



Little Hadham Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the 17th meeting of **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2019 – 2023 Session) held virtually via teleconference on Tuesday 1st December 2020 at 7:30 p.m.

Present:

Cllr M Attwell (Acting chair)
Cllr R Mardell
Cllr C Westlake
Cllr M Wilkinson
Cllr T Reeves Hoodless
Cllr F Arkell

Also:

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

20.11.1 Election of Chair. Previous Chair has resigned. Cllr Attwell has agreed to stand as Chair for a temporary period until and including February council meeting. Cllr Westlake proposes Cllr Attwell be appointed as Chair, Cllr Arkell seconded, all councillors agreed. Cllr Attwell proposes Cllr Westlake be appointed as Vice Chair, Cllr Arkell seconded, all agreed.

20.11.2 To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr S Blight sent his apologies.

20.11.3 Democratic 10 minutes. No questions asked

20.11.4 Presentation on the bypass (See Appendix 1)

Cllr Attwell welcomed everyone to the Parish Council meeting. Darren presented a slide show. Dave said steady progress is being made on the job but have had to cancel the roundabout as they are unable to source the materials to the satisfactory specs. Will be reprogrammed for April next year. Work will continue dependent on the weather. Darren asked if the road would be open by later Summer, Dave confirmed it would. Darren to let us know when the material arrives for the work on the Ash. Dave said they are putting in security lighting, whilst the works are being carried out on the Standon Road.

Received complaints about people finding ways to bypass the roadworks and going through Green Street. Need to ensure there is good signage in place. Asked that perhaps Green Street could be closed. Dave said they cannot close roads but can only advise drivers to use the diversions. Dave said it is a narrow lane, passing on the verges. Cllr Attwell asked if we can be advised of the next set of closures in time to allow for signage to be in place.

Andrew – sponsor implementation of major projects for highway improvement schemes. He also mentioned some quick wins, cycling, village gateways. Will come back in the early new year with ideas of proposals on how to engage with the village. Andrew to send some – web-based survey before we put pen to paper locations on the map of locations they have concerns about. **Action: Andrew to send details to clerk to explain what they are doing, and the clerk will publish on website, parish news, etc.**

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

20.11.6 Approval of minutes held on the 3rd November to be agreed and signed as a true record. All councillors agreed and the Chair signed the minutes as a true record, to be sent to clerk at first opportunity.

20.11.7 Matters arising from the minutes.



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Cllr Arkell - 20mph initiative We missed the deadline and would investigate this some more. Speak to another Parish. Cllr Attwell suggests putting as part of the post bypass works. Waterworks (still looking into it).

Cllr Mardell– 3 quotes for Ridgeway fencing – no progress yet. Jan Williamson asked what was happening to the old gates in the village car park. Cllr Mardell confirmed he will be taking them away.

Cllr Attwell has carried out the risk assessment with no changes to be made.

20.11.4 Planning applications considered by the Council (15 mins)

20.11.4.1 Planning Applications

- 3/20/2235/HH PROPOSAL: Two storey side extension including extension to existing dormers at 13 The Smithy. Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 3rd December 2020. No adverse comments. Councillors have no issues with Cllr Attwell proposes no objections, all councillors agreed.
- 3/20/2048/HH PROPOSAL: Conversion of outbuilding/ games room to residential annexe at Sunfield Bromley Lane Wellpond Green. Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 30th November 2020. Cllr Westlake feels we go with the local's opinion. Cllr Attwell has no objections, Cllr Westlake agreed. Cllr Attwell proposes no objections to this application. All councillors agreed.
- 3/20/2281/HH PROPOSAL: First floor rear extension above existing kitchen /dinning extension at Folly Cottage Bury Green. Please send your comments to EHC Planning by 8th December 2020. Cllr Attwell says there has been a deal of work over the last years and this will add a couple of bedrooms but has no objections. Cllr Attwell proposes no objections to this application. All councillors agreed

20.11.4.2 Planning appeals considered by the Council

- 3/20/1040/FUL and At Millfield Lane Bury Green Little Hadham Ware an Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State will hold a Public Inquiry in on starting at am. You are reminded that the applicant has appealed to the Secretary of State against the Council's refusal of planning permission for:- Change of use of land to a four pitch Gypsy/Traveller site comprising the siting of 4 Mobile Homes, 4 Touring Caravans, and the erection of 4 dayroom buildings, and the formation of an internal track and hard standings. Installation of bio disc septic tank. In addition to comments already submitted, interested members of the public may attend the inquiry and, with the agreement of the Inspector, will be allowed to give their views. If you would like to see details of the Council's decision and the applicant's reasons for appealing, they are available for inspection on the Online Planning Register on the Council's website, <http://publicaccess.eastherts.gov.uk>. The Council and the appellant will also be producing proofs of evidence including summaries of the proofs and a statement of common ground and these documents will be available for public inspection four weeks before the start date of the inquiry

Cllr Attwell said we should make a written statement to that Planning. **Action: Cllr Attwell and clerk to develop the response. Done.** No councillors are going to attend the hearing.

20.11.4.3 Planning decisions received from EHC

20.11.4.4 Late addition to agenda, after publication date:

20.11.5 Reports - Areas of Responsibility (30 mins)

- 1 Highways / Bypass – Cllr Arkell – Will put all road closures on Facebook.



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- 2 Nags Head – ACV – Cllr Westlake – Ongoing, working with Richard Beckett.
- 3 Playing fields and young people’s needs – Cllr Mardell – Cllr Mardell is visiting the playing field weekly and keeping a log of any findings. All is currently fine. Noticeboard at the entrance to the playing field is unsafe. Cllr Attwell suggests we remove the noticeboard. All councillors agreed. **Action: Cllr Mardell to remove. Done. Cllr Attwell to carry out another risk assessment considering lockdown changes.** Risk assessment is the same as for pre lockdown of Covid-19
4. Village Hall – Jan Williamson
We have 3 quotes provided for investigation work to be carried out on soil and floor of the hall and we have gone with the cheapest which is £2250 plus VAT as stated at last meeting. This will be carried out once we receive the £3k from Parish Council which was agreed last month.

The Hadham’s are working with Graham McAndrew and other Ash Valley villages in the village connector digital inclusion project. We will be contacting all 54 residents over the next few weeks to identify the areas of need and how we can help them using our volunteers who will go through digital training to support them on a 1-1 basis. We hope this will then develop into small workshops of similar abilities using the village hall as a base. Other interested parties who have come on board are Healthy Hub East Herts, Community Voluntary Services, Citizens Advice Bureau, and our Social Prescribing coordinator Katheryn Foy for EHC. **Action: Chair of the Village Hall requested support from Cllr Westlake. Done**

We have started a crowdfunding page. The link is <https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/the-hadhams-community-hub> to raise awareness of the above project and how people can make a big difference to our Hadham’s hub by supporting us. With various grants and fund raising we hope to have streaming facilities in our hall next year to enable everyone to access activities even if they cannot be there physically.

The cinema equipment is still being installed and we have just heard that Stansted Passenger grant has agreed to fund £1000 to complete this important project which will be put towards the hearing loop, wiring and the building of a secure cabinet to house all the new equipment. We are delighted that they still want to support our community project which will also support dementia friendly screenings for local care homes.

I would also like to request that the PC considers reinstating the contribution towards our waste collection annually which was agreed some years back. This seems to have stopped! We have just had to pay £1359 for 1 year so unless we can get help with this, we will have to reconsider what we can afford. We have been hit very badly by COVID-19 with no income for the best part of a year come March. So, I would again ask the Parish Council to reconsider their support to our village Hall which still has had to maintain the upkeep of the property and land without income. Cllr Mardell said we discussed this at the Precept Meeting, Cllr Westlake said we agreed to pay half of the cost of the bins and have no fees for room hire. The Chair said the room charge was tied to the PC providing a yearly donation to the VH. We agreed to pay the half of the bin collection. **Action: Jan to look at why the VH have not requested the payments for the bin emptying. Cllr Attwell wanted it minuted that the PC are strong supporters of the VH and the Chair and the committee do a marvellous job.**

If we cannot afford to keep our doors open then the Village Hall for local groups, Community Hub for Health and Wellbeing and digital inclusion plus The Post Office and



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Doctors Consultation room will be lost. There is no better investment for the residents of Little Hadham.

As we near the end of the flu clinics and will have done nearly 2K vaccinations which demonstrates just how we can be flexible in our use.

COVID-19 recovery - Some of our known vulnerable residents are unfortunately in hospital and we are tracking their progress. Interestingly 2 of our hamlet representatives have come close to asking for help due to health and personal circumstances. Overall, any support being given is low key and being dealt with by the hamlet representatives who report to me if they need help. Any other support needed is referred to Herts help and has been clearly directed in our Parish news along with many other support numbers. I am ordering some Christmas boxes of kindness courtesy of HCC Community wellbeing that have been offered to our selected residents. We hope that we can help our most vulnerable and lonely residents get through this difficult time of the year.

We are now shut until the New Year as Tier 2 starts on Thursday and we have decided that it is not essential to open with Christmas on the horizon as well as COVID-19. Cllr Attwell asked if we need to chat about the COVID-19 response. The Chair said everything has been put in the Parish News. **Action: Cllr Attwell to speak to the Chair offline.**

5. Police Liaison – PCSO De Bruyn – Cllr Mardell – no report Action: remove from agenda
6. Operations – Cllr Attwell
 - Recruitment – super, super important. We need a Chair; this council will cease to be. All councillors need to look for potential recruits. Submitting reports to the clerk for forwarding on, please send on that you have nothing to report.
7. Allotments – Cllr Wilkinson – to be discussed at the mid-month meeting.
8. Phone Box Libraries – Cllr Westlake – awaiting quotes. Put an ad on Hadham matters. **Action: Cllr Arkell to put on Facebook requesting for volunteers. Done.** Filling up with books, so will wait till they empty a bit.

20.11.6 Update from Cllr Williamson (5 mins)- Millfield Lane appeal – will be public enquiry. Just have to wait to hear the dates. Probably conducted as a virtual meeting. Will not be before Christmas. Chapel Lane challenge to High court dismissed. Take that through the legal system. Will provide updates.

20.11.7 **Chair's Report** (5 mins)

20.11.8 **Clerk's Report** (5 mins)

- 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. Both Cllrs Arkell and Westlake are now agreed signatories
- 3 Westland Green – Stephen Stigwood, approval of lease for 2021 at a rent of £300 to be paid in January 2021. Councillors agreed to this rental for another year, which will be reviewed during the year. **Action: Cllr Attwell to lead on this.** Add to agenda
- 4 To agree the Precept, from Finance Subcommittee meeting on Tuesday 24th November 2020. £14,329.19. Cllr Attwell proposes we accept the precept, all councillors agreed.

20.11.9 **Correspondence**

20.11.10 Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 2nd February 2020

20.11.11 To close the meeting

For members of the press and public, the Parish Council meeting is being held virtually via Zoom videoconference that will commence at 7.30pm. 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