

HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hormead Parish Council Meeting
Thursday 15 June 2017 in the Meads Pavilion at 8pm

PRESENT: Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr R Denham (RED); Cllr Teresa Marks (TM); Cllr Matthew Reeves-Hairs (MRH); Cllr Richard White (RW)

Nine members of the public and Bill Bampton of Pelham Structures Ltd

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

ACTION

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

17.078 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: Cllr John Kilby, Cllr Marty Kilby: away
2. Others: Rev Kate Peacock, PC Dave Miller if cannot get to the meeting on time.

17.079 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 Matthew Reeves-Hairs – as Chairman of the Village Hall Committee (it was agreed to add this as a standing item 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.

17.080 Minutes of the Meetings held in May 2017

1. It was **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on 18 May were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.
2. **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18 May were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.
3. The **draft Minutes of the 2017 Annual Meeting of the Parish** on 11 May were received and copies made available to members of the public; to be approved by electors present at the Annual Meeting of the Parish in May 2018.

JD/Clerk

JD/Clerk

Clerk

17.081 Police Report. None

17.082 Chairman's announcements: The Chairman said that she had reported finding balloons and laughing gas cylinders along with beer cans and possibly evidence of other drug use on the Meads. This had been reported to Sgt Wallace with a request that the police look in and check in the evenings.

17.083 PLANNING

1. New applications: None

2. Decision Notices

3/17/0870/HH Bradbury Farm: Erection of an annexe building. *DECISION AWAITED*

3/17/0739/HH White Ash, Lt Hormead: Remove 1st floor lean-to roof; form gable end. Demolish single storey rear buildings and replace with two & single storey extension. Clad existing retained building. Replacement porch. New entrance driveway and crossover. *GRANTED*

3/17/0694/HH Meadowlands, Lt Hormead: Rear extension and loft conversion with raised roof for 1st floor accommodation. *DECISION AWAITED*

3/17/0556/FUL Land at Layston Farm and Heatherdown, Hare Street: Build 9 residential units.
Application WITHDRAWN. Revised plan to be submitted (see 17.083.3.1 below)

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:

1. Mr Bill Bampton of Pelham Structures Ltd requested to make a new presentation for proposed changes to the proposed development at Layston Farm/Heatherdown site. It was

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RESOLVED to permit this, but within a 10-minute time-frame to keep the meeting in order.

Mr Bill Bampton said a new application had not yet been submitted to EHC, but he had taken into account comments and objections raised at the April Parish Council meeting which he was now presenting as a revised proposal.

- It has been agreed with Highways that the footway on the B1368 be increased to a width of 1.8m, and on the B1038, to 1.5m. Accordingly, the houses have been set further back.
- The present crash barrier was looked at but considered unnecessary.
- A different access location was considered but was deemed to be not entirely practical.
- The issue of possible hydrocarbon contamination of the land would be primarily dealt with by treating the area with bacteria that neutralise the hydrocarbons rather than physically removing tons of soil from the site.
- It was considered that Heatherdown could be demolished and replaced with a new build, which would improve the sight lines.
- It cannot be guaranteed at this stage that the site would be connected to the mains sewers, but there is a 99% certainty that it would.

At 8.20pm it was **RESOLVED to suspend the meeting to allow public comments and questions to Mr Bampton.**

Q. You said the present crash barrier was considered unnecessary. Are you not aware that since you were last here, a car coming down the B1038 from Buntingford went straight across the B1368 and into the crash barrier? Even allowing for the new proposal to set the houses further back – which is welcome – that vehicle would still have ended up in the house.

A. *That will be looked at.*

Q. Couldn't the proposal to build houses directly opposite the B1038 be scrapped, and couldn't the access to the site be considered to be located there instead?

A. *It would be too dangerous to create what would effectively be a crossroads, especially for unfamiliar vehicles coming down the hill.*

Q. What about ground levels? The plans appear to show a level site, which it is not.

A. *The site is not being levelled; the elevation does not show the 1m difference across the site. Ground levels will be checked before making the new submission.*

Q. What are the proposed foundations? There will be severe water run-off down the hill from the B1038. There is the real danger that water will be diverted towards Hare Street Cottage, which has suffered from flooding in the past.

