask residents to report any problems concerning the signs.

7. **Bypass** – Chair – The Chair said that HCC would donate three noticeboards to the parish – initially for displaying their notices about the bypass. The wanted to know where to site them. Several sites were mentioned including Church End, the school and near the Nag’s Head public house. The Acting Clerk asked that the noticeboards be made of recycled plastic. This is weatherproof, unlike the wood noticeboard, opposite the Nag’s Head, made by HCC. This let in water and the door was impossible to open in winter and fell open in summer as the wood absorbed and then lost water.
8. **Police Liaison** – PCSO De Bruyn. Cllr Mardell read PCSO de Bruyn’s report:
 Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the meeting however I have put together a Police report for Little Hadham for Parish Council meeting Tuesday 2nd July 2019:
 1 x THEFT – at an address suspected of extracting electricity over a period of time from a separate address, police enquiries on-going.
 1 x PUBLIC ORDER - Report of verbal and threatening behaviour from an unknown male at an address after the Occupant refused to purchase gravel from them at their doorstep. Unfortunately, there is no evidence to progress any further police enquiries.
 1 x THREAT & TRESSPASSING – Verbal threats made to Reporting person following suspects being found on private property. Suspects identified, police enquiries in hand.
 That’s all for Little Hadham and I will hopefully be at the next meeting.
 Cllr Mardell read and extract from a report of a meeting of the Clerk with the police.
9. **Village Hall** – Jan Williamson. She said that they had now submitted Plans to HCC for Pre-Planning application to allow the Hall to talk to the Planning department about what is likely to get accepted or not, etc.
 The Hall had agreed with Simon Stretch to go ahead and fit the CCTV cameras which she hoped would be done in conjunction with getting the projector and screen fitted. There would be four cameras, one on each corner of the Hall. They would give clear images but would not cover the playground. The height of the Hall hedge would be lowered to give a clear view of the Hall from the road. The Hall was waiting for confirmation as to whether the Parish Council were prepared to help with funding part of the projects as they have reached the point of action.
 Mrs Williamson said she had submitted a grant application to Stansted Passenger Community grant and was awaiting a reply. She said they now had gift aid in place so could now advertise this fact. Unfortunately the newsletter from the Village Hall was not in the Parish News this month. She said she needed to find a way to ensure it had been included each month.
 Mrs Williamson said a noticeboard has been granted to the Hall by HCC and they needed to liaise with the Parish Council about where other boards in Little Hadham were to go and what was to be put on them. She said they had had a lottery winner of £25.00 who has generously given this sum to the Hall. She hoped that by February next year they would have raised £1,100.
 Cllr Wilkinson asked about the planter in the Hall carpark that appeared not to have been maintained. Mrs Williamson said she would talk to the Brownies.
 The Chair said that she would like the Council to make some payments towards the improvements to the Hall including the projector and possibly the CCTV system. There was some discussion about the quality of the proposed CCTV system. Cllr Hoodless said he had experience of systems at a number of sites he owned and wondered if the proposes system was rather cheap. Mrs Williamson said she would investigate.
 The Chair proposed that the Council buy the projector for the Hall at a cost of £1,028. Agreed.
10. **Footpaths** – Cllr Hoodless said many footpaths had become overgrown but he understood they had been recently cut.
11. **Stansted Airport** – The Chair noted that the newly elected Uttlesford District Council had agreed to pass the Airport planning application back to the planning office for further consideration.
12. **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chair said that she had met the EHC officer responsible for Neighbourhood Plans, together with Cllr Attwell and the Clerk. She said the Council needed to assess the residents’ appetite for continuing. The Plan needed a new committee. Cllr Attwell said that there had been changes to the housing supply in the district and the Council needed to consider whether to allocate building sites. The parish Character Assessment was complete but this would not carry any weight with the planning office. The Chair said the Council could not take on the Plan by itself. She said a housing needs survey would be needed before any sites were allocated. Cllr Attwell thought that a Plan could control developments but he did not think the community would accept allocated sites.
13. **Village Infrastructure**

- a. 'Drive Safe' Update – The Chair said she had run one session and there would be another on 20th July. She said numerous cars exceeded the speed limit past the school.
 - b. Environmental affairs – Cllr Wilkinson asked about the window in the Cradle End bus shelter. After some discussion it was agreed that, even with a window, residents would have to stand outside the shelter to be sure of seeing and catching the bus. Cllr Wilkinson reluctantly agreed not to pursue the installation of a window. Cllr Hoodless said that the shelter had been well maintained by Connect Scaffolding.
 - c. Playing fields and young people's needs – Cllr Attwell said the Council had agreed to lower the hedge of the Village Hall playground. **He asked that the Clerk discuss this with the contractor who cut the hedge.**
 - d. Flood prevention project C15 - progress update – Chair. Nothing new from Graham Pearson.
 - e. Allotments – Cllr Wilkinson. The Chair proposed that a quotation of £165 for flowers for the war memorial and the planters from Mr Joel Hammond be accepted. Agreed.
 - f. Community – Cllr Hoodless – No report
 - g. Consultations and Public Relations – The Chair noted that many people seemed to be accessing the Facebook site.
 - h. Training. The Chair read a note from the Clerk concerning a course '10 mistakes made by parish councils'. None of the Councillors were keen on going but Cllr Attwell asked if the Clerk could attend – perhaps sharing the cost with Hunsdon Parish Council. The Chair said she would talk to the Clerk.
14. Security – Cllr Mardell – see police report.
15. Operations – Cllr Attwell. Nothing to report.
16. Chair's Report – The Chair said that dates for a drop-in Council surgery were being considered. She noted that the Clerk was near qualification for the Certificate in Local Council Administration (CiLCA). This would give the opportunity for the Council to apply for the Local Council Award Scheme.
17. Clerk's Report
- a. To agree to payment of accounts. Agreed
 - b. To accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Accepted
 - c. As the Chair would be leaving soon, the Acting Clerk said this would only leave one councillor registered to use the Bank website for authorising payments. Cllr Attwell was registered as a signatory but not to use the website. Cllr Attwell proposed that Cllr Mardell become a signatory. Agreed. **The Chair asked that the Clerk should urgently work with Cllrs Attwell and Mardell to ensure they were registered to use the Bank website.**
18. Planning matters. To receive the report from the Planning Committee
19. Correspondence
20. Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 3rd September 2019
21. To close the meeting at 21.38.