

Little Hadham Parish Council

Little Hadham Parish Council meets the first Tuesday of each month in the Village Hall. There is no meeting in August or January. All residents and press are welcome to attend the meetings. clerklittlhadham@gmail.com

Meeting dates – all meetings commence at 7.30pm

6th February 2024 5th March 2nd April 7th May 4th June
2nd July 3rd September 1st October 5th November 3rd December

Agendas are posted on noticeboards and the Little Hadham Parish Council website.

Tuesday 6th February – presentation regarding AMAFest held in Little Hadham July 2023

We are hoping the Executive Member for Planning and Growth, East Herts Council will present the findings from the enquiry into the AMAFest held in Little Hadham in July 2023. Please watch the noticeboards, Facebook, and the PC website for further details.

Parish Council update

The Parish Council have had a successful 2023 and have a lot of exciting plans for 2024. We have secured funding for a number of Village projects, including improvements to the community orchard, village pump and chalk stream and points of interest boards, which we hope will benefit each of the Village Hamlets.

There has also been a lot going on down at the allotments. All of the plots are now taken and hopefully everyone will have a very successful Spring planting. If you are interested in taking on a plot, please do speak to Councillor Westlake who will be able to place you on the waiting list.

Other achievements this year include work at the layby opposite Hadham Hall to clear it of fly tipping and arrange for CCTV and signage and we have just held a very successful festive village drinks event. We have also reignited our good working relationship with Herts CC Highways department and continue to work towards highways improvement in the village, including speed reduction measures on the old A120.

All that remains is for me to thank all the Councillors (and especially our trusty clerk Carole) for their hard work throughout the year and wish you all a happy and healthy 2024! Councillor Kent (Chair of Little Hadham Parish Council)

Parish Council Meet and Greet – held in the Village Hall on Sunday, 10th December 2023

There was a good turn of 24 villagers who attended from the Ford, Bury Green, Albury Road, Acreman Street, Church End, including some children.



Issues raised were how to protect trees in the parish and about the 120-year-old oak cut down in Mill House Field. Also, how to find out about the Sign of the Times festival and express their views. A suggestion to get

the event organiser to a PC meeting in the new year.



This event provided an opportunity for villagers to meet with the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee members and chat amongst themselves, whilst enjoying festive refreshments.

Round Up of 2023

- **Litter Picking grant ceased – 31st March 2023**

The village no longer has a paid litter picker, so it's up to us all to monitor our area and pick up any litter as we see it. You can always join the 'Adopt an Area' scheme, which is run by East Herts Council. They will provide you with a litter grabber, high viz jacket and rubbish bags. East Herts Council continue to empty the rubbish bins, but do not pick up litter.

- **AMA Fest – Silver Leys Polo Club – Saturday 1st July 2023** – awaiting response from Executive Member for Planning and Growth

- **Stansted Noise Action Plan – Little Hadham Parish Council responded on behalf of the village:**

The Parish is under the noise preferred routes for departures on 22 and arrivals on 04. LHPC considers the noise action plan ("NAP") to be deficient in three aspects:

1. Noise is considered in absolute terms rather than the direct impact on households.
2. LHPC urges Stansted to prohibit with immediate effect the use of the noisiest aircraft (QC4) on night flights.
3. LHPC does not understand how a NAP can be proposed and yet fail to materially take account of the airspace modernisation programme in progress. In LHPC's opinion, the NAP will be out of date within months as a result of airspace modernisation.

- **First Apple Pressing Day – September 17th in the Community Orchard**

A good turnout of enthusiastic people for the apple pressing day. Was a very good day and something we will do next year. Residents turned up to see what was going on. This will be repeated in 2024.

- **Post Bypass update**

Speeding down the old A120 is clearly the biggest highways issue for the villagers and potential ways forward are under discussion: including pinch points, chicanes, and speed cameras. These measures are proposed to be completed within a year – and would be a reasonable timeframe for speed reduction and traffic calming measures to have been put in. So, watch this space. Other areas being looked into include a potential pedestrian crossing at the Smithy and consultation on further works to the crossroads.

- **Fly tipping**

There has been a lot of involvement with the enforcement officer. There is now a sign up on the A120 layby to say there is CCTV. Apparently if an area is clean and tidy it is less likely to be dumped. Talk about getting the layby adopted by the village, perhaps a competition as to who has the cleanest layby compared with other villages. Cllr Mardell is currently clearing the layby to keep it tidy.

- **UK Prosperity Grant - £13,200**

Little Hadham Parish Council applied for an improvement grant for various areas in the village. We were fortunate enough to be granted a sum for the following projects:

- Refurbishment of village sign and village pump, plus reflective signs on the village memorial, gateway flower boxes at the 4 entrances to the village
- Unique Information boards in all the hamlets with referencing points of interest in that vicinity, also showing routes around the parish. to inform on all areas in the village **This provides a wonderful opportunity to open this up to anyone what might have local knowledge they can share. We also need photographs, so if there are any budding professionals out there, get out and about in our village and take some shots.**
- Pudding stone information board
- Funding for improving the community orchard.
- Chalk stream works – bat boxes, swallow boxes to be installed.
- Communal seating on green spaces
- Bus stop refurbishment

- **We applied for an ACV for the Community Orchard – which has been granted.**