

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Much Hadham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 1st August 2017, at 7:30 pm in the Green Tye Mission Hall.

*Cllr W Compton

*Cllr I Hunt (Vice Chairman)

*Cllr B Morris

*Cllr Mrs M O'Neill

*Cllr W O'Neill

Cllr C Thompson

*Cllr K Twort

Cllr Mrs P Taylor (Chairman)

*Cllr Mrs J Liversage

* denotes present.

In attendance: F Forth, Parish Clerk and 11 members of the public.

In the absence of Cllr Mrs P Taylor, Cllr I Hunt Chaired the meeting. Prior to starting the meeting, the Chairman apologised that, due to a technical issue, the Agendas and Minutes had not been published on the website.

In addition, the Chairman reminded those present that the meeting was to be conducted through the Chair and Cllr B Morris confirmed that he was recording the meeting.

17/122. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllr Mrs P Taylor and Cllr C Thompson.

Apologies were also received from Cllr Mrs J Liversage for her slightly late arrival.

17/123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

17/124. NOTIFICATIONS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

17/125. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman announced that the Doctor's surgery had received good news as it had topped the recent patient satisfaction survey in East and North Herts. It was highlighted that Much Hadham were fortunate to have the surgery in the parish and they were to be congratulated.

In addition, the Chairman mentioned that volunteers were required for the Village Fete. Further details are available in the Parish Magazine.

17/126. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr B Morris requested the following amendments to the minutes:

- Page 4 17/110: insert following “RESOLVED to approve” “as provided by Cllr B Morris”; and
- Page 9: last sentence to read “We note seven storey buildings are proposed.”

Cllr B Morris also stated that although not actioned as expected, he accepted the amendment to the minutes referred to on page 2.

Subject to the amendments above, RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 4th July 2017 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

17/127. REPORTS ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS

Report on outstanding matters noted.

Cllr W O’Neill stated that pressure was being placed by Cllr G McAndrew (HCC) on Highways to deal with the replacement of wooden posts.

The Chairman stated that Cllr C Thompson would be asked to provide an update on the matters assigned to him at the next meeting.

Cllr B Morris referred to the carpark contribution matter on the first page. The Clerk confirmed that this should have been updated to reflect the work being undertaken by the car park working party.

17/128. MEMBERS’ REPORTS

(i) Community

Pavilion

Cllr K Twort reported that the work at the Pavilion is progressing and will be finished in line with the timescale agreed. In addition, no further issues have been identified as a result of this work to date.

The Clerk introduced the two play equipment inspection reports, highlighting that the report from Broadmead Leisure Limited is a maintenance review and the summary of the other report refers more to compliance with British Standards. Following a question from Cllr W Compton, the Clerk confirmed that no action is required in respect of a sign in the multi-use games area as the matter is low risk. RESOLVED to receive the play equipment inspection reports.

The Clerk highlighted that some maintenance work was required to the play equipment, as identified by Broadmead Leisure Ltd in its report. RESOLVED to approve the quote for the play equipment remedial works from Broadmead Leisure Ltd for £370.00.

The Chairman clarified that his previous remark at the June meeting was that the proximity of the wall heaters to the ceiling in the changing rooms made them unsafe and dangerous not that the Pavilion was unsafe and dangerous and Cllr K Twort confirmed this was being addressed as part of the current work.

Village Hall

Cllr W O'Neill reported that preliminary meeting with members of the Village Hall Management Committee had been held to discuss the car park, ongoing repairs to the Village Hall and to improve communications generally between all parties. Options are being explored to ensure that the car park can be used in an optimal way to benefits users of the Hall, local residents and reduce traffic congestion in the village.

A clean up morning is planned for Sunday 1st October and everyone is invited to join in and help.

Attention has been drawn to the Section 106 agreement from the Moor Place Development in which £3,302 was specified for use for the provision of Village Hall and Community Centre facilities. As this had not been received in the parish, the Clerk confirmed that this is being investigated.

(ii) Environment (inc Public Rights of Way (PROW))

Public Rights of Way

Cllr B Morris reported that vegetation has been cleared/mown in respect of a number of PROW. Of particular note is that an acceptable quote has been obtained to clear the vegetation on Footpath 39 and the contractor has been instructed to begin work.

Also highlighted was the impact that harvesting has had on footpaths with footpaths being churned up. A notice is being placed in the next edition of the Parish Magazine. If anyone finds such issues when out walking, details should be passed to Cllr B Morris to action.

(iii) Highways

Cllr W O'Neill reported that the roads in the hamlets are almost open. The contractor, Morrisons, have re-seeded and restored the verges and left bollards in place but the verges are still being damaged by vehicles. Request made that the verges be treated with more respect.

Also reported was an increased level of complaints regarding the volume of traffic using Danebridge Road, the alternative route to Green Tye and Perry Green during the road closure. Given the increased danger of the junction at Sidehill House, has been asked to pursue installation of a Give Way sign.