A. *That will be checked.*

Q. Will deep strip foundations be used to help address the potential for flooding?

A. *Yes.*

Q. A precedent has been set for the development of brownfield sites – are there not sites in the village more suitable for development? Also, Plots 1 and 2 are not in keeping with the village.

A. *Plots 1 and 2 are in keeping.*

Q. This looks like Phase 1 of a development with a future Phase 2 to the east.

A. *No, there is no phase 2 and the land to the east is part of the flood plain.*

Q. The eastern side of the plot is definitely not on the flood plain. Will you ask the owner if he will put forward a proposal for the full plot?

A. *There is no known plan beyond the present proposal.*

Q. Will you speak to the owner to see if access can be moved to the B1038?

A. *Highways have no issue with the currently proposed access, but the question will be asked.*

Q. Will you remove Plots 1 and 2 from the proposal?

A. *No*

Q. In view of the many concerns raised about traffic speed through the village, will you ask Highways for traffic calming measures, ie SIDs, to be incorporated into any planning consent?

A. *Yes, and that is a possibility*

Q. Did anyone take up the option on the site?

A. *No, and all other options have now lapsed.*

Mr Bampton left the meeting at 8.45pm. A discussion continued on the answers given to questions raised.

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The Meeting was called to order and resumed at 9pm

2. Other: In respect of 3/17/1029/LBC Hornead Cottage, the Clerk reported that neither East Herts Planning nor EH Conservation had been able to give a definitive answer for the rules governing the restoration of fire damaged listed buildings; each case is taken on its merits.

17.084 FINANCE

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

Finance Summary from 1 to 31 May:

	£
Opening bank balance statement 1 May	14,005.86
Plus income 1 to 31 May	22.50
Minus expenditure 1 to 31 May	<u>2,887.29</u>
	11,141.07
Minus presented March & April cheques	<u>937.85</u>
	10,203.22
Plus unpresented May cheques 1494, 1501	<u>518.18</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with statement at 31 May	10,721.40
Minus total April and May unpresented cheques 1488, 1494, 1501	<u>539.18</u>
Balance available to Council at 31 May (cashbook)	<u>10,182.22</u>
Petty cash in hand	<u>50.00</u>

Balance available to Council at 31 May (cashbook)

Accounts/bank statement reconciliation. A copy of the bank statement was noted to reconcile with Accounts Appendix A.

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. Payments. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to approve all the invoices presented for payment: (Appendices B1 and B2)**

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
31/5	Clerk	Salary May	450.98	1501	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
15/6	Clerk	Mileage etc May	29.96	1502	LGA 1972 s111
15/6	Clerk (cash)	Petty cash April	17.09	1503	LGA 1972 ss111, 114,140
15/6	T Fuller Arborist	Tree work	834.00	1504	OSA 1906 s10(b)
15/6	Clerk reimburse	Printer ink	16.00	1505	LGA 1972 s111
15/6	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 16/6	260.00	1506	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
15/6	Earthworms	Meads June	845.00	1507	LGA(MP)A 1976 s19
15/6	A Viragh	Pavilion cleaning	26.00	1508	LGA 1972 s111, s133
Recoverable VAT included: £139.00					

Cheques were signed after the meeting.

Clerk

3. Transparency Fund Grant 2017/18. It was noted that the Clerk, through HAPTC, had applied for a Transparency Fund Grant for £419.76 to cover the extra admin costs that will be incurred during the year by the Clerk complying with the Transparency Code regulations.

