

# HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the ordinary Hormead Parish Council Meeting Thursday 19 May 2016 in the Meads Pavilion following the Annual Meeting of the Parish at 7.30pm

**PRESENT:** Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr John Kilby (JK); Cllr Marty Kilby (MK);  
Cllr Teresa Marks (TM); Cllr Matthew Reeves-Hairs (MRH); Cllr Richard White (RW)  
Four members of the public

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

**ACTION**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 8.40pm.

**16.065 Apologies for absence**

1. Councillors: Cllr Robb Denham – unwell;
2. Others: none

**16.066 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. Cllr Reeves-Hairs on all Village Hall matters, being Chairman of the VH Committee.
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. **Requests for dispensations:** NONE.

**16.067 To approve Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 April 2016**

No written amendments having been submitted, it was **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on 21 April 2016 were a true and accurate record as drafted.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**JD/Clerk**

**16.068 Police Report:** The Clerk read a resume of Sgt Wallace's report to the Annual Parish Meeting:

"The current strategic policing plan focuses on three main threads namely; 1) Reducing crime and Anti-Social behaviour (ASB); 2) Catching criminals; 3) Keeping people safe. Since 1st April 2016 there has been low reported crime, although there has been a high value theft of lead from the church in Great Hormead. Such offences, classed as heritage crime, are impactful, as the cost of repair or restoration is often disproportionate. Other recorded incidents are, 1 x Fly Tipping, 1 x Criminal Damage and 1 x Hare Coursing, for which the offenders have been summoned to court. On behalf of myself and the team at Buntingford, I extend our thanks for the support of the Parish Council and its residents, and look forward to continued working with you all to overcome the challenges and realise our aspirations."

**16.069 Chairman's Announcements:** None

**16.070 PLANNING**

**1. New applications:**

**3/16/0985/HH Quinta, Hare Street:** Removal of roof, replace with higher roof & eaves. Incl 5 roof dormers to create first floor accommodation **The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS**

**2. Decision Notices**

**3/16/0710/FUL /reconsultation Land off Park Road, Gt Hormead:** Erection of 3 detached houses, associated landscaping and balancing pond and erection of village shop

**3/16/0153/HH & 0154/LBC Timbers, Hare Street:** Demolish rear extension; erect single storey & 1st floor extension; insert gable end window **GRANTED**

**3/16/0113/HH 2 Moorfields, Hare Street:** Conservatory to front of house **GRANTED**

**3/15/1689/FUL Steelcraft Works, Hare Street:** Demolition of existing buildings and removal of hard standing. 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  
**DECISION AWAITED**

**3/15/0993/FUL & AP/16/0009/REF Wild Acre Nursery, Hare Street:** Appeal against planning refusal for 1.5 storey 3 bed roomed dwelling  
**APPEAL DISMISSED**

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

**3/13/0586/FP Stonebury Farm, Hare Street:** Change of use of agricultural land and buildings to open and covered storage – retrospective:  
**WITHDRAWN**

**3. Other Planning matters** - Including any received too late to be included on the agenda:  
**3/16/1062/HH Bradbury Farm, Hare Street:** Single storey extension to garage and relocation of existing oil tank  
**The Parish Council had NO OBJECTIONS**

**16.071 FINANCE**

**1. Report of the Council’s finances for April** was received (Appendix A)

Finance Summary from 1 to 30 April	£
<b>Opening available balance 395, 1 April</b>	<b>4,055.92</b>
Plus income to 30 April	8,250.00
Minus expenditure to 30 April	<u>724.30</u>
<b>Balance available to Council 30 April</b>	<b>11,581.62</b>
Plus unrepresented cheques as at 30 April	<u>465.66</u>
<b>Bank balance reconciled with statement #395, 30 April</b>	<b><u>12,047.28</u></b>

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. Accounts/bank statement reconciliation.** A copy of bank statement 395 was presented to the Council and noted to reconcile with Accounts Appendix A. Cllr Reeves-Hairs, as a non-signatory member, signed the accounts and statement reconciliation.

