



# Little Hadham Parish Council

Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> meeting of **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2019 – 2023 Session) held on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2019 in the Village Hall, Little Hadham.

**Present:** Cllr L Lloyd-Williams - Chair  
Cllr A Hoodless  
Cllr M Attwell  
Cllr R Mardell  
Cllr M Wilkinson  
Cllr C Westlake

**Also:** Clerk: Carole Page, Cllr Williamson, and 4 members of the public

1. **To receive and accept apologies for absence.** None
2. **Democratic 10 minutes.** A villager (Mike Smith) asked if the Parish Council considered the parking at the junction of Chapel Lane and the war memorial, which is dangerous at times as people are parking across peoples drives. Suggestion was made to add a small car park over the bridge at the Ford to the right of the bridge. **Action: To find out who owns the land in the field and speak to the Nags Head to ascertain their interest in this.** A resident said the speeding traffic coming into the village at the entrance by Trundles Yard is dangerous. He further said excluding the A120 itself, there are three critical locations: Albury road; road opposite the quarry; and past the playground and village hall. The speeding is heightened between the hours of 7-9.30am, 4.30-6.30pm with most offenders being commuters. Most prolific offenders are parents on the school run. Some speeding cars have been stopped and they are oblivious they are speeding. Cllr Attwell said the Parish Council can't condone flagging down people, giving notes. 400% higher at 40mph than 30mph of hitting a pedestrian. The installation of vehicle speed indicators such as those in Much Hadham and Albury. The cost is £2,677 plus £134 (including VAT) for a post including installation. Les says he can do that free of charge. **Action: speak to Highways to see what the process is.** The data is recordable with these machines.
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 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019. Minutes agreed and signed as a true copy. Minutes were accepted as accurate.
5. **Matters arising from the minutes.** Hedge quote sought by Clerk from Atkins and Knott. Footpath volunteers to be found out. Footpath issues need to be reported to Nicholas Maddex. U3A regularly take photos of broken bridges and any concerns regarding reinstating footpaths across fields. **Action: Cllr Hoodless to speak to Nicholas Maddex to see what the current situation is. Also, to see if Little Hadham is not covered by a Footpath Officer. Action: Chair to write the article for publishing of the lady from Much Hadham.** Price for repairing memorial is £475 from Mick Foskett. Cllr Attwell suggests clearing the stones and then looking for a longer-term solution. Suggests engaging an engineer to provide a drawing. **Action: Cllr Attwell to speak to Highways regarding what we do about this. Also, to ask the Bypass guys to remove the bricks but leave the top stones.**
6. Reports from members representing the Parish Council on Outside organisations and attending meetings on behalf of the Council
  - a. **Update from Cllr Williamson** - Chapel Lane verdict was positive, wholly on the side of EHC. The Injunction wasn't varied. Also, council costs awarded of £103,000. Didn't get sentencing, which came week or so ago. Judge decided to suspend the sentences for 12 months. Planning appeal will be heard in November. Yet to see the full transcript.

After initial positive step forward, still yet to be heard. Appeal decision should be made 2 months after actual hearing. Cllr Williamson has been very helpful working with Enforcement, The Chair thanked him very much for his continued hard work and support to the Parish.

- b. **Highways** – Cllr Attwell. Yet to hear back from Cllr McAndrew regarding the speed signs. The Chair / Cllr Williamson have a number to contact to allow contact to be made. The Chair suggests we set up the Highways committee again. Comments have been made about signage, putting the speed limit on the roads. Perhaps become the post bypass group. Les has said he would like to be a part of that. **Action: Chair proposes we set that committee up.** Cllr Westlake said she may join the committee. Cllr Attwell said that he also would like to be part of it. **Action: Get an article in the Parish News. Action: Chair to approach Geoff Williamson to get a name of someone to speak to at Highways.**
  - i. Free Salt – closing date 31<sup>st</sup> October 2019. Stored at the Lipscoms. Try to make it accessible to all: Green Street, Bury Green, Acremores; Chapel Lane, The Ford. **Action: Parish News to ask for volunteers to store the salt. Use Facebook. Also see what is up there to see if we need it. Action: Clerk to send paperwork to Cllr Attwell. Clerk sent details to Cllr Attwell on how to obtain salt.**
- c. **Bypass** – Chair – Waiting on notice boards. Footpath closed behind Albury Road to be reinstated by 7<sup>th</sup> October. Sign on north west of bypass.
- d. **Police Liaison** – PCSO de Bruyn. Cllr Mardell read PCSO de Bruyn's report: 2 x Theft from Motor Vehicles. Number plates were removed from a vehicle in a residential street in Little Hadham over a period of 1 week. Unfortunately, there was no evidence and no further lines of enquiry to progress. Power tools were removed from a trades vehicle and Suspects have left the area in an unknown direction and by means unknown. Police enquiries have now been completed and there are no Suspects identified.

1 x Criminal Damage - A vehicle parked in Chapel Lane had its wing mirror and side door damaged. Unfortunately, there was no supporting evidence to identify suspects.

Lawn mowers taken from a shed in Cradle End.

I would like to add that there appears to be an increase in vehicle crime again over the past month or so as Hunsdon has also been targeted by Thefts from Motor Vehicles.

Cllr Mardell said: Parking issues are wrong, but nothing the police can do. We either have to live with it or find alternate solutions. Not a new problem. Pub used to be far more popular with parking being an issue. Tolerance levels to parking are heightened. The mention of a car park is possibly a solution. Will keep monitoring the situation. Plans of how to protect the pump has been discussed by the Chair and the Clerk and will be shared with the councillors.

Maybe remind people to remain vigilant and lock their sheds, etc. **Action: put an item in the Parish News.**

- e. **Village Hall** – Jan Williamson. Gin night was good fun and raised just over £200 pounds.

We were unsuccessful in obtaining grant from Hertfordshire Community Foundation owing to a large quantity of applicants that were more needy than ours. I am now going to apply to Awards for all with the help of someone who is employed by the CDA to help community halls and hubs. He has experience in this area so will be very useful.

Last month coffee morning went well with Parish Council joining in and doing open surgery with attendees. Next coffee morning is 9<sup>th</sup> October.

We facilitated a Rural Loneliness forum 2 weeks ago which was really very productive in linking in with other service providers who were very interested in our Social Prescribing Diary and would like to tap into this as they have a data base of potential clients who are suffering from loneliness and other health and wellbeing issues. Groups such as: CAB; East Herts; Carers in Herts; Herts mind network; The New Apton Centre Stortford; Farming Community Network and Royal Agricultural Benevolent Institution. Some of them are interested in doing some workshops in this village hall and possibly linking into coffee morning with a view to an informal open surgery. Lots of good contacts made.

I attended a CDA Herts AGM last week whereby Little Hadham VH were given centre stage for a talk on the pilot project which we were on last year. East Herts Council want to use us as a flag ship for other community hall projects like ours and they were particularly interested in the new activities we have started up specifically for rural loneliness, health and wellbeing and dementia friendly afternoon tea and cinema club. Again, many good contacts made, and great interest shown in our SP diary.

We now have expanded the SP diary and are looking for a more professional approach to how we get information to the Parishes. Maybe a quarterly magazine specifically for anything to do with SP and services available to help people with particular needs. This could be distributed to Dr's surgery's and other useful outlets as well as available online and delivered to our local communities. It would be financed through grants and advertising.

On Monday 14<sup>th</sup> October we are holding a drop-in session on SP with tea and biscuits followed by a cancel out cancer session run in conjunction with our Clinical Commissioning Group and Cancer Research UK.

Fire doors have been repaired and will have signage to show which doors should be used and fire doors should not be used except for loading and unloading.

19<sup>th</sup> October – Film Club is Avatar.