Clerk

17.085 Correspondence

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

- To East Herts Planning: request for more information on listed building rebuild policy
- To HAPTC: application for 2017/18 Transparency Fund Grant
- Parishioner: request as to ownership and status of car park behind Fayland Cottages
- Parishioner: re British Heart Foundation fundraising
- Parishioner: Phone request for who to complain to about Anstey Quarry un-sheeted lorries
- HAPTC: Invite to Chairman’s Afternoon Tea; speakers on Fraud and Legislation updates
- HAPTC: LAIS 1400 Precept Data 2017-18 - main party election manifesto commitments
- HCC Rights of Way: Request for evidence re application for Definitive Map amendment

17.086 Special Interest Matters

1. Village Hall. Cllr Reeves-Hairs reported:

- The Fire Policy has been signed off by the Committee and all outstanding issues resolved.

MRH

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- The issue with the Zumba contract is being sorted out.
 - The recent problem with a lot of cars parked along the road had nothing to do with the hirer of the Hall that evening.
 - As yet, no date has been set for the yellow lining to be done.
- 2. Highways**
- The new entrance on to the B1038 by RATS has been opened up – the Clerk to check again with Planning Enforcement. Clerk
- 3. Rights of Way - footpaths and byways**
- (i) FP21 un-reinstated status is being dealt with by the PROW Officer.
 - (ii) Glebe Barn FP18 obstruction: Confirmation of status awaited from the Definitive Map team as some of the fencing could be over the DM path line.
 - (iii) FP13 (i) not reinstated across field and (ii) dangerous steps with no handrail; possibility of P3 funding if PC apply. Clerk
 - (iv) The application to add to the Definitive Map footpath from the B1368 south of Hare Street to Buntingford Bridleway 23 and the request for any evidence, was duly noted, as was the 10th July deadline. ALL
- 4. Parishioners concerns and other matters**
1. The ownership and public status of Fayland carpark was raised by a parishioner. It is confirmed that Aldwyck Housing Group own all the land on which the car park is situated and it is therefore private property and only for the use of Aldwyck residents and their visitors. The Clerk advised the parishioner to take up any issues direct with Aldwyck. Clerk
 2. A parishioner's British Heart Foundation fundraising initiative was noted Clerk
 3. A parishioner who complained about Anstey Quarry un-sheeted lorries was referred by the Clerk to the Highways Enforcement Officer, Bill Tilley. Clerk
- 17.087 Meads field and buildings**
1. **Field: Tree safety update**
The work has now been completed except for the chestnut tree stumps that have still to be ground out. Hopefully this can be done before the Hoedown so there is no trip hazard. Clerk
 2. **Pavilion**
Cllr Reeves-Hairs agreed to undertake the PAT (portable appliance) testing on the kitchen equipment MRH
 3. **Shower room ceiling**
Cllr Richard White said the work is in hand. RW/Clerk
 4. **Hoedown, 24th June**
Cllr Reeves-Hairs agreed to undertake the risk assessment for the Parish Council's provision of the facility, and to obtain copies of the event providers' public liability, H&S and Food Hygiene certificates as appropriate. MRH

Hirer's Liability cover. Zurich recommended that private Hirer's Liability cover be added to the Council's insurance policy; this would give cover for all private hires (ie, events not open to the general public) under the Council's public liability. Cost approximately £25. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to add Hirer's Liability to the Council's insurance policy.** Clerk
- Other:** Cllr Teresa Marks noted that requests had been received that a zip wire be installed at the play area. The feasibility and cost of this was being investigated by Broadmead Leisure. TM
- 17.088 Neighbourhood Plan Team**
It was **RESOLVED that Cllr Jayne Denham and Cllr Robb Denham be appointed as the Parish Council's representatives for the ensuing year.** JD/RED
- 17.089 Late items and items for future agendas**
1. Late items: None received
 2. Items for future agendas:
 - Audit arrangements for 2017/18 onwards to be reviewed at the September PC meeting. Clerk
 - Consider bidding for road safety funding from the Police Commissioner/Herts Road Safety Partnership (Autumn onwards). Clerk/ALL

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Suspension of meeting for public comments

In view of the public participation under agenda item 17.083.3, it was agreed to forego any further public comments.

17.090 Date of next Meeting

Thursday 20 July at 8pm in the pavilion

JD/Clerk

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.50pm

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

DRAFT