

## **MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday, 23rd May 2023,  
at 8.30pm at Much Hadham Village Hall

**PRESENT:** Cllr B Bird  
Cllr I Hunt (Vice Chair)  
Cllr J Liversage  
Cllr B O'Neill  
Cllr S Smith  
Cllr P Taylor (Chair)  
Cllr K Twort

Plus: Cllr I Devonshire (EHC)  
Cllr G McAndrew (HCC)  
53 members of the public (approx.)

### 1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr K Hamilton and Cllr D McDonald.

### 2. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – 17 MAY 2022**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting held on 17 May 2022 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chair.

### 3. **SHORT REPORT FROM THE PARISH COUNCIL**

The Chair thanked everyone for coming, and especially thanked the representatives of all the clubs/societies/committees/organisations for repeating last year's success with their interesting displays, generating the sharing of experiences and meeting new people.

The Chair confirmed the PC had a full complement of nine councillors, with Bill Bird now representing the hamlets. All councillors remain in situ, uncontested at the May elections.

The Chair listed some of the PC activities over the last year:

- 1) The precept had been kept virtually the same for the last 4 years.
- 2) The adoption of the Neighbourhood Plan and how it had already proved itself eg. design of the almshouse style houses behind the Bull Inn, and preventing further development at Millers View. The Chair congratulated and thanked the Steering Group, led so ably by Ian Hunt, with a round of applause.
- 3) The investigation into replacing the long-term user of the Pavilion since the kindergarten school had left, and Stewart Smith was thanked for organising the installation of a Defibrillator on the outside, together with two training sessions.
- 4) The village bins had recently transferred to EHDC with the exception of those at the Recreation Ground and the Scout Hut.

- 5) The Burial Authority had created an Ashes Memorial Garden at Perry Green Cemetery and the works to extend the existing grounds were ongoing.
- 6) The Chair thanked the volunteers who organised both the Queen's Jubilee street party last summer, and the recent celebration on the Recreation Ground for the King's Coronation. Both had been enormous successes enjoyed by 100s of residents.

The Chair congratulated Cllr Ian Devonshire on his recent year as chair of EHDC and recent re-election to the district council.

Projects in the forthcoming year would include; monitoring the River Ash; encouraging 20mph speed limits where appropriate; working with the Sports Association on improving usage of the recreation ground; and registering more Assets of Community Value identified in the NP. The volunteers who had successfully managed to register the Bull Inn last year were thanked for this endeavour. Any residents who would like to help the councillors in any of these schemes were invited to contact the PC.

#### 4. RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

- 1) A resident asked the Parish Council to consider how best to manage the public parking in the Village Hall Car Park. The problem being that, residents, walkers, school drop offs, visitors to the Bull Inn or other events in the village etc. etc. used the VH car park, which sometimes prevented users of the VH having somewhere to park. The PC agreed to continue to monitor the situation and try to come up with some suitable actions.
- 2) A resident asked what plans there are for EV charging points in the village. Cllr Graham McAndrew explained there was a scheme to spread out EV points in the whole area, and much activity was going on behind the scenes. The VHMC had been consulted on this, and was waiting to hear proposals from HCC regarding costs, maintenance, management and charging costs for the EV points. It was also observed that any EV points in the VH car park would also reduce availability of parking for users.

The chair declared the meeting ended at 8.44pm, and invited everyone to stay and enjoy the refreshments and party atmosphere for as long as they liked.