

HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hormead Parish Council Meeting Thursday 17 November 2016 in the Meads Pavilion at 8pm

PRESENT: Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr Robb Denham (RED); Cllr John Kilby (JK); Cllr Marty Kilby (MK); Cllr Teresa Marks (TM); Cllr Matthew Reeves-Hairs (MRH)
Two members of the public

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

ACTION

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 8pm.

16.141 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: – Cllr Richard White (work)
2. Others: None

16.142 Declarations of Interest and Dispensations

1. **Declarations of Interest:** Cllr Teresa Marks - a DPI as wife of the Clerk in relation to his payments, as stated on the agenda.
2. **Dispensations** (i) It was noted that Cllr Teresa Marks has a dispensation to speak and vote on Council finance business in which she has a pecuniary interest as the wife of the Clerk, as stated on the agenda; (ii) To receive requests for dispensations: NONE
3. **To consider requests for dispensations:** NONE.

16.143 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20 October 2016

There being no requests for amendments to the draft, it was **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 20 October 2016 were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

JD/Clerk

16.144 Police Report: None

16.145 Chairman's Announcements: None

16.146 PLANNING

1. New applications:

3/16/2390/OUT Willow Close: *Outline planning permission for demolition of 27 garages and replacement with 4no 2-bedroom houses with associated external works and car parking.*

There was a full discussion on concerns about the proposed application. Cllr Reeves-Hairs had canvassed the residents of Willow Close and Jubilee Cottages to get opinions and facts about the management of the garages, the number of vehicles currently owned by residents, and parking issues experienced in the area. In summary, the following issues were noted: 1) Through deliberate neglect, the garages have allowed to become derelict by Circle Anglia and their predecessors; therefore, their poor condition cannot be used as a reason for development. 2) It is impossible for residents to find parking space in Willow Close in the evenings and at weekends. The proposed additional houses, together with the loss of some parking at the garages, will exacerbate the problem. At present, 30 Willow Close households have 63 cars between them, plus 12 households at Jubilee Cottages; this proposal will add a further 4 households. The parking spaces available now are woefully below the Vehicle Parking Standards of 1.5 spaces per household and that will be made worse. 3) Parking congestion has prevented emergency vehicles reaching the Close; this danger will be increased. 4) There is virtually no bus service and there are no local shops or work opportunities. Therefore, residents have no alternative to car transportation. 5) There are grave concerns about the safety, effect and practicality of builders' HGVs on the road and junction of Willow Close and Horseshoe Hill over the extended period of the proposed development.

Cllr Reeves-Hairs was thanked for his research and it was agreed to send a strong objection to the application for the reasons discussed, and to support those reasons with as many Local and NPPF Policies as possible. Residents were also to be encouraged to make their own comments to EH Planning because account is taken of the number of responses received.

Clerk

2. Decision Notices

3/15/1689/FUL Steelcraft Works, Hare Street: Demolition of existing buildings. Erection of five detached dwellings with parking and landscaping. **Reconsultation DECISION AWAITED**

3/15/1235/HH Meadowlands, Little Hornead: Raising roof ridge with 3 no dormer windows, two storey rear extension, demolition and replacement of garage **WITHDRAWN**

3/14/1624/CL Hillcrest, Hare Street: Certificate of Lawfulness for use as a dwelling house
DECISION AWAITED

3. Other Planning matters - Including any received too late to be included on the agenda: NONE

16.147

FINANCE

1. Report of the Council's finances for October was received (Appendix A)

Finance Summary from 1 to 31 October	£
Opening bank balance statement 403, 1 October	15,313.63
Plus income 1 to 31 October	0.00
Minus expenditure 1 to 31 October	<u>2,754.34</u>
	12,559.29
Minus previous month's presented cheques	<u>693.20</u>
Balance available to Council at 31 October (cashbook)	11,866.09
Plus unrepresented cheques as at 31 October	<u>2,058.60</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with statement 405, 31 October	<u>13,924.69</u>
Petty cash in hand	50.00

It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the Accounts Statements be accepted.**
An accounts summary is published each month in the Minutes on the website.

Clerk

2. Financial position against budget. The Clerk presented the current position and the projected balance for the year-end. The expenditure of felling two diseased chestnut trees will not now be necessary because they were removed by UK Power Networks' contractor. Therefore, against currently identified income and expenditure, the bank balance at year end is projected to be approximately £6,500 against a budget of £4,100.

