

HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hormead Parish Council Meeting Thursday 22 March 2018 in the Meads Pavilion at 8pm

PRESENT: Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr Robb Denham (RED); Cllr Teresa Marks (TM);
Cllr Matthew Reeves-Hairs (MRH); Cllr Richard White (RW)
Seven members of the public, including Michael Young (Hundred Parishes Society)

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

ACTION

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

18.029 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: Cllr Marty Kilby (unwell), Cllr John Kilby (business)
2. Other apologies: None

18.030 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: Cllrs Jayne and Robb Denham in respect of planning application 3/18/0428/HH, being next-door neighbours.
3. **To consider requests for dispensations.** It was unanimously **RESOLVED to grant a dispensation until the next election to Cllrs Jayne and Robb Denham to speak and vote on this application, and any variation or appeal for the same address.** The Clerk signed the Dispensation.

Clerk

18.031 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 February 2018

It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15 February were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

JD/Clerk

18.032 Police Report

PC David Miller submitted a report that was read by the Chairman:

No crime was reported in the parish between 15 February and 15 March (compared with 4 reported crimes in the same period last year). However, there was a warning that over the last month or so, there have been a number of daytime house burglaries across East Herts and the police advice is for residents to secure their premises when they leave.

Hare coursing has quietened down following the arrest of three men in February. However, high visibility patrols are continuing in hot-spot areas.

18.033 Chairman's announcements: None. However, the Chairman opened up the meeting for Michael Young to present an overview of the work of the Hundred Parishes Society (HPS).

Mr Young gave a brief but interesting and enthusiastic report. Launched in 2014, the HPS is a registered charity that is run by volunteers. It covers 104 parishes in an area embracing parts of Hertfordshire, Essex and Suffolk that contains the richest vestiges of the cultural heritage of England. This area contains 40% more listed buildings (6,700) than any other part of the country or National Park, and Hormead parish has some particularly fine examples.

The HPS endeavours to raise awareness of this heritage and has a website with photographs and potted history of each parish. A guide book is currently in production. Membership stands at about 100, comprising 20 parishes and 80 individuals. The Society is just solvent, but more members would be most welcome.

The Chairman thanked Mr Young for his report.

18.034 PLANNING

1. New applications

3/18/0428/HH 1 New Cottages, Hare Street: Single storey rear extension.

Following a discussion, a proposal of no objections was made, but failed for want of a second.

Following a new seconded proposal, by a vote of 3:1 with 1 abstention, it was then **RESOLVED to**

object for the following reasons: 1) It is immediately adjacent to Worsted Lane and its junction with the B1368, a dangerous junction where parked vehicles impede the sight lines of drivers exiting on to the main road. Concerns were expressed that this proposal could exacerbate the problem. 2) It would negatively impact the amenity of the residents of other cottages in the row. 3) It could set a precedent for further extensions to the rear of these very old cottages, which have already been extended to their reasonable limit. Reference to the applicable planning policies to be included with the comments.

Clerk

3/18/0349/OUT High Trees, Gt Hormead: Outline permission for demolition of a 4-bedroom dwelling and detached garage and erection of four 4-bedroom dwellings - all matters reserved. Comments received by the Parish Council from parishioners were read out, and further comments were made by members of the public present. Following a discussion it was unanimously **RESOLVED to object for the following reasons:** 1) It represents an over development of the site. One house is being demolished and being replaced by four houses almost certainly of a different style. 2) The outline gives no indication of the height that the new houses might be, but on rising ground the negative amenity impact on neighbouring properties could be significant. 3) It is inappropriate for the area. 4) It is not identified in the adopted Buntingford Community Area Neighbourhood Plan (BCANP). 5) By being inappropriate for its location, by adversely impacting the landscape, and by failing to meet the housing needs of the area, it does not meet the Housing Development Objectives established by the adopted BCANP. 6) There is insufficient space for service vehicles to turn within the site and therefore bins etc would have to be left beside the B1038; the number of bins involved could not be safely accommodated at that roadside location. 7) The Parish Council's opinion is that there is insufficient parking space to accommodate the cars that would in all probability be owned by occupiers of the proposed housing. There are already parking issues on the B1038 immediately outside the property and further street parking would be wholly inappropriate. Double-yellow lines have been agreed for the opposite side of the road. 9) The B1038 already has six points of ingress/egress from nearby properties and is very busy at school times.

If permission was granted, the Parish Council should request that a conditional Section 106 agreement be imposed that would be used for the benefit the community.

Clerk

3/18/0305/HH White Ash, Lt Hormead: Replacement cesspit & treatment plant. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to make no objections.**

Clerk

2. Decision Notices (for information only)

3/18/0169/FUL Land adj to The Orchard, Hall Lane: Demolish existing stable block and construct a detached two-storey dwelling. *DECISION AWAITED*

3/17/2754/REM Land between Well House and Rosemary Cottage. Approval of reserved matters following outline approval of 3/17/0028/OUT. *DECISION AWAITED*

3/17/2701/FUL Land adj to Gelders, Conduit Lane: Demolition of a group of former pig farm buildings and construction of a new detached dwelling. *REFUSED*

3/17/2497/FUL Stonebury Farm. Change of use from agricultural land & building to open storage of timber & logs and conversion to woodchip/biomass with storage. **Noted 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:

1. & 2. Gt Hormead Conservation Area Appraisal comments: Following comments made at the public meeting on 8th March, it was agreed to ask for parts of Hare Street and Little Hormead to be designated as a Conservation Area, and possibly the allotments site since there is evidence of allotments being in existence in the 1870's. The Clerk asked for the evidence to be sent to him.

