



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 on Tuesday 5th July 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Present: Cllr Westlake (Acting chair))

Cllr R Mardell

Cllr M Wilkinson

Cllr A Hoodless

Cllr F Arkell

Cllr N Kent

Also: Clerk: Jan Williamson (Chair of Village Hall), 7 Members of the public

22.06.01 To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllr Faraday and Cllr Williamson sent their apologies. The Parish Council accepted the apologies.

22.06.02 Public Issues - Members of the public and councillors can raise matters of concern.

- **Concerns were raised regarding Lime Tree Avenue at Church End.** There is a TPO on all trees. Some of the trees have been pruned back very harshly, which is from the river to the Albury Road. It is suggested, no consent was given. **Action: PC to follow up and seek clarification on what trees have been cut back and why. PC to write a letter of objection regarding the use of the bridleway as a carriageway for vehicles and to seek clarification on how the bridleway was used for this purpose.**
- Sarah Perry (River Catchment Coordinator at Herts & Middlesex Wildlife Trust). Presenting on delivering a nature recovery strategy for Hertfordshire's chalk river valleys, by working in partnership on habitat restoration projects, community engagement and coordinating the River Lea catchment partnership. **Action:** Sarah Perry to provide a link to Cllr Westlake to enable dissemination of information to the Parish Council. A question was asked regarding the flood alleviation measures. Sarah said she has had little commentary on that, but it slows the flow coming into the village, creating a type of attenuation.

22.06.03 Declaration of interest and dispensations – Cllr Faraday declared an interest in planning application 3/22/1238/HH and 3/22/1239/LBC but is not present at the meeting.

22.06.04 Approval of minutes held on 3rd May 2022 agreed and signed as a true record. The Highways priorities spreadsheet will be on the website and will be followed up with Highways and revisited at the September meeting
The issue of the pavement at the traffic lights was discussed with a possible solution of moving the to enable HGV to swing round of the old A120 without mounting the pavement. **Action: Add all post bypass suggestions to the Highways spreadsheet.**

22.06.05 Matters arising from the minutes.

22.06.06 Planning applications - considered by EHC

- Proposed development of up to **35MW solar farm at Wickham Hall Estate (3/21/2601/FUL)** – update – Cllr Williamson. Cllr Wilkinson proposes we object to this application. All councillors agreed with the exception of Cllr Arkell who had no objections.
- **3/22/1095/HH PROPOSAL:** Erection of single storey rear extension with mono pitch roof and three roof lights at Copper Beech Standon Road. Please send your comments to EHC by: 16th June 2022. Not LHPC, sent in error by EH Planning. Withdrawn from the website.



Little Hadham Parish Council

- **3/22/1172/HH PROPOSAL:** Construction of part two storey rear and one and a half storey side extension with dormer window. Single storey rear extension. Demolition of extension and erection of single storey orangery. One and a half storey side extension with dormer window. Construction of porch at Fairbourne Westland Green. Please send your comments to EHC by: 1st July 2022. Cllr Wilkinson suggests not overlooking any properties. Recommends no objections. All Cllrs agreed.
- **3/22/1236/LBC PROPOSAL:** Alterations to roof; two replacement roof lights and installation of two new roof lights; and replacement door and window to rear. Internal alterations: Removal of internal wall between kitchen and dining room and replacement kitchen, replacement flooring and alterations to ceiling. AT: The Old Brick House Ford Hill. Please send your comments to EHC by: 6th July 2022. Cllr Wilkinson suggests no objections, is normal updating. All Cllrs agreed.
- **3/22/1235/HH PROPOSAL:** Alterations to roof; two replacement roof lights and installation of two new roof lights; and replacement door and window to rear. AT: The Old Brick House Ford Hill. Please send your comments to EHC by: 6th July 2022. As above.
- **3/22/1239/LBC PROPOSAL:** Partial conversion of barn into annex to include installation of 2 windows, 3 conservation rooflights and new internal staircase to first floor. AT: Ashmeads The Ford. Please send your comments to EHC by: 8th July 2022. Cllr Wilkinson said the previous application was withdrawn because they felt there were bats in the barn. No bats are in the bar. Cllr Wilkinson suggests no objections. All Cllrs agreed
- **3/22/1238/HH PROPOSAL:** Part conversion of barn to annex to include installation of 2 window, 3 conservation rooflights and new internal staircase to first floor. AT: Ashmeads The Ford. Please send your comments to EHC by: 8th July 2022. As above.

Planning decisions received from EHC.