Notice boards donated by HCC very slow in coming through

- f. Footpaths – Cllr Hoodless – Work schedule for Footpath 38 and work should be done by now. Nicholas Maddex said the work had been brought forward. Bridge by the pub was brought to the attention of the Parish Council at the coffee morning and is rotten on one side. **Action: Cllr Hoodless to investigate and report.**
  - i. P3 funding – Cllr Wilkinson has looked at the price of seats to be placed on the golf course and perhaps at Bury Green. Need permission from the landowners. **Action: Clerk to speak to landowner to see if the seat can be placed on hole 2.** Clerk spoke to owner and he thanked the Parish Council for the offer, but prefers to purchase a bench himself. P3 application also for signs to go on way markers to show footpaths. All councillors happy to go ahead with the two projects for P3 funding; **Action: Cllr Hoodless to provide details.**
- g. Stansted Airport – Chair – no update

7. **Neighbourhood Plan.** The Chair has no update. Dave said he is very confused. In July of this year at the PC meeting it was said there was a need to ascertain what the appetite is from the Parish. Yet still to hear an update. He feels the PC is no longer committed to the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Attwell commented that Dave appears to be invigorated with the NP and perhaps Dave could gain some interested volunteers. Dave asked is the PC committed to the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Wilkinson said we didn't want sites put forward. Cllr Attwell committed to investigating the communities interested in the NP. We need a Chair, as the last

chair stepped down and no-one came forward. Cllr Lloyd-Williams said she is not sure a NP is the right thing and needs looking into. A District Plan is in place, so is a neighbourhood plan necessary. **Action: The Chair to put an article in the Parish News to ask for volunteers.** Cllr Attwell said the answer to Dave's initial question is subjective. The PC will review any article for the Parish News. Chair said it is important the members of the community speak directly to the PC. Phone contact, e-mail or Facebook, or in person at the monthly coffee mornings

## 8. Village Infrastructure

- a. Drive Safe' Update – Chair – rained off again. Unable to conduct surveys this month. The Chair is to attend the Road Safety fund day on the 10<sup>th</sup> October to see if we can turn what we have done into funding. Another member of the Drive Safe team will attend also. Link back to Cllr Attwell.
  - b. Environmental affairs – Cllr Wilkinson – no update.
  - c. Playing Fields and young people's needs – Chair - no update.
    - i. Playground Inspection Report – Clerk. Cllr Mardell and Clerk to provide report at next meeting.
  - d. Flood prevention project C15 - progress update – Chair. The Parish Council were approached from by the Flood and Coastal Risk Management Strategy and Engagement Team at the Environment Agency to complete a survey regarding watercourse maintenance and how we can improve this engagement. Graham Pearson as the Parish's Flood expert completed the survey. His comments: Will have a look at their survey. It covers the river ash and the Lloyd Taylor drain and Albury road tributary which are generally looked after quite well. However, it does not cover the drain from the C15 opposite the Ridgeway that goes through the homes of 15 riparian owners one of which still declines to dig out their section which is closest to the road and impacts the road flooding. In the survey I agreed that most of the EA work is good, but they are not so good at attending flood forum meetings or sending feedback to questions. The EA inspector is always busy. I did not make comments in relation to their work on the bypass as that is a separate project and not the day to day maintenance they were asking about. Thanks Graham
  - e. Allotments – Cllr Wilkinson – nothing to report. All the councillors wanted to thank Joel for his hard work and how good the planters are looking.
  - f. Community – Cllr Hoodless – No report.
  - g. Consultations and Public Relations – Chair. Upcoming training on Community Involvement being attended by Cllr Westlake as a way to communicate with the community.
  - h. Grants - Chair – Easter lunch. Apply to Graham McAndrew locality budget, or Stansted airport. Cllr Westlake to investigate as a reminiscence event.
9. **Security** – Cllr Mardell – CCTV cameras up and running. PIR – Infrared sensors need a bit of debugging.
10. **Operations** – Cllr Attwell. Nothing to report.
11. Chair's Report – Jonno is walking in Norfolk raising money for Mind Garden and educational facility in Sri Lanka Had a Just Giving page if anyone wished to donate.
12. **Clerk's Report** – Second half of the Precept has been received at £6899.91  
Have received an invoice from the Little Hadham Parochial Church Council for a contribution for the upkeep of the churchyard at St. Cecilia's Church of £300.00. Which was the agreed amount in the Precept.
- a. To agree to payment of accounts. Agreed
  - b. To accept the accuracy of the financial statement. Accepted
13. **Planning matters.** To receive the report from the Planning Committee
14. Correspondence.
15. Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019
16. To close the meeting at 21.57.