The street lighting project is continuing. The recent prolonged outage near the Almshouses resulted from disconnected underground cables.

Issues due to the recent heavy rainfall were dealt with efficiently considering how widespread the problem was.

Cllr B Morris concurred that Highways had cleared up promptly following the flooding. In addition, he highlighted that Section 106 monies were outstanding for the passing bays in Kettle Green Lane and the Clerk to follow up this up.

(iv) Media

No matters to report.

(v) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr I Hunt reported that the Steering Group is working to produce the material for the consultation event on Sunday 17th September, in both display and written formats. As previously explained, residents are being asked to comment on the suitability of the proposed development sites and confirm the proposed local green spaces, priority views and other environmentally sensitive assets. Forms have been designed to capture the feedback.

Prior to this, each landowner will be advised in writing, by the Clerk, of the inclusion of their land in these proposals.

This event has already been promoted in the parish magazine and further promotion will be via banners around the Village, and at the Fete, and a 100% leaflet drop 2 weeks beforehand so that every parish household is aware of the event.

(vi) Security

Cllr Mrs J Liversage stated that there are no crime statistics to report this month. She also reported that she would be meeting the new PCSO responsible for Much Hadham shortly.

(vii) Other

No matters to report.

17/129. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr I Devonshire (EHC) reported that there are currently 2 public consultations running:

- Waste Collection – survey is running to collect information with the key points to note being:
 - Potential for textiles to be collected in future; and
 - Residents are being asked if they would be willing to be charged for a garden waste service;

- Gilston Concept Framework – consultation runs from the 24th July to 1st September and details of this are available on the EHC website. A presentation/exhibition on this is being held at the Manor of Groves Hotel this Saturday (5th August), between 10am and 3pm.

In addition, Cllr I Devonshire reported in relation to the Village Fete car parking arrangements this year. Providing good weather, north bound traffic will enter the Moor Place field via Kettle Green Lane and south bound traffic will park at the Barns School field. As a result of this, there should be no Fete traffic through the High Street. Exits will be slightly different but this aspect consider less of an issue.

There was no report from Cllr G McAndrew (HCC) as he was not present but he had given his apologies.

17/130. RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

(i) Financial interests

A resident directed 2 questions to Cllrs, as opposed to the Parish Council, in relation to financial interests following the Clerk declining to include these on the agenda.

The Chairman responded that the Clerk declined these questions as they were not matters requiring a decision by the Parish Council and, therefore, outside the scope and purpose of the meeting.

Those present were reminded that financial interests are dealt with as a standing agenda item at all meetings and that it is an ongoing responsibility for Cllrs to keep their register of interests up to date by advising the Clerk.

(ii) Church Lane

A resident highlighted that it was difficult to get past parked cars in Church Lane following the installation of metal posts on the verge, which the resident considered were illegal.

During the discussion, the following points emerged:

- The owner considers that posts are within the property's boundary and have been installed to protect his land from vehicles mounting the verges;
- It is believed that when planning permission was given there was to be no exit into Church Lane. Whilst there is a fence, there is a dropped kerb in place too and a gate behind the fence;
- Posts risk impeding emergency services;
- The style of the posts pose a personal injury risk; and
- Placing barriers on verges is a complicated area and a resident asked if planning permission was required.

Following the discussion, it was agreed that this matter would be raised with Cllr G McAndrew (HCC) and with EHC's Planning Enforcement.

17/131. PLANNING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4th July 2017 be received and the decisions taken be ratified.

17/132. BURIAL AUTHORITY

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Burial Authority meeting held on 4th July 2017 be received and the decisions taken be ratified.

17/133. PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCIAL STATEMENT

(i) Payment of Accounts

RESOLVED that the accounts, as shown below, be duly authorised for payment.

Cllr B Morris highlighted that the St Andrews Burial Ground was looking much better.

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS - AUGUST 2017

Chq	Payable to	For	Amount
788	C Copper	Cut hedge at Causeway	145.00
789	BA MH Landscapes Ltd	Churchyard maintenance Jan - Jun 2017	1,080.00
790	E.ON	Electricity War Memorial	25.57
791	CPRE	Membership	36.00
Total payments			<u>1,286.57</u>

Cheques will be signed and despatched at the conclusion of the meeting.

(ii) Financial Statement

The financial statement for 2017/18 was received. There were no matters to highlight.

17/134. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

17/135. CLERK'S INFORMATION

The Clerk highlighted that there would be 2 meetings in 2018 that would not be on the 1st Tuesday of the month. These are the meetings in January and December. The revised dates are Tuesday 9th January and Monday 3rd December.

17/136. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 5th September 2017, at 7.30 pm in the Much Hadham Village Hall, Green Room.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:34 pm.