Clerk

3. Anstey Quarry Application to extend licence: The Clerk reported that he had received a letter the previous day from the Office of the Traffic Commissioner stating that the Quarry's application has been REFUSED on the grounds that Sections 18 of the Goods Vehicles (Licensing of Operators) Act 1995 had not been fulfilled.

4. HCC Waste Local Plan Initial Consultation: A response was not considered.

5. Memorial to WWII USAF pilot, Andersons Lane: It was agreed that the Clerk should apply for this to be registered as a listed monument. Cllr Reeves-Hairs agreed to take some photographs.

Clerk/
MRH

18.035 FINANCE

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

Finance Summary from 1 to 28 February:	£
Opening bank balance statement 1 February	10,354.09
Plus income 1 to 28 February	650.00
Minus expenditure 1 to 28 February	<u>1,244.30</u>
	9,759.79
Minus presented January cheques 1566,1567	<u>613.90</u>
Balance available to Council at 28 February (cashbook)	9,145.89
Plus un-presented February cheques 1575	<u>468.90</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with statement at 28 February	9,614.79
Petty cash in hand	<u>50.00</u>

Accounts/bank statement reconciliation. It was noted that the Accounts sheet (Appendix A) and bank statement reconciled. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the Accounts Statement.**

2. Verification of Accounts and Bank Statement. Cllr Reeves-Hairs, as a non-signatory member, signed the accounts sheet and bank statement reconciliation.

MRH/
Clerk

An accounts summary is published each month in the Minutes on the website.

Clerk

3. Performance to date against 2017/18 budget

The Clerk presented the actual financial position at 28 February against the total budget. Expenditure to date is £20,417 net against £23,602 budgetted. Income to date is £23,637 against £22,565 budgetted. The projected balance at year-end, excluding the 2017/18 VAT reclaim of approximately £1,150, is £6,062 against £5,922 budget. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the report as presented.** An itemised budget report as at 31 January appears on the website.

Clerk

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

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power		
28/2	Clerk	Salary February	468.90	1575	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41	Salary January	468.9
3/3	EHDC	Dog bin contact	193.73	1576	OSA 1906 s10(b)		
3/3	E.ON	Electric Nov-Feb	80.33	1577	LGA 1972 s133		
22/3	Clerk	Expenses Feb	51.69	1578	LGA 1972 s111		
22/3	Clerk (cash)	Petty cash Jan	9.56	1579	LGA 1972 ss111, 114,140		
22/3	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 26/1	260.00	1580	OSA 1906 s9 & s10		
22/3	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 26/1	260.00	1581	OSA 1906 s9 & s10		
22/3	Clerk reimburse	Printer ink	123.06	1582	LGA 1972 s111		
22/3	Style Cymru	Website Mar-Sep	55.00	1583	LGA 1972 s111		
Recoverable VAT included:			£ 56.63				

Cheques were signed after the meeting.

Clerk

18.036 General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), to be enacted 25 May 2018

Still awaiting DPO Ltd to provide service agreement contract for signing.

Clerk

18.037 Correspondence (for information)

EHC: Conservation Area Appraisal plans, notices and consultation document (18.034.3.1)

HAPTC/NALC: GDPR toolkit (18.036)

HCC: Locality Budget grant application (18.040.2)

HCC: PRow Officer's update (18.038.3.1)

Litter picker: re new waste bin key for play area

Parishioner: re planning application (18.034.1)

C Cllr J Jones: re Speed Indicator Devices, speed and repeater signs (18.038.2.2)

HCC: Determined Schools Admission Arrangements for 2019/20

18.038 Special Interest Matters

1. Village Hall - Cllr Reeves-Hairs:

- The grant has been received for acoustic improvements.
- Sales have been very good for the Murder Mystery night on 21st April.
- The heating problem is to be resolved.
- The annual fire alarm check revealed incorrect installation/wiring problems – these will be resolved.

2. Highways

1. Joint parish plans to for weight restriction on the B1368: No further update. A comprehensive log of vehicle movements was provided by a parishioner. **Clerk**
2. Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) for Hare Street, and state of current speed signage: The Clerk reported that he had written to District Cllr Jeff Jones on both matters and was awaiting a reply. The Clerk also provided DriveSafe information and application forms from the Police & Crime Commissioner. **Clerk/ALL**
3. TRO11398 was noted: Notice of temporary closure of B1038 from Hare Street to Buntingford at an unspecified date after 9th April 2018. TRO in force for 18 months. **Clerk**

3. Public Rights of Way - footpaths and byways

1. The PRoW (Public Rights of Way) Countryside Officer's January report was received and noted. A copy is on the PC website. **Clerk**
Following concerns raised by a parishioner regarding the posting of a notice on FP12 where it meets the B1368, the Clerk also reported on his correspondence with the PRoW Officer regarding its status. From the B1368, FP12 runs eastwards across the river, where it meets FP16 which then runs north to Worsted Lane. (i) The PRoW officer will require the land owner to reinstate FP12 across the ploughed field. (ii) The land owner has made the requisite register of deposits. However, a site inspection does not reveal any manure deposits on the recorded line of FP12 (or FP16). The PROW believes deposits have been made on a permissive path line which, although it may be the footpath line commonly used, has rights that are purely at the land owner's discretