



Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 37th meeting of the **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2015 – 2019 Session) held on Tuesday 4th December 2018 at 8:00p.m. in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

Present: Cllr E Lloyd-Williams Chair
Cllr G Pearson
Cllr Wilkinson
Cllr GA Hoodless
Cllr G Wardrop
Also: Clerk and 11 members of the public

1. Apologies – and reason for absence. Cllr Wardrop had a business commitment.
2. Co-option of new councillor. Cllr Lloyd-Williams proposed Michael Atwell as a new Little Hadham councillor. Cllr Hood seconded. All Councillors agreed. Cllr Lloyd-Williams invited Cllr Atwell to join the councillors.
3. Declaration of Interest – by councillors on any items below – None.
4. Democratic 10 minutes. The meeting will be suspended to allow members of the public to ask questions or make comments on parish matters.
5. Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday 6th November 2018 were agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed. Mr. Stigwell commented that the condition of the footpaths due to dog fouling needs to go into the Parish News again. **Action: Cllr Wardrop to put in the Parish News.** Cllr Pearson suggested the use of dog waste bins, perhaps dual ones which also are for general waste. **Action: clerk to obtain prices of bins and collection quotes.** Ongoing
6. Matters arising from the minutes. None. Cllr Hoodless commented that two people have come forward to act as footpath volunteers to report any irregularities. He will pass their names onto Nicholas Maddex. **Action: Cllr Wardrop to put another notice in the Parish News requesting volunteers.**
7. Reports from members representing the Parish Council on Outside organisations and attending meetings on behalf of the Council
 - a. Update from Cllr Williamson - (Appendix 1 for full report).
 - b. Highways – Cllr Pearson – The Bury Green road sign has been restored.
 - c. Bypass – Chair – Initial works have begun at the Tesco roundabout, including the improved pavement access towards the Villages (reported finished by Feb 19). The utility diversion works are planned in this location between March and May next year. The works in Standon currently underway are due to be completed by May 19 also. The main work on the Bypass is due to start in June next year and be completed within 2 years. We will be getting monthly updates on that. Full list of work at each site in appendix 2.
 - d. Police Liaison – PCSO De Bruyn (see appendix 3). PCSO sent his apologies, said the new PC dates would make it easier for him to attend in future. **Action: Cllr Wardrop to put the theft of a parcel from a residence in the Parish News.**

- e. Village Hall – Jan Williamson. The Village Hall have applied for East Herts County Lottery. **Action: Cllr Wardrop to put this in the Parish News. Jan Williamson has the details, which will be passed to Cllr Wardrop.**

Open Afternoon / evening had a good attendance, with new people in the village coming along. Two of whom showed an interest in joining the committee. The vicar joined the event also. New events are being set up: afternoon, tea once a month for the more isolated members of the community. The village have indicated they would like a film club. New chairs are required, need to be suitable for theatre and panto. LHVH have applied for a grant.

There is going to be a Service Providers Fair in February. Also, a Social Prescribing Project is being developed in conjunction with CDA and EHC, who are funding the project.

- f. Footpaths – Cllr Hoodless. The leaflets are now ready for distribution, ideas needed how to get them out to the public (Post Office, pub, school, church, Parish News (with map)). **Action: Cllr Hoodless to send the electronic version to Cllr Wardrop for the Parish News.** The leaflet is also on line.

F10 has been resurfaced and has extra cutting back. Still looking for people to walk the footpaths. Nicholas Maddex has monies for way markers to be put in.

- g. Stansted Airport – Chair. Update from Nigel Pay. Uttlesford granted planning consent against an avalanche of objectors inc every one of 47 parishes. It ended 5/5 with Cllrs votes tied and then the chairman used his chair vote to create a majority in favour.

SSE – Continue to be committed to opposing the developments. Their latest newsletter is below in Appendix 4. They are asking for additional supporter funding in anticipation of legal fees.

- h. Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Wardrop. NP group have been contacted to ask for their commitment going forward. Slow response currently. Neil, Liz and Dave Willet to meet to discuss the current situation and way forward (which will be dependent on the support available). **Action: Cllr Atwell to be invited to meeting.** Course of action to be reported at the Feb meeting. Cllr Atwell asked what purpose the character assessment served. Cllr Wardrop responded it helps understand the local area. It was suggested that the group re-engage with the consultants to see if they can help with other Parish problems.

8. Village Infrastructure

- a. ‘Drive Safe’ Update – Chair. We have now suspended the scheme for the winter months. This is due to the requirement that monitoring sessions are only conducted when the roads are dry and the visibility clear. We had to cancel sessions weekly due to the increasingly frequent poor weather. This gives us the winter months to set up new leads (two new leads currently being approved) and to plan the schedule of monitoring. More volunteers to help on the roadside would increase the number of sessions we could run so please get in touch if you feel that you would be able to help. **Action: set up a funding session to learn what to do with the date, and how we can access the funding. Ongoing**
- b. Environmental affairs – Cllr Hoodless. There is only one quote. **Action: Cllr Hoodless is seeking a further quote.**
- i. Bus shelter quotes for agreement
- c. Tree Maintenance for which the Council is responsible – Cllr Hoodless
- i. Two quotes to get urgent works carried out. There are now two quotes, with a considerable difference between them. **Action: clerk to circulate quotes to**



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councillors. **Action: Cllr Hoodless, Cllr Atwell and the clerk to meet with Gascoyne Estates to see if they can deal with the trees on their lands.** Stephen Stigwell asked if the PC are responsible for the trees, as those on the road are the responsibility of Highways. **Action: clerk to check what the PC's legal requirements are.** The Clerk met with representatives of Gascoyne Estates and they agreed to check the trees on Bury Green in the spring and carry out any necessary works. The horse chestnut tree on Bury Green has disease and leaf miner. The swing has been taken down to lessen the damage.

- d. Playing fields and young people's needs – Cllr Tooke
 - i. Vandalism and general disorderly behaviours – The Chair thanked Cllrs Tooke and Pearson for cleaning the waste of the bench.
 - ii. Zip wire chain – has been installed. The buffer needs to be moved to allow ease of getting on.
 - iii. CCTV – discussion on potential installation – Jan Williamson said the VH are thinking of installing CCTV. **Action: Cllrs, Tooke, Lloyd-Williams, and Jan Williamson to meet with PCSO de Bruyn to discuss.**
 - e. Flood prevention project C15 - progress update – Cllr Pearson
 - i. Discussions have taken place with Highways, EHDC and the Environment agency. All are keen to improve the drainage. Possibly a new ditch at Pathway cottages. A design is to be developed and then can be discussed. Cllr Pearson to provide an update at the February 19th PC meeting. The land owners are proposing to put a concrete plinth across the entrance at a cost of approx. £2,000.
 - f. Allotments – Cllr Hoodless – no update. The allotment rules need to be revisited. **Action: Cllrs Hoodless, Lloyd-Williams and the clerk to meet at the allotments to discuss a way forward. Ongoing.**
 - g. Community – Cllr Wardrop has launched the new Facebook page.
 - h. Consultations and Public Relations – Neil Wardrop
9. Security – Cllr Wilkinson – nothing to report.
10. Parish Council – Cllr Tooke – nothing to report.
11. Chair's Report
Parish Councillor vacancies prior to the election in May 2019 - 2019 Elections are fast approaching, and all Cllrs wishing to nominate themselves to stay in the role need to do so in March this year. It is really important this is done within the application window (see Appendix 5). If nominations are not received Cllrs cease to be in office after the elections are held.

We are expecting to have a number of Cllrs this year who will not be nominating themselves for re-election, and therefore a number of vacancies. This includes me due to family commitments, so the Cllr are actively looking for member of the community who would like to join. Obviously, this also means we will be looking for a new Chair. We set money aside for training each year and this includes chairing.

I'm very happy to talk to people about the role, as I'm sure my colleagues would also be. It can be an extremely rewarding role, and a great way to get to know the wider parish

and community better. We should aim to have new Cllrs in place for the May 2019 meeting. Cllr Lloyd-Williams will be standing down as chair, which will require filling. We need to run a recruitment drive to attract new councillors for those standing down in May.

I wanted to again welcome Michael to the council. I'll be meeting with him to talk about which areas of responsibility he'll be allocated to, and he'll be working with Carole to book onto induction training (with HAPTC).

New PC dates:

We are moving LHPC meetings to the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Our meetings currently clash with Much Hadham and our change should make it easier for, or example, our PCSO to attend. The changes will also fit well with the 2019 election schedule.

As we don't meet now until February, if people need to contact us please do so using our contact details on the web.

Precept – a meeting has been held to discuss the forthcoming precept required by Cllrs Lloyd-Williams, Tooke, Wilkinson, clerk. Cllr Lloyd-Williams proposed increasing the precept by the usual amount (2%), Cllr Hoodless seconded, all councillors agreed, motion was carried. The Millennium wood donation of £5,000 wasn't paid this year, and it was felt we no longer need to keep this. The Village Hall donation has increased to support both the VH and flood proposals. **Action: all councillors to review the budget.**

The Chair again welcomed Cllr Atwell. A reminder also, there is no January meeting, **Action: set up a meeting to discuss training and areas of responsibility.** A meeting was held between the Chair, Cllr Atwell and the Clerk. Training and areas of responsibility have been discussed and agreed.

The Annual Parish Council meeting is 2nd April 2019.

12. Clerk's Report

- a. To agree to payment of accounts - agreed
- b. To accept the accuracy of the financial statement – agreed

Period ending 4th December 2018

Unity Trust Bank	£29,137. 99
Petty cash	£30.00
Total	£29,167. 99
Included above	
Received	
Paid	



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Uncleared cheque

Mothers & Toddlers donation £100.00

To be agreed

To Pay

Clerk's expenses	November	£7.20
Staff Salaries	Nov Dec	£1,231.60
Mower Services (P November hedge cutting Knott)		£380.00

Total payments £1,618.80

Total in all accounts and petty cash after payment of this month's bills £27,449.19

13. Planning matters. The transactions of the Planning Committee were noted.
14. Correspondence – nothing to report
15. Date of next Council meeting – February Tuesday, 19th February 2019
- .
16. To close the meeting – 10.05pm
- .

Appendix 1 – Report from Cllr Williamson

East Herts Community Lottery

East Herts Council is launching this new Community Lottery, to help “good causes” such as voluntary organisations and charities to help raise funds. It works on similar principles to the National Lottery, Post Code Lottery, Health Lottery etc, but compared to e.g. The National Lottery a much higher share of the money is returned to the cause. Many organisations (though unfortunately not Parish Councils) are eligible to sign up, and then promote to their local community to gain supporters who buy tickets (which can only be done on-line). There are prizes of course from the weekly draw, whilst at least 50p from every £1 ticket goes to the nominated cause. There is no cost to the organisation (all the set-up costs, gambling licence etc has been covered by EHC) and the application process is quite simple. Therefore, this is a way of raising funds through supporting “donations”, whilst the “donors” have a chance of winning a cash prize.

You can see more information at www.easthertslottery.co.uk

Change to Frequency at which anyone on the Housing Register can bid

People on East Herts Council's housing register will now be able to bid weekly instead of fortnightly for the available properties to rent. Although the change doesn't increase the number of homes available it will reduce the wait and increase the turnover.

Free Workshop for Small Businesses on Energy Efficiency

East Herts is hosting this workshop which is to provide advice on the latest energy efficiency measures that could help reduce energy costs within local businesses. Experts from the Carbon Trust will be on hand to provide information on services available through the Green Business Fund. The workshop is taking place on 29th January, 9am-12noon at the East Herts Council offices in Wallfields. There is more information on the East Herts website here <https://www.eastherts.gov.uk/article/36510/Free-energy-efficiency-workshops-for-small-businesses>. Anyone interested can sign up at <https://www.carbontrust.com/about-us/events/2019/01/gbf-workshop-hertfordshire/>



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Appendix 2

Bypass letter from Helen McCormick

There is a series of works planned for the A120 which includes the following;

Improvements to the A1184 / A1250 junction with the A120 - Underway (Started Sep 2018 and due to complete Feb 2019).

These works are to improve the roundabout for traffic, pedestrians and cyclists. In order to minimise long term disruption and repeat visits by multiple contracts the works to improve the junction combine;

- The requirements for junction improvements associated with the ongoing Bishop's Stortford North housing development;
- Capacity improvements to assist in meeting the increased traffic volumes associated with the A120 Little Hadham Bypass (which was granted planning permission in January 2017) and wider growth;
- Improvements to the path and junction for pedestrians requested by councillors and the local community during the development of the A120 Little Hadham Bypass proposals. This provides the ability to provide a shared use cycleway following the completion of the bypass;
- Any maintenance considered necessary within the vicinity of the works.

Enabling works for the A120 Little Hadham bypass, which includes utility diversions works, are due to start on March 2019 and finish May 2019.

Information can be found on <https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/highways-roads-and-pavements/roadworks-and-road-closures/road-closures/a1184-bishop-stortford.aspx>

A120 Corridor – Standon Improvements - Underway (Started Nov 2018 and due to complete in 6 months, May 2019)

These works include are to make 'on-line' improvements to the A120 through Standon and include;

- Improvements to the Cambridge Road junction
- Improvements to High Street Junction
- Improvements to South Road/Barwick Road Junction
- Improvements to Station Road

Information is available on www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/a120standon, and I attach the letter issued to local residents which may have been the basis for the newspaper report.

A120 Little Hadham Bypass – due to commence in June 2019 for a period of approximately 2 years. You will receive monthly updates on this.

M11 Junction 8 works – Improvements to be delivered by Highways England – dates to be confirmed.

You will be able to get the latest information about planned closures/diversions or other traffic management from www.roadworks.org

Appendix 3 Little Hadham Parish Council – November 2018

Offence	No. In Parish
Dwelling Burglary	0
Burglary Business & Community	0
Criminal Damage	1
Vehicle Crime	0
Theft	2
Other	0

Outcomes

- **CRIMINAL DAMAGE** – damage caused to a sign in the children's' park area next to the village hall.
This has happened over a period of 8 days and unfortunately there are no witnesses or evidence to progress with police enquiries.
- **THEFT** – Theft of a digger from the roadside in Albury Road which was left unattended and with no security. All enquiries have been progressed and unfortunately there is no evidence to help identify Suspects.
- **THEFT** – Theft of a parcel from a residential doorstep. Enquiries with the delivery company have proved beneficial for the Victim. The Victim does not wish to progress with police prosecution.

Other News and events

There has also been reports of Badger holes being blocked which often happens during the Hunting season and also from Hare coursing. Although there have been no reports of Hare coursing this past month in Little Hadham, The Hunt that took place in Furneux Pelham on 17th November identified 2 cases of a similar problem.

Please report any incidents of this nature to police should you see them

Thank you

19 Logs in Total reported to police in October 2018 for Much Hadham

- **IMMEDIATE calls x 5**
- **PROMPT calls x 2**
- **APPOINTMENTS x 3**
- **NO RESPONSE x 9**

Of those 9 no response calls:

5 x Advice messages – Audible alarm going off for the past month on business premises.

Information on a L/A cctv camera being in situ. Drivesafe Team on duty ☺. Information required on suspected Fraud. Report of car driving off on the high road with a smell of burning rubber

3 x Suspicious Circumstance – 2 reports of loud fireworks at uncertain locations. 1 report of suspicious activity at an address – details taken. **1 x Off Road report** – (cars reported left across resident's drive, no offences)



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Appendix 4. Stansted Airport SSE newsletter

Stop Stansted Expansion Update

Dear Supporter

Airport Planning Application

I expect that by now you will have heard that on 14th November Uttlesford District Council (UDC) Planning Committee granted approval for Stansted Airport's planning application to expand to an annual throughput of 43 million passengers. If this approval is allowed to stand, it would mean that Stansted could increase its flights by 44% and its passenger throughput by 66% compared to last year's levels.

The UDC Planning Committee, comprising ten local councillors, split right down the middle with five in favour of the application, including the Chairman, and five against. Where there is a split vote, the Chairman has an additional (casting) vote and, unfortunately, this carried the day. The way individual councillors voted is shown [here](#).

Potentially good news is that the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government (HC&LG) has instructed UDC not to confirm its approval decision until he has had an opportunity to consider whether the application should be 'called in'. As you may be aware, SSE has been pressing the Secretary of State HC&LG since March to call in this planning application so that it is determined nationally, having regard to its scale and complexity and to the limited resources and expertise which UDC has at its disposal.

We wrote to the Secretary of State HC&LG immediately after the UDC decision, again asking for the application to be called in. We are now working with our legal team to prepare a more detailed submission highlighting significant shortcomings in the UDC approval process. Please support our call-in request by

emailing/writing to the Secretary of State whose contact details can be found [here](#). This is a copy of our recent letter to him which includes a number of reasons why the application should be called in. Please also send a copy of your letter/email to the Secretary of State to your local MP, whose contact details you can find [here](#).

Our rationale for pressing for national rather than local determination of this planning application is two-fold. First, because it has been clear to SSE since July 2017 (i.e. even before the application was submitted) that UDC was intent on approving this application; and second, because national determination is a far more detailed and thorough scrutiny process compared to local determination. There are some 2,350 documents amounting to between 12,000 and 15,000 pages associated with this planning application, and the devil is very often in the detail.

It is our firm view that MAG submitted this planning application in the confident expectation that it would be approved locally with minimum fuss, delay or scrutiny. SSE identified multiple errors, omissions and misrepresentations but UDC officers had neither the time, nor the resources, nor the expertise to examine, far less to test, all the evidence in the way that it should have been examined and tested.

Members of the UDC Planning Committee had even less time. It took a five-month Public Inquiry (in 2007) to consider the evidence in the case of the last comparable Stansted Airport planning application. On this occasion Uttlesford Planning Committee did the entire job in one sitting. That might appear to reflect a remarkable improvement in efficiency. In truth, it reflects the naïve and superficial nature of the Uttlesford approval process.

Legal Options

Whilst we very much hope that the Secretary of State HC&LG will decide to call in this planning application for national determination, we need to prepare for a situation where he



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declines to do so. Our only option in such circumstances would be to seek to challenge his decision by way of Judicial Review (JR).

As you know we already have a JR application underway which challenges the decision of the Secretary of State for Transport not to exercise his powers to designate the airport planning application a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and thereby transfer the responsibility for determining the application from local to national level. This is slowly but surely making its way towards a High Court hearing which we expect to take place around the spring of 2019. We are now making contingency plans with our barristers to extend the scope of our current JR action if the Secretary of State HC&LG refuses to call in the planning application.

We believe there is a very strong case for this airport planning application to be dealt with nationally rather than locally. The Secretary of State for Transport has the legal powers to insist on that and so also does the Secretary of State HC&LG. We do not particularly mind which one of them calls in the application. If need be that can be decided by the High Court.

We most certainly do not accept that the decision made by Uttlesford Planning Committee on 14 November to approve the expansion of Stansted Airport to 43mppa, which was decided by the Chairman's (additional) casting vote, can be allowed to stand unchallenged. As you may have seen in our press release last week ([see here](#)) we now know that the Chairman (with his decisive casting vote) was not even in command of some of the most basic facts relating to this planning application.

Appeal for funds

Please help us ensure that we have sufficient funds to pay for whatever legal proceedings we need to pursue in seeking – as best we can – to defend the interests of this local community and to

preserve the special character of this local area for future generations. My apologies for once again asking for your support but please see below an appeal for funds and please help with whatever support you feel able to give.

As always, many thanks for your ongoing support and may I take this opportunity to wish you and yours a very Happy Christmas and – so far as possible – a peaceful New Year.

Yours sincerely

Peter
Chairman

Sanders



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Appendix 5

Local Council Elections May 2019 East Herts Timetable

Candidate Nominations Open - Thursday 21st March

A candidates and agents briefing will be held for the local elections in the Council Chamber at our offices at Wallfields, Pegs Lane, Hertford on:

Tuesday 5th March at 1pm and again on Wednesday 13th March at 5.30pm.

The session will last no longer than 2 hours and we encourage candidates/election agents to attend to hear about the nomination process and how the elections will be run.

Key dates in the election timetable are as follows:

- Notice of Election - publication deadline - Thursday 21st March
- Candidate Nominations Open - Thursday 21st March
- Candidate Nominations Close - 4.00pm on Wednesday 3rd April 2019
- Electoral Registration Deadline - Friday 12th April 2019
- Postal Vote Application Deadline - 5.00pm on Monday 15th April 2019
- Proxy Vote Application Deadline - 5.00pm on Wednesday 24th April 2019