



Little Hadham Parish Council

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Minutes of the **Little Hadham Parish Council** (2019 – 2023 Session) held in the Little Hadham Village Hall Tuesday 1st March 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Cllr N Faraday (Chair)
Cllr Westlake
Cllr R Mardell
Cllr F Arkell

Also: Clerk: C Page, Jan Williamson, 9 Members of the public

- 22.02.01 Co-option of new councillor** Cllr Faraday proposed Natalie Kent join the Parish Council as a councillor. Cllr Arkell seconded. All councillors agreed. Cllr Faraday welcomed Natalie Kent to the council.
- 22.02.02 To receive and accept apologies.** Cllrs Wilkinson and Hoodless send apologies. Cllr Hoodless has been called to an emergency. Cllr Williamson sends his apologies; he is attending a full Council meeting at East Herts tonight at which we will (hopefully) agree our budget.
- 22.02.03 Public Issues** - Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern.
- Mike Smith raised a question regarding the war memorial and a war memorial trust. Cllr Faraday and the clerk had looked at this, but they only offer a grant for the actual memorial itself, not the surrounding area. Mike also said there is an entry in the 1919 minutes regarding the war memorial ownership. **Action: clerk to review the minutes for any information regarding ownership of the memorial land. The historical minutes are held by Angela Fardell.**
 - New entrance to Sufflydes wood, there is flooding at the new bell entrance, which is due to the trees being felled that held back the water. The water is pooling then creating a gully to run down the hill. **Action: Kathy to send pictures of the flooding, the clerk will raise a complaint with Highways. Done.**
 - Cllr Mardell – Church End, increasing number of advertising boards, gym, coffee shop, etc. **Action: clerk to find out if planning is needed to erect a board. Awaiting to hear back from EHC Planning.**
 - Footpath from the church to the school is very narrow. **Action: check with post bypass team that this is on the list. Waiting to hear back from Andrew Freeman Set up a Highways meeting. Date yet to be set.** Cllr Faraday has asked Highways to de-clutter the roadsides of boards.
- 22.02.04 Declaration of interest and dispensations** – to receive Declaration of Interest from councillors on items on the agenda. No interests declared.
- 22.01.01 Approval of minutes** held on 1st of February 2022 to be agreed and signed as a true record. Agreed and signed as a true record.
- 22.02.05 Matters arising from the minutes.** Clerk to ask for responses from Joel Fayers to the questions raised at the February Parish Council meeting in relation to the proposed Solar Farm at Wickham Hall.
- 22.02.06 Planning applications** - considered by EHC
- 3/22/0259/HH - Loft conversion with insertion of 3 windows to front elevation and rear dormer at 2 Ford Villas the Ford. Please send your comments to EHC by: 2nd March 2022. Cllr Faraday suggests no objections, all councillors agreed.
 - 3/22/0354/LBC PROPOSAL: Replacement Porch AT: The Old Vineyard Bury Green Little Hadham Ware Hertfordshire CONSULTATION Deadline: Please send me your comments by: 15th March 2022. Cllr Faraday suggests no objections, all councillors agreed.



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Planning decisions received from EHC.

- 3/21/1507/HH - Demolition of outbuilding and erection of annexe at Harbledown Pigs Green Westland Green. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 1st of February 2022 and it was decided to Grant Planning Permission subject to Conditions
- 3/21/1650/HH - Partial conversion of barn into annex to include installation of 1 window and 3 conservation rooflights at Ashmeads the Ford. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 8th of February 2022 and it was decided to Application Withdrawn by Applicant/Agent
- 3/21/3141/HH - Loft conversion with insertion of dormer window to the rear and 2 rooflights to front at 2A The Grove Bury Green. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 15th of February 2022 and it was decided to Grant Planning Permission subject to Condition

22.02.07 Reports from Working Parties and Committees

- **Annual event subcommittee** – Cllr Faraday (See Appendix 2)
- **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Faraday
- **Allotments** – Cllr Wilkinson - The Allotment Manager's job description is now ready for him to sign it and his availability has been sought to discuss this with him.
- **Finance sub-committee** – Budget meeting. Set the date for the Budget meeting 2022-23. Cllr Faraday proposes approval of the 2022-23 budget, all councillors agreed. Motion carried.
- **Ridgeway Park** – Cllr Westlake -
 - Visioning Workshop to be held on 24th April in the Village Hall from 0.30-12.30. Wild Edges (company running the event) will offer suggestions what can be done with the park. The workshop will be an open discussion taking in everyone's thoughts and views to make it a useful space for the community. **Action: Cllr Arkell and Westlake to deliver the leaflets.**
 - **Flooding Report** – Cllr Westlake (Appendix 1) – The Ridgeway when there is heavy rain, the stones run down the hill and cars drive through and the chippings are causing damage to residents cars. **Action: Cllr Westlake to get a Clarion representative to the Parish Council meeting to discuss various issues across the Smithy and the Ridgeway.**
 - **Drive Safe** – Cllrs Arkell, Mardell – a group of volunteers stand at pre-determined points by the police in the village and take details of all vehicles speeding above the speed limit. Still need more volunteers to help. The key site at the moment is by the school. Cllr Mardell said that at some point we should be getting a van to monitor speeding in the village.
 - Hedge at the bottom of Ford hill is very overgrown, and people are unable to see round the bend, causes a dangerous egress into the road. **Action: Cllr Faraday to speak to the owners of the property re cutting back the hedge.**

22.02.09 Reports to the Council To receive reports from representatives on outside bodies, local authorities, and agencies

- **District Councillor Report** - Cllr Williamson – update regarding the traveller site planning appeals. The Chapel Lane Inquiry due to start tomorrow has been postponed again. New dates are yet to be arranged. The Millfield Lane Inquiry starts on 8th March.
- **Village Hall** – Jan Williamson (Appendix 2)
- **Police Report** – Cllr Mardell - Theft from Motor Vehicle on Hadham Industrial Estate. Suspects have removed a full tank a fuel from an unattended vehicle on the industrial estate and have then made off in an unknown direction and by means



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unknown. Action: put report on website. As this is now a monthly report for all the villages.

