

MUCH HADHAM PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Much Hadham Parish Council Extraordinary meeting held on Tuesday, 26th March 2019, in the Pavilion, at 7:30 pm.

Cllr Mrs K Chesters	*Cllr W O'Neill
*Cllr I Hunt (Vice Chairman)	Cllr Mrs P Taylor (Chairman)
Cllr Mrs J Liversage	Cllr C Thompson
Cllr D McDonald	*Cllr K Twort
Cllr Mrs M O'Neill	

* denotes present. In the absence of Cllr Mrs P Taylor, Cllr I Hunt chaired the meeting.

In attendance: F Forth, Parish Clerk and no members of the public.

19/51. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and approved from Cllrs Mrs K Chesters, Mrs J Liversage, D McDonald, Mrs M O'Neill, Mrs P Taylor and C Thompson.

19/52. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

None.

19/53. RISK REGISTER

The Clerk highlighted that the prior year risk register had been reviewed and minor updates had been made with no changes to the levels of risk. This register had been circulated prior to the meeting. RESOLVED to approve the Parish Council risk register.

19/54. FINANCIAL – PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Street lighting

Prior to the meeting, the Clerk had circulated a detailed comparison of the last 3 years street lighting bills from Herts County Council (HCC). This demonstrated that the energy cost had risen by 13% due to price increases as the consumption data for the preceding year had been used to calculate the bill. Analysis of the cost of the energy used highlighted that the per unit cost differed significantly between summer and winter months. Questions have been raised with HCC and answers awaited. The following points were made in discussion:

- it is likely that there are no meters to record energy consumption, so the parish takes a share of the total based on the number of lights that it has;
- as there are no meters, it would not be possible to seek an alternative supplier;
- until all the older lights are replaced with more energy efficient lights, and those no longer required disconnected, the energy consumption will continue to be high; and

- although HCC have not yet responded to questions raised, it would be prudent to pay the bill and seek a rebate subsequently if that arises.

MH Sports Association: Pavilion insurance etc

At the 5th March 2019 meeting, the Chair deferred this payment as the amount in question was rather higher than in previous years, and against the background that the Sports Association had secured a reduction in its insurance costs. In addition, a request had been made for the Parish Council to also consider reimbursing the cost of the public liability insurance.

Following discussion, it was agreed to reimburse the Sports Association the same amount as the prior year for buildings and Pavilion contents insurance (£1,077.16), and also to reimburse the cost of the public liability insurance (£504).

It was also highlighted that considering the future arrangements for insurance were part of the remit of the working party looking into the management arrangements between the Parish Council and the Sports Association, as well as the Village Hall.

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

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS - MARCH 2019 (EXTRAORDINARY MEETING)

Chq	Payable to	For	Amount
919	Herts County Council	Street lighting 1/4/18 to 31/3/19	2,795.66
920	MH Sports Association	Pavilion insurance etc	1,581.16
921	Zurich Municipal	Insurance Parish Council (Year 3 of 3)	1,369.31
Total payments			5,746.13

Cheques will be signed and despatched following the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.14 pm.