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

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
12/5	Clerk	Salary April	413.60	1383	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
19/5	Clerk	Travel etc April	41.69	1384	LGA 1972 s111
19/5	Clerk	Petty cash April	26.05	1385	LGA 1972 s111, 114, 140
19/5	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 22/4	260.00	1386	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
19/5	Zurich	Annual insurance	961.96	1387	LGA 1972 s111
19/5	Earthworms	Meads April	640.00	1388	LG(MPA) 1976 s19
19/5	Clerk reimburse	BVB banners	112.79	1389	LGA 1972 s145
19/5	Clerk cash	For QEII event	600.00	1390	LGA 1972 s145
19/5	RC Plumbing	Hot water tank	250.00	1391	LG(MPA) 1976 s19
19/5	Clerk reimburse	CPALC subs	6.00	1392	LGA 1972 s111
19/5	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 20/5	260.00	1393	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
19/5	R White builder	Repair materials	138.00	1394	LG(MPA) 1976 s19
19/5	E.ON	Electric Feb-May	226.35	1395	LGA 1972 s133
<b>Recoverable VAT included £52.58</b>					

Cheques were signed at the end of the meeting.

Clerk

**4. Annual Return 2015/16**

It was noted that the submission date to BDO is 27th June and therefore the audit and governance statement will be approved at the June meeting.

Clerk

**16.072 Correspondence**

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

- J Wyld: Request for help to obtain an OS licence. It was agreed to ask for more information. Clerk
- Parishioner: Concerns about speeding traffic through Hare Street (16.059.4)
- BT: Statement following report given at April Council meeting (16.063)
- EHC: Annual play area inspection – scheduled for the 3 weeks commencing 4 July (16.060.3) Clerk
- The Debdencycle Team: Information - Carver Barracks cycle ride coming through 3 Sept
- Also noted was the information provided by District Cllr Jeff Jones regarding a Community Transport Hoppa-style bus service for Buntingford, the Buntingford CAT, funded by the developers and supported by BTC, EHDC and HCC. It is proposed that a second bus service should serve the 12 surrounding villages where there is either no, or a very limited, bus service. To this end, he was asking Parish Councils to deliver a questionnaire and pre-paid envelope to every house in order to assess what the service should provide. It was agreed to ask the Editor if these could be delivered with the Newsletter. Clerk/JD

**16.073 Special Interest Matters:**

1. **Village Hall:** Cllr Reeves-Hairs. Regarding the crossover for the hall main gate, Highways are in the process of rectifying the drop-kerb issue. In the meantime, the main gate remains out of action except for emergency services and pedestrian access. The main driveway run up does not appear to have been done as per the original plan and needs to be re-graded. MRH

An email had been received that afternoon (also by the Clerk) advising of an informal consultation to consider a Permanent Traffic Regulation Order (PTRO) to prevent any parking on the B1038 in front of the Village Hall and Cleveland Cottage. This in response to concerns raised about reduced lines of sight caused by parked vehicles. Consultation closing date 30 June. To be reported in the newsletter. The VH are taking up the issues. MRH/ Clerk

2. **Highways.** The Clerk reported:

1. **Willow Close/Horseshoe Hill junction: Damaged bank and road surface:** Still nothing done by Highways.
2. **White lines:** Worn away markings at the Worsted Lane/The Street junction and along the B1038 from Hare Street to the parish boundary: Highways have reported back that they have inspected the locations and consider the roads to be safe and no work needed.

3. **Footpaths and byways:** Following a discussion on whether to comment on the Modification Order for a Restricted Byway for Buntingford RB9 to Hare Street Road (deadline 25th May), it was **RESOLVED to write in support of the Modification Order.** Clerk

4. **Website:** The Clerk said that uploading on to the website is now working much easier on the new laptop and there are no problems to report. Clerk

5. **Parishioners concerns:** No other concerns raised. Clerk

**16.074 Meads field and buildings**

1. **The Meads generally**

1. A plumber has repaired the water cylinder and valves and freed the mains stopcock.
2. Cllr John Kilby said he would like to look at repairing the cricket roller and was given a key to the shed. JK
3. No one has replied yet to the pavilion cleaning advert. The Chairman proposed a rota if no one comes forward. Cllr John Kilby said he would look for one. It was suggested trying a cleaning company or to ask Buntingford TC if they could recommend someone. JK/Clerk

The cricket club reported minor flooding or puddling of water outside the shower area and asked for an investigation into whether there was a problem with the shower flooring, the drainage, or whether it was connected to the kitchen. Cllr White and the Clerk had investigated and could not identify any reason for it except for the possibility of people coming out of the shower and leaving puddles that were not drying out for 24/48 hours. The kitchen seemed a very unlikely source, but it was agreed to check it when it will be in continuous use for several hours at the QEII Celebration event in June. RW/Clerk

**2. Meads maintenance**

1. Dog-waste bin, mid-Meads: East Herts are not able to offer a suggestion other than to move it. It was agreed to leave the arrangement as it is for the moment.
2. The damaged danger sign: Cllr White said he would repair it.