- **3/21/3021/LBC PROPOSAL:** Replacement of existing windows with identical timber windows. AT: 1 May Cottages Cradle End. This matter was considered by EH Council on the 15th June 2022 and it was decided to Grant Consent subject to Conditions

22.06.07 Reports from Working Parties and Committees

- **Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Faraday – nothing to report.
- **Allotments** (Appendix 1) – Cllr Wilkinson
 - National Allotment Society – membership fee £55 + VAT. Cllr Wilkinson proposes we join the society. All councillors agreed. **Action: clerk to arrange for the PC to become members. Done**
 - Cllr Wilkinson handed in the allotment rents of £120. To be paid into the bank account.
- **Ridgeway Park Update** – Cllr Westlake – looked at ideas people came up with from the visioning event, etc. Decided to come up with three options also an artist's impression. Will be a leaflet drop to the village with the three choices. **Action: Nigel to develop the artists impression.**
- **New benches** – Cllr Mardell – Two options were provided to the meeting, and it was decided to order the bench with arms at approximately £500 each bench. Cllr Mardell has agreed to fit them. **Action: clerk to order the benches. Done**
- **Drive Safe** – Cllr Mardell. Trying to get it running. Waiting to hear from the Drive Safe team. Cllr Arkell has completed all paperwork to be the Lead, waiting to hear back. **Action: Cllr Mardell to check the traffic calming strip on the Standon side of the old A120. Action: clerk to find out when the traffic survey is to be carried out.**



Little Hadham Parish Council

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

- **District Councillor Report** (Appendix 2) - Cllr Williamson
- **Village Hall** – Jan Williamson (Appendix 3)
 - **Village Hall sign** – Cllr Westlake – Cllr Westlake not keen on providing the money for the sign as there are already a few signs, and there will possibly be a brown sign at the traffic lights. The signs are to go on the highway and also one to go opposite the village hall. The cost is £430, black, and white that says 'Village Hall'. Cllr Kent suggests putting something on the sign that there are children around and also the speed limit. Dave Willet advised the 30mph sign by the village hall is obscured and the trees need cutting back. **Action: clerk to investigate. Requested Handyman to carry this out.** Jan said signage is important, for those people that aren't local. Cllr Westlake asked for the councillors to decide if they wished to pay for the sign. All councillors agreed except Cllr Westlake. Motion carried.
- **Police Report** – Cllr Mardell – only one item. Tractor stolen from the polo field. Cllr Wilkinson suggests we need a more direct line to contact the police. **Action: clerk to report to the meeting of the quarterly police liaison meeting.**
- **Areas of responsibility** – councillor allocation, priority for delivery by 31/03/23. Cllr Faraday has requested each councillor agrees to an area of responsibility and to have at least one priority ready for the September meeting.
 - o Finance & Asset Management – Cllr Faraday
 - o Planning – Cllr Wilkinson
 - o Allotments – Cllr Wilkinson
 - o Flooding – Cllr Westlake
 - o Footpaths – Cllr Hoodless
 - o Playgrounds & Planning Fields – Cllr Mardell
 - o Village Hall Liaison – Cllr Arkell
 - o Highways (including Drive Safe) – Cllr Arkell
 - o Communications – Cllr Hoodless
 - o Community Events – Cllr Westlake / Clerk
 - o Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Kent / Cllr Faraday
 - o Police Committee – Cllr Mardell
 - o Legal Issues & Land Registry – Cllr Kent

22.06.10 Chair's Report (Appendix 4) **Action: clerk to put updated flood details on website.** Done

22.06.11 Clerk's Report (Appendix 5)

- To agree to payment of accounts. Councillors agreed to the spend as detailed in the financial spreadsheet.
- To accept the accuracy of the financial statement. The councillors agreed to the accuracy of the financial statement.

22.06.12 Correspondence

22.06.13 Date of next Council meeting – Tuesday, 6th September

22.06.14 To close the meeting 9.07pm



Little Hadham Parish Council

Appendix 1 - Allotment Report for Tuesday 5th July Parish Council Meeting

At the last meeting we met to work out how to develop our own forms for the holders of the allotment etc to sign and comply with, but we concluded that we should join the organization that produces all the relevant forms, being compliant with the allotment act etc rather than working through and producing our own

Natalie did a very good job but suggested we do this as did Carolyn, so I am asking for agreement from the PCC for this annual subscription please.

The amount is £55 per year so hopefully this will be agreeable to the committee please?

We have about half of the allotment unused, and this is a waste, and I will write a note to be posted in the magazine asking if anyone wants to take on a plot.

We will arrange to meet with the Manager to discuss his probationary period as soon as is convenient to folks

Appendix 2 – District Council Report

Wickham Hall

As you have seen and summarised well in the slides the applicant is looking to amend the proposal to overcome potential objections. Otherwise, the scheme is still under consideration by East Herts Planning in order to come to a view.