3. Payments. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve all the invoices presented for payment:**

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
31/10	Clerk	Salary October	417.60	1441	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
17/11	Lady Haig Poppy	Poppy wreath	39.19	1442	LGA 1972 s137
17/11	Clerk	Mileage etc Oct	25.84	1443	LGA 1972 s111
17/11	Clerk (cash)	Petty cash Oct	10.08	1444	LGA 1972 s111, 114, 140
17/11	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 4/11	260.00	1445	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
17/11	Hare St CC	Roller grant	125.00	1446	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
17/11	E.ON	Electric Aug-Nov	74.10	1447	LGA 1972 s133
Recoverable VAT included: £10.06					

Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

Clerk

4. Transparency Fund grant application. The Clerk confirmed that the application for a grant of £420 had been submitted to HAPTC.

Clerk

16.148

Correspondence

Two items of correspondence were noted as appeared on the agenda:

- East Herts Pre-Submission District Plan 2016 public consultation (16.146.3)
- EHC/BTC: BCANP examiner queries and recommendations (16.152)

Parishioner: emailed photo of an un-sheeted quarry lorry (16.149.2)

Clerk

The Chairman pointed out that there had been several responses to the request in the Newsletter for parishioners' views on whether the Hare Street phone box should be retained or decommissioned. The Clerk said the comments would be collated for assessment by the Council.

Clerk

16.149 Special Interest Matters

- 1. Village Hall:** Cllr Reeves-Hairs gave the following report:
 - Parking issues continue and photos have been sent to Herts Highways. When cones were put out recently, cars simply parked on the opposite side of the road, which was even more dangerous. It's possible the proposed yellow lines could have the same effect.
 - The yellow lines are scheduled to be done by March.
 - £1,000 funding has been received to board-out the committee room.
 - Current weekly bookings have now taken the annual income beyond that of the old hall and without any fundraising.
 - The driveway is being regraded, having not been properly done originally.
 - Solutions to resolve the acoustics problems are being considered.
 - The AGM will be held 24 November at 7.30pm.
- 2. Highways:** A parishioner had emailed a photo of an un-sheeted quarry lorry that is breaching the planning approval conditions. This has been forwarded to Highways Enforcement and they are following it up.
- 3. Footpaths and byways:** Nothing to report
- 4. Website:** Nothing to report.
- 5. Parishioners concerns:** A concern was raised as to whether un-permitted building work was being started at the back of Willow Close; assurances were given by a parishioner present that this was not the case.

MRH

16.150 Meads field and buildings

- 1. Pavilion and general:**
 - It was noted that the SportiveUK cycle group has booked the pavilion for the day, Sunday 12th March. Clerk
 - A full risk assessment needs to be conducted for the pavilion, which may have to include a test for legionella and similar water-borne health risks in the showers, kitchen area and toilets. There should also be an asbestos check and certification. Arrangements to be made by the Clerk. Clerk
- 2. Meads maintenance:**
 - The two diseased chestnut trees have been removed by UK Power Networks' contractor, without cost to the Council. Clerk
 - A risk assessment of the Meads needs to include a tree safety report from a qualified arboriculturalist. It was questioned whether the deeds identify the actual boundary as the river, the suggestion being that it is a few yards west of the river bank. The Clerk to check the deeds and arrange for the report. Clerk
- 3. Play Area:** Updated equipment quotes have been received and a funding application is being made to East Herts for a grant under the Capital Grants scheme. TM/Clerk

16.151 War Memorial Cleaning

The order has been placed with Hugh McAlpine; the cost and grant are included in the budget.

Clerk

16.152 Neighbourhood Plan

The Chairman reported that, in the absence of Cllr Robb Denham, she had been welcomed in attending the BCANP Forum meeting on 15 November to consider acceptance of the examiner's recommended amendments to the draft Plan. The referendum may possibly be held in late January or February. The parish should be leafleted to encourage eligible parishioners to vote, leaflets will probably have to be paid for by the PC and could possibly be delivered in the newsletter once the referendum date is set by East Herts. The draft Plan and the examiner's comments are on the website.

JD/RED

Also, everyone is encouraged to read the Draft District Plan and to consider commenting before the close of the consultation period on 15th December. The Chairman is writing a note for the Newsletter and it will also be on the website.

JD/
Clerk

16.153 Late items and items for future agendas

1. Late items: none
2. Items for future agendas: Report on responses to use of Hare Street phone box
3. Meads Car park: new gate and access
4. Neighbourhood Plan: final report and referendum

At 9.30pm it was RESOLVED to suspend the meeting for public comments

- It was noted that the bonfires which had previously been reported at Owles were no longer alight. There was a report that overhead wires had been burnt.

The meeting was called to order at 9.34pm

16.154 Date of next Meeting

Thursday 15th December, 8pm in the pavilion.

Clerk

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.36pm

Signed..... Dated.....