RW

**3. Play area:** Funding update: Nothing to report.

TM

**16.075 Neighbourhood Plan**

A final consultation questionnaire has been provided by EHC. Documents supporting the BCANP can be viewed at the BTC offices, or copies are held by Cllrs Robb and Jayne Denham. Notes covering the main points of the EHAPTC meeting at Wallfields on 5th May were circulated to councillors. See Appendix 1 at the end of these Minutes.

**16.076 QEII 90th Birthday celebration, 11th June**

- The BBQ and trestle tables collection – Cllr White to arrange collection.
- Agreed to advertise in the Newsletter for help on the day and for raffle prizes, cakes, etc
- Check with Gary for running the bar
- Shopping list to be sorted
- The Commemorative medals will hopefully be here on time
- Start time 4pm; agreed to meet at around 11am to set up. Cllr M Kilby apologised that she may be away, but will make a cake.

RW

ALL

CD

JD

Clerk

ALL

**16.077 Broadband.** BT wrote a report following Andrew Campling’s presentation at the April Parish Council meeting. This was circulated to councillors and for information is included as Appendix 2 at the end of these Minutes.

**16.078 Late items and items for future agendas**

- Meads Car park: new gate and access
- War Memorial cleaning (IMI Memorial Cleaning Service or similar)

RW/Clerk

Clerk

At 10.05pm it was **RESOLVED to suspend standing orders for public comments**

- A parishioner questioned what was happening with the Hillcrest planning application that has been awaiting a decision since 2014. The Parish Council has no knowledge other than that published by East Herts.

***The Meeting was resumed at 10.06pm***

**16.079 Dates of next Meetings:**

The Clerk said he was not available on 16th June and asked for an alternative date. The 15th was a possibility at the moment. Councillors to advise an alternative once diaries have been checked.

Clerk/ALL

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 10.10pm

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

***Appendices 1 and 2 are included below for information***

**APPENDIX 1 Agenda item 16.075**

**Notes of EHAPTC meeting at Wallfields, 5th May 2016**

Only item on the agenda was the move to do away with the classification of villages and the use of a defined village boundary.

Almost all were against this change on the grounds that the village boundary is felt to give villages some protection against aggressive over development outside of that boundary. At the moment, because there is no 5 year supply of land, developers can claim that current policies are not valid and the village boundary is of no value but once the Draft Plan has been published the village boundary will afford some protection.

Many delegates complained that their Neighbourhood Plans would need to be changed significantly as they were built around the village boundary.

It was clear that the Village Hierarchy approach was even more unpopular so it looks like the village boundary and the village classification are going to be abandoned.

CLlr P Riddle, Widford Parish Council  
8 May 2016

**APPENDIX 2 Agenda item 16.077**

**BT Report following April Hormead Parish Council meeting**

Following your Hormead Parish Council meeting last Thursday which Andrew Campling attended, I am writing to you following an agreement that you would welcome a written update that you could include for the minutes, as well as to include in your parish newsletter.

*BT is in partnership with Hertfordshire County Council (Connected Counties) to deploy fibre broadband infrastructure to rural communities across Hertfordshire. To date over 92% of Hertfordshire premises have access to superfast broadband (download speeds of 24Mbps or more). By the end of the deployment, this will rise to 97% coverage.*

*Connected Counties plan is to work in partnership with Openreach, to deliver fibre broadband to Hormead no later than the end of September 2017 as part of its Contract 2 (Superfast Extension Programme [SEP]). Openreach will carry out a site a survey in early 2017 to confirm its plans to Connected Counties, and determine where a new cabinet connecting existing copper lines with new fibre optic cable, will be located.*

*The infrastructure will be deployed at no cost to residents, and with minimum disruption using existing ducts and overhead poles where appropriate.*

*On completion of the work residents will be able to buy fibre broadband services from a variety of Communications Providers both local and national brands such as Talk Talk, Sky, BT, Plus Net. A wide range of choice, competition and service offerings are available including online entertainment, and sport packages.*

*Residents may wish to keep up to date with progress for the village and when it will be: getting fibre broadband. In the first instance, please view the following URL  
<http://www.connectedcounties.org/check-availability> or Openreach where and when checker site  
<http://www.homeandwork.openreach.co.uk/OurNetwork/Superfast.aspx>*

Do feel free to call me if you need any further information.

**Giles Ellerton**

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