22.02.10 Chair's Report (Appendix 3)

- War Memorial repairs – once the works are completed, we will need to install a deterrent to stop cars damaging the memorial. Highways are to install chevrons on the side of the memorial wall.
- Village sign / pump – roadside repairs clerk to meet with the handyman on Monday to confirm the works to be completed.

22.01.11 Clerk's Report (Appendix 4)

- To agree to payment of accounts. Councillors agreed to the spend.
- To accept the accuracy of the financial statement. All councillors agreed to the accuracy of the financial statement.
- Update from bypass construction team - They now hope to have footpath 57 open by 18th March, but it may take until July to open the new route of bridleway 36.
- Cllr Westlake requested £50 for the printing of flyers and leaflets for the Ridgeway Park project. Plus, hire of the VH of £50 for the hire. Cllr Faradays seconded the request, all councillors agreed.

22.02.12 Correspondence

22.02.13 Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 5th April 2022

22.02.14 To close the meeting. 20.43



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Appendix 1 - Flooding Update February 2022

Flooding outside Pathways cottage between village hall and phone box.

The road was badly flooded on the 20th of February due to high rainfall probably caused by silted up drains. Ian Hollinrake at the County Council no longer deals with this problem. However, he says the flooding is "under investigation by another Team within the Highway's Service who will report back to Cllr Graham McAndrew. Cllr McAndrew is aware.

River levels and flood alleviation scheme.

Steve Whipp (Environment Agency) reported that - River gauges were checked after heavy rainfall on the 20th of February in Furneux Pelham, Little Hadham and near Wareside. Levels were not high enough for river flooding to occur. The flood alleviation reservoirs were also monitored, and it was confirmed they had helped to keep water below flooding levels. This is the second time levels have been managed by the scheme since it became operational in December.

<https://check-for-flooding.service.gov.uk/station/7346>

Action: put the gulley cleaning schedule on the Highways meeting agenda to see how much the cleaning costs and also can it be more frequent.

Councillor Westlake

Appendix 2 – Village Hall Report – Jan Williamson

There is not much to report other than we are now desperately looking to fund the remaining double-glazing doors and windows at the back of the hall which are totally rotten in places. Estimated at £15k but will give better security and insulation.

We have had a main pipe leak in the boiler room that has now been fixed and part of the floor in the kitchen has had to be lifted due to the cement having blown and caused the flooring to lift quite badly. We needed to eliminate the possibility of a low-grade leak in under floor pipes. No leak!

We have a business presentation coming up on April 1st which we think Parish Council would benefit from. David can briefly outline the event for you.

Hamish has moved forward with the wireless access he is creating in the village Hall for users such as Parish Council. Hamish can briefly outline how it works if he is attendance tonight.

I have had no offers of help for the Queens Platinum Jubilee which I am concerned we are fast running out of time with. We have a really busy fundraising year so if no villagers want to get involved there is every chance it will not go ahead.

The forever cycling studio starts tomorrow and is fully subscribed which is great news. If you want to have a look at how it works do drop in between 12.30 -1pm to see it in action

Post office – waiting to find out what is happening to the doctors consulting room. They are not coming back to the Village Hall. The lease has to be dissolved, and the post office is within that lease. Turn it into a community health and wellbeing space, perhaps a physio, or NG, the contractors of Clarion who need a rest room for 2 years. Awaiting to hear from Clarion. Jan Williamson to let the PC know what happens with the Post Office. If Clarion agree they will



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refurbish the space and the toilets. If the post office stay there will need to be a lease. **Action: find out who to speak to regarding the post office, need to find out what agreements have been made between the Post Office and the Village Hall**

Appendix 3 - Chairs Report

War Memorial Repairs

Francis Builders Limited have commenced repairs to the war memorial. We have already agreed with Highways that preventative measures will be taken to reduce the risk of further damage by HGVs. The exact measures are to be confirmed.

Outdoor Gym Funding

The Parish Council applied for £8,000 EHDC funding for outdoor gym equipment. We were not successful in this application. The funding round focussed on Covid recovery, and we did not score highly enough to be eligible for our proposal.

We are seeking alternative funding.

Flooding

The Environment Agency ("EA") will update the flood maps for the Parish in the second week of March.

I have had further discussion with the EA regarding the Lloyd Taylor Drain ("LTD"). The EA confirms the damage to the LTD is surface damage and has no impact on the flow capacity. They confirm remedial action will take a month and work will commence after Easter. To quote:

"The damage to the new Lloyd Taylor Drain Channel is surface damage and doesn't affect its flow capacity. Sediments from the erosion have been washed down into the new culvert under The Ford Road. This culvert was always intended to have a depth of gravel within it to give a continuous natural bed along the new channel. The culvert was also designed to have some freeboard above the design flood level. While there is currently more gravel within the culvert than planned it would require a rare large event for these to significantly affect the channel's performance. As part of the remedial works the gravel in and around the culvert would be reduced to their design levels."

The current post high flow event situation is temporary and does not affect the design performance information submitted for updating the flood map.

Councillor Faraday

