

## MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Much Hadham Parish Council meeting held on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2018, in the Much Hadham Village Hall, Green Room, at 7:30 pm.

\*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 9 members of the public.

### 18/1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and approved Cllr Mrs M O'Neill.

### 18/2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

### 18/3. NOTIFICATIONS OF URGENT BUSINESS

None.

### 18/4. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chairman reminded those present that if a resident wishes to speak on an item prior to the 'residents' comments' agenda item, raise a hand to alert the Chairman or the Clerk.

In addition, the Chairman highlighted that there would be refreshments before the next meeting in February and everyone is welcome.

Note – announcements actually made prior to the meeting starting.

### 18/5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

Cllr B Morris highlighted a typo in relation to item 17/189(ii) as footpaths referred to should have been 54 and 56. In addition, he stated that:

- 17/191 (ii) Road markings would not be done until after the bad weather; and
- the action items mentioned by him on page 5 were to be included on the report of outstanding matters and resolutions.

Subject to the amendment to 17/189(ii), RESOLVED that the minutes of the last meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017 be accepted as a correct record of the proceedings and be signed by the Chairman.

#### 18/6. REPORTS ON OUTSTANDING MATTERS AND RESOLUTIONS

Report on outstanding matters and resolutions noted. Any items requiring comment are included elsewhere on the agenda.

Cllr B Morris referred to the parking issues by The Bull pub over the Christmas period, requesting that traffic planning be considered as part of the Neighbourhood Plan. It was confirmed that traffic planning is a Herts County Council matter and therefore would not be considered by the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

#### 18/7. MEMBERS' REPORTS

##### (i) Community

###### Sports Association/Pavilion

Cllr K Twort stated that there was nothing to report.

###### Village Hall

Cllr W O'Neill reported that following the last Village Hall Management Committee meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> December, a site meeting was held with two Parish Councillors, to discuss various Village Hall projects and the car park.

Quotes are being sought for the repair work to the fabric of the Village Hall and the expenditure in relation to repairing the extension floor is on the agenda for approval. In terms of the car park, the following points were made:

- proposal that parking at the front of the Hall be marked out to ensure the fire exit is kept clear and parking bays are leased out to residents;
- perimeter of the rear car park be marked to indicate parking spaces to maximise the number of spaces;
- monitoring the use of the rear car park to continue; and
- lighting improvements to be trialled.

The car park proposals were discussed and it was accepted that these were still being worked on.

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

###### Public Rights of Way

Cllr B Morris stated that there was nothing to report.

Cllr I Hunt referred to the 10 year plan for Public Rights of Way produced by Herts County Council following consultation with the public. Following discussion, it was agreed to investigate whether any of the suggestions made in relation to Much Hadham merited any action.

(iii) Highways

Cllr W O'Neill reported on the following matters:

- Thames Water had pumped out the sewerage system over Christmas in the centre of the village due to an accumulation;
- street sign at the ford damaged when river level rose;
- streetlight conversion project is progressing;
- a dangerous tree which fell on the path between The Old School House and the Ford (Footpath 25) has been cleared;
- Church Lane has been patched and temporary lights at the church are working; and
- considering the time of year, roads in the parish are currently in pretty good condition.

Everyone is reminded to use the County Council Highways Fault reporting service whenever a fault is found that needs attention.

Cllr B Morris referred to the Section 106 monies from the Moor Place Park development for surfacing the passing places in Kettle Green Lane, requesting that this be followed up to identify when the work will be done.

(iv) Media

None.

(v) Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr I Hunt reported that work is continuing on completing the remaining tasks. Ken Howlett has been particularly busy drafting sections on Community Assets and the Local Economy.

In relation to the target of a minimum of 54 houses, it was reported that the number of houses with planning permission is 22 which reduces the requirement. The 4 sites still in contention to contribute to the remaining requirement are the Priest's House, Hopleys, the Barn School field and the left side of Moor Place Gate (behind the War Memorial).

In response to a question from Cllr B Morris, it was confirmed that residents on the mailing list are informed when there is a public meeting being held but there has not been one since October 2017.

(vi) Security

Cllr Mrs J Liversage reported that there is a new PCSO in place – Leon de Bruyn – and he will be attending the Parish Council meeting in February.

(vii) Other

Cllr I Hunt reported that the training in relation to the General Data Protection Regulations had been cancelled prior to Christmas due to the snow. The Clerk will now be attending this training in March.

18/8. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR

There was no report from either Cllr I Devonshire (EHC) or Cllr G McAndrew (HCC) as they were not present but each had given their apologies.

18/9. RESIDENTS' COMMENTS

(i) Pedestrian crossing

A resident highlighted that a car had been written off by the Almshouses, raising how busy that section of the High Street is at the beginning and end of the school day. A suggestion was made as to whether a pedestrian crossing could be installed. Agreed that an application should be made, even though the expectation is that it will not be successful, since this will highlight the concern to Highways.

(ii) Dead trees

Two dead trees are at the playing field and Cllr K Twort agreed to investigate.

(iii) Malting Lane to the High Street

It was reported that tree roots are again impacting on the surface of the footpath between Malting Lane and Tower Hill (Footpath 26), making it extremely uneven. This will be followed up.

(iv) Road markings

A resident informed those present that they'd been informed that road markings would not be done until the bad weather is over. When this work is undertaken, a blitz in the hamlets is expected together with Stansted Road by Sidehill House and the Winding Hill / High Street intersection.

(v) Parking at the Village Hall

Cllrs were thanked for progressing discussions in respect of the carpark. Proposals to create parking bays in front of the Village Hall, with an annual rental charge for local residents, will be further investigated.

18/10. FINANCIAL

(i) Payment of Accounts

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

**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS - JANUARY 2018**

Chq	Payable to	For	Amount
826	Ruth Fleetwood	Project Manager (NP)	460.00
827	Much Hadham PCC	Donation for St Andrew's Church bells	1,000.00
828	BA MH Landscapes Ltd	Churchyard maintenance Jul - Dec 2017	1,080.00
829	Double S Flooring Ltd	Floor work at Village Hall	1,804.70
830	MH Village Hall Management Committee	Hall hire PC £180; NP £72	252.00
831	MH Village Hall Management Committee	Building insurance	776.00
<b>Total payments</b>			<b>5,372.70</b>

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

(ii) Financial Statement

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

(iii) Precept 2018/19 and Forward Financial Plan

The Clerk highlighted that the budget for 2018/19, supporting the proposed precept of £39,000, and the forward financial plan is the same as that presented at the last meeting.

The Clerk also stated that East Herts Council had formally written at the end of December to highlight that it is likely that no New Homes Bonus will be paid this year although a final decision has not yet been made. Cllr I Devonshire (EHC) has previously stated that it is likely that a claim system will be introduced to access these funds.

Following discussion, RESOLVED to approve the budget, as presented, for 2018/19 and determine the precept at £39,000.

RESOLVED to approve the forward financial plan.

18/11. PLANNING

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2017 be received and the decisions taken be ratified.

18/12. URGENT BUSINESS

None.

18/13. CLERK'S INFORMATION

None.

18/14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, 6<sup>th</sup> February 2018, at 7.30 pm in the Much Hadham Village Hall, Green Room, with refreshments from 7 pm.

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There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:20 pm.