Millfield Lane Traveller Site – Planning Inquiry

This resumed last month following the adjournment earlier in the year. However, it has now been adjourned again. The Inspector sought clarification on the lawful status of the stables block that was erected with planning consent a few years ago. It transpires that as one of the conditions of the planning permission (an archaeological survey) was not satisfied, and is now out of time, the permission has lapsed and the structure is now deemed unlawful, and if it were to be dismantled in order to comply with the planning enforcement issue of the waste that was buried in the field prior to the stable being built, it could not be re-erected. This effectively means the land is now considered as wholly greenfield agricultural use and cannot be described as “previously developed”. The Inspector therefore granted an adjournment in order that parties can consider the implications.

Chapel Lane Traveller Site – Planning Inquiry

This inquiry is still to take place, possibly in October. The inquiry is to consider the refusal of East Herts to discharge the conditions attached to the granting of permission by the planning inspector of the previous appeal.

Church End – Avenue of Lime Trees

These trees are protected by a Tree Preservation Order and East Herts Council gave consent for specified tree works to be carried out. There are questions over the giving of consent, and whether the works done are in accordance with that consent, which are being investigated.



Little Hadham Parish Council

Appendix 3 - Little Hadham Village Hall

Although we did not have a Platinum Jubilee weekend, we did however have a full month of celebrations starting with a special jubilee breakfast morning which we catered for 54 cooked breakfasts and 3 takeaways. It was set up as a street party and we were joined by some Ukraine guests with their family. Our youngest attendee was just over 8 months and really entered into the spirit of the occasion. We made full use of the big screen and had various footage of the Jubilee weekend celebrations on in the background. After our costs We raised £250 for the village hall.

This was followed this with The King's Speech shown at our RCCC film club night.

We got a £200 grant for our accumulative events which allowed us to decorate and buy suitable jubilee flags, napkins, serviettes, and crowns for our attendees to wear.

We had a fundraising quiz evening on Saturday which was attended by just shy of 60 people. It was a great atmosphere and David Willett took control of the evening as the quiz master. We raised just over £1000 for our village hall which will go towards the next refurbishment phase.

The Doctors consulting room is no longer in use and hasn't been pre-covid due to its size not being up to current specification. The Lease is now in the process of surrender and there will be a full refurbishment of the room which will be used for Health, Wellbeing and Therapies such as Counselling, Physio, Reiki, Mental Health, and any other service providers that will fit into this category. The Health Centre will continue to use our main hall for the flu vaccinations each winter as we are lucky to have the car parking facility and size of the hall to accommodate. The benefit of this means that the room consulting room will be used full time instead of one morning a week which will give a much wider use to our community. We will also financially benefit from this as we have to cover our insurance and energy bills which are rising significantly.

Finally with the help of our volunteers we will be undergoing a lot of maintenance work in August to get the hall ready for the Autumn, if anyone would like to join this working party, I would be glad to hear from you as the upkeep of the hall falls on the same group of people who manage the hall, fundraise, and run monthly community events. This is all done to keep this village hall going and no one gets paid! We will have put on 5-6 fundraising events this year which takes a lot of time and effort. We are only human, and we get tired and demotivated if volunteers don't come forward.

Appendix 4 (Chairs Report)

Ridgeway Allotment Ownership

We have confirmed the ownership of the Ridgeway allotment. I have sought guidance from a couple of Ridgeway residents as the owner does not reside in the parish. Once concluded I am likely to recommend to the LHPC trying to secure the freehold or a long-term lease for the allotment.

Ridgeway Road Re-Surfacing/Clarion Housing

This one is outstanding. I have the right contact at Clarion now and he confirms he has a proposal. We haven't been able to co-ordinate a meeting date yet.

Highways

There are a lot of outstanding Highways issues. There is a separate update with some limited responses since the last meeting, but the clerk and I continue to seek a meeting with Highways or for them to attend a LHPC meeting. Most of the queries are underpinned by the post-bypass traffic survey, in particular issues of speeding and traffic calming options.

Bridleway Willows



Little Hadham Parish Council

I continue with legal challenges on this one, specifically who is responsible for maintain the willows on the bank of the bridleway. I have asked EHDC and HCC for guidance.

Stansted Airspace Modernisation

Phase 2 has concluded. Stansted has submitted a report to the Civil Aviation Authority confirming which possible routes are viable and which are not. I'm still working through a very detailed report on this and hope to be able to present back in September.

Lloyd Taylor Drain

No update from the Environment Agency. I will follow up on the remedial works planned.

Flood Maps

Seeking confirmation from the Environment Agency that the flood maps have been updated. The version currently available doesn't look the same as expected following the Environment Agency presentation.



Little Hadham Parish Council

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