



Little Hadham Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the 16th meeting of **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2019 – 2023 Session) held virtually via teleconference on Tuesday 3rd November 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr M Attwell (Acting chair)
Cllr R Mardell
Cllr C Westlake
Cllr M Wilkinson

Also:

Clerk: C Page, member of the public – Darren Grainger, Steven Whipp, Dave Woodcock

20.9.1 To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr S Blight sent his apologies. Cllr Arkell and Cllr Hoodless sent their apologies due to work commitments.

20.9.2 Democratic 10 minutes. Questions or comments on matters contained in this Parish Council meeting. No questions asked.

20.9.3 Presentation on the bypass. A response was sent to Cllr Westlake and asked for any feedback. Mr Granger talked about some key bit of news, upcoming road closures, additional signs in place on the A10 saying the A120 is closed so no access.

Mr Woodcock said there are road closures due – but will now be doing maintenance works on 14/15 Nov 7am to 7pm rather than full weekend closure. He went on to advise due to the unusually wet October, the road stock to construct the road is too wet to lay. The roundabout tie ins due now in May also due to current weather conditions. The plan is to make use of the middle weekend we have advertised with letters going out to everyone and the sign boards will be updated as to the maintenance work location. Mr Woodcock went onto say patching work is not weather dependent, and that they are now bolting down for winter. The earthworks have stopped because of the rain, fields flooded. We are continuing to work through the lockdown, control measures in place, to be as save as we possibly can.

Cllr Westlake said she had heard the road was going to be closed for 18 months. Mr Granger clarified that notices can be valid for a period of up to 18 months, but not shut the whole time.

Cllr Attwell asked how the weather has impacted the planned schedule. Mr Woodcock said it has affected us as we are reprogramming, and that the road will not be completed august next year, but not the planting, as this needs to be done during the autumn to December 2021, but there is no reason to see why the road can't be open by Summer.

Mr Granger asked the chair of the Village Hall if she is still getting newsletters. She advised it would be easier if Mr Granger could print them out and then someone could go and collect them. Mr Granger to liaise with Village Hall chair to get the notices out.

Mr Granger said they would come on every month, if they could be the first item on the agenda

The Chair thanked the bypass team: Mr Granger, Mr Whipp and Mr Woodcock who then left the meeting.

20.9.4 Declaration of interest and dispensations – to receive Declaration of Interest from councillors on items on the agenda. No declarations of interest from the councillors.



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20.9.5 Approval of minutes held on the 13th October 2020 all councillors agreed and the Chair signed the minutes as a true record, to be sent to clerk at first opportunity. Cllr Wilkinson asked if her amendments had been included, the clerk said yes.

20.9.6 Matters arising from the minutes – None.

20.9.7 Planning applications considered by the Council

20.9.6.1 Planning Applications

- **3/20/1849/FUL - PROPOSAL:** Change of use of office to residential (Retrospective) at Ingleton Cottage Westfield Farm Lane Westland Green Please **send your comments to EHC Planning by 4th November 2020/20**. Cllr Wilkinson objects as it has been built a while ago without planning permission. Fears this may set a precedent for the building of separate dwellings on one plot. Cllr Attwell said the neighbours are fine with it providing there is no further development on that site. Cllr Wilkinson has no objection to it being a single dwelling and happy for it to be an annexe. Cllr Atwell has no objection to the application. Cllr Westlake has no objection as it is tucked away. Cllr Mardell Richard, happy with the annex but also sees Cllr Wilkinson's point of view that it could mean more houses. Cllr Wilkinson proposes a vote, Cllr Mardell objects. Cllrs Attwell and Westlake have no objections. The chair has used his casting vote – no objection.
- **3/20/2054/ASDPN - PROPOSAL:** Construction of an additional storey to create first floor accommodation at Chasedene Millfield Lane Bury Green. For your information, an application has been submitted for this development. Under current planning legislation some extensions to dwellings can be carried out without express planning permission. However, the applicant is required to submit details of the proposed extension to the Local Planning Authority and the Authority must then notify any owners or occupiers of any adjoining premises. If an owner or occupier of an adjoining premises objects to the proposed extension, then the Local Planning Authority will assess the impact of the proposal on the amenity of all adjoining premises. The Local Planning Authority can then either grant or refuse prior approval for the extension. However, if the local planning authority does not issue a determination within 42 days of the receipt of the application the development may proceed as submitted. Cllr Wilkinson has no objections.

Cllr Attwell asked Cllr Wilkinson for her opinion, Cllr Wilkinson reiterated it is a first-floor extension. Cllr Wilkinson said Cllr Attwell is being rude and taking the pee and that he is being aggressive. Cllr Wilkinson left the meeting at 20.02.

- **3/20/2057/VAR - PROPOSAL:** Removal of conditions 11 (removed Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A permitted development rights) and 12 (removed Schedule 2, Part 1, Class B permitted development rights) of planning permission: 3/08/0641/FP (Demolition of existing bungalow and garage and construction of replacement bungalow and garage) To allow alterations under Schedule 2, Part 1, Class A and Schedule 2, Part 1, Class B of the General Permitted Development Order to be undertaken without prior written permission at Chasedene Millfield Lane Bury Green. **Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 10th November 2020**. Extends the bungalow to be a two-storey building. Cllr Attwell has no strong view, as



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there is limited visibility from the outside, but will have an impact, Cllr Mardell said as it is in own grounds with high trees and although can see an objection being next to the road, but no strong objection. Cllr Westlake has no objection. Cllr Attwell proposed no objections, Cllr Westlake seconded, all councillors agreed.

- **3/20/2095/FU - PROPOSAL:** Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling at Ash Croft Stortford Please **send your comments to EH Planning by 17th November 2020.**

20.9.6.2 Planning appeals considered by the Council

20.9.6.3 Planning decisions received from EHC **Conditions**

- **3/20/1105/LBC - PROPOSAL:** Reconfiguration of office layout to include the removal and relocation of staircase, removal and replacement of walls and doors, creation of W.C. at ground and first floor, creation of a mezzanine level and second floor and insertion of 2 rooflights at 3 The Gatehouse Hadham Hall This matter was considered by the Council on the 20th October 2020 and it was decided to **Application Withdrawn by Applicant/Agent**
- **3/20/1511/HH - PROPOSAL:** Erection of three-bay two storey garage and replacement gates at Manor Farm Barn Standon Road. This matter was considered by the Council on the 21st October 2020 and it was decided to **Refuse Planning Permission**

20.9.6.4 Late addition to agenda, after publication date:

- **3/20/1710/HH - PROPOSAL:** Construction of two storey rear extension and front porch. New obscured glazed first floor side window opening at: 2 Ridgeway Little Hadham. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 2nd November 2020 and it was decided to **Grant Planning Permission**

20.9.7 Reports - Areas of Responsibility

- 1 Highways / Bypass – Cllr Arkell – no report available. Re the 20mph initiative, Cllr Westlake thinks we should find out more about it. **Action: Cllr Arkell to obtain more details from Cllr McAndrew.** Councillors are supportive. **Action: Cllr Arkell to find out more about Affinity Water works - find out when the Albury Road is being closed and how long for. Action: clerk re-send the email regarding the repair to the bridge at the Ford.**
- 2 Environmental affairs – Cllr Hoodless - no report available.
 - Millennium Wood - Cllr Westlake – ongoing. No further news.
- 3 Playing fields and young people's needs – Cllr Mardell – playground in good condition, went down when the hedge was being cut. Have done a good job. Gates being done on Thursday. Cllr Mardell will oversee that. Have received the invoice for £450 for the playing field. Atkins have also provided a quote of £560 for the ridgeway. Need to get a quote for the fencing around the playing field. Cllr Attwell suggested we accept the quote for the cutting to the Ridgeway playing field hedge, Cllr Westlake seconded, all councillors agreed. **Action: Cllr Mardell to get 3 quotes. Action: clerk to notify Atkins to carry out the works to the Ridgeway playing field hedge.** Playgrounds are not being shut down at this time. **Action: Cllr Attwell to revisit the risk assessments for the playgrounds.** Broken sign has been placed on the gate.
- 4 Community – Cllr Mardell – Cllr Westlake – ACV about the Nags Head. Cllr Attwell suggests if Cllr Westlake is happy to complete the ACV, perhaps she could complete on behalf of the PC. **Action: Cllr Westlake to continue and complete the ACV.** Councillors agreed. Keep the pub closure on the agenda.
Village Hall – Jan Williamson - We have had our doors open for the past 2 months with a great deal of nervousness from our regulars.



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We have worked hard at painting, cleaning, decorating and COVID-19 securing the hall with fantastic help from village volunteers.

We have run very successful flu jab clinics and will continue well into November due to the demand with over 1000 done already. This has been a great opportunity for the Much Hadham Health Centre's Patient Participation Group to work with and support the Health Centre. Also, to engage with a lot of residents who we have been supporting throughout the first lockdown. This is what brings the community together as we are seen working as a community team.

We are working with various service providers based on the evidence of our villages connections survey to train up some digital champions to help support some of our residents, at varying levels, who have asked for help. This will be done in support groups or 1-1 support depending on their needs.

We are also looking into streaming workshops and activities which will be an extended part of the digital inclusion project.

We are installing our cinema equipment which we hope will be allowed to open its doors again after this lockdown under very careful management.

We have restarted our community café with CAB coming along with their latest scam's information pack. This was a lovely morning, and it was so good to see some faces that have not left home for many months. Suspended 1 month

We accept that this next lockdown is a small blip in the repurposing of our village hall as we now find we have new directions in community life, and it has health and wellbeing very much at the forefront.

We ask the Parish Council that all our hard efforts are supported now and in the future of our refurbishment. Cllr Arkell and Cllr Wilkinson had emailed their support to giving the £3000 pounds the village hall this year as an emergency fund and then going forward an annual amount until they can stand on our feet. Cllr Westlake asked about the leaking water tank, was it not covered by insurance? Chair of the Village Hall said it is so old was not covered by insurance. Also, that the floor has bad cracking, and we have a quote for investigations. If it is subsidence it is not covered, due to being on a flood plain. Must get these works done, before we can move forward. Cllr Attwell said it is a large sum of money, more than anything we have spent previously. Firstly, we have budgeted £3.500 as donations for other organisations. Our accounts are over £3,000 more healthy than last year. Cllr Westlake is supportive but remains uncertain of subsidence. Chair of the Village Hall is going to get more quotes. Cllr Mardell said he has a contact to get a quote from for the soil testing. Cllr Attwell said although it is not right for the PC to make any ongoing donations, he is supportive of the emergency £3,000 payment for this year. This is an exception payment for us, and we are evidence of the value the Parish Council place on the work the Village Hall carry out. Cllr Attwell proposes the emergency payment of £3,000, Cllr Westlake seconded, all councillors in favour. Motion carried.

COVID-19 19 response for village hall. PC agree to investigate what needs to be done to, set up a working party of Chair VH, Vice Chair PC, clerk. **Action: meeting to**



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be set up at 11.00 on Wednesday 4th November. Completed, Chair of VH is contacting volunteers to ensure the volunteer group carries on but refer to the relevant agency as required.

- 5 Consultations and Public Relations – Cllr Arkell – no report
- 6 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Attwell – remove from agenda.
- 7 Significant External Factors / Stansted Airport – Cllr Hoodless – no report.
- 8 Flood prevention project C15 - progress update – Cllr Westlake – asked Dave Willett for any flooding to take photos.
- 9 Security – Cllr Mardell
 - Police Liaison – PCSO De Bruyn – Cllr Mardell. - no report. **Action: Cllr Mardell to request attendance from the police to discuss the general rural affairs situation.**
- 10 Operations – Cllr Attwell – Clerk has resigned and now working her notice period and will be a huge loss to the parish. Extremely knowledgeable of the parish. Michael sympathises with the clerk's opinion.
11. Allotments – Cllr Wilkinson – Cllr Westlake happy to have a discussion about the management of the allotments. Cllr Attwell feels Cllr Westlake is the perfect person to take this on.
Planters – Cllr Wilkinson said in her report, these are looking good and it is relief to have them well tended. We have faced much criticism over the years regarding their care but now we seem to have it right!
- 11 Phone Box Libraries – Cllr Westlake – have been emptied again.
- 12. Update from Cllr Williamson** - The Judicial Review requested by East Herts Council over the Planning Inspectorate's decision to allow the appeal against the refusal of planning permission on the traveller site at Chapel Lane started today in the High Court. It is due to finish on Thursday. *(It actually concluded earlier on Wednesday afternoon, and the judge has reserved judgement.)*

I have been notified that an appeal has now been lodged by the new owners against the refusal of planning permission for traveller pitches on the field in Millfield Lane. The owners have requested the appeal is conducted through a public enquiry (in the same way that the Chapel Lane appeal was), but this is for the Planning Inspectorate to decide

20.9.8

20.9.9 Chair's Report – no report

20.9.10 Clerk's Report

- 1 To agree to payment of accounts. All councillors agreed to the payment of the accounts as in line with the financial review sent to all councillors.
- 2 To accept the accuracy of the financial statement, all councillors accepted the accuracy of the financial statement.
- 3 Memorial Wreath for Remembrance Sunday – remembrance is called off. Cllr Attwell suggested he lay the wreath. Cllr Williamson said some guidance came out today and he would forward onto Cllr Attwell. Cllr Westlake to join Cllr Attwell.

20.9.10 Correspondence

20.9.11 Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 1st December 2020

20.9.12 To close the meeting – 21.17

For members of the press and public, the Parish Council meeting is being held virtually via Zoom videoconference that will commence at 8.00pm. All normal Parish Council rules apply. There will be the normal Democratic 10 minutes for questions. Contact the clerk and she will invite you. clerklittlehadham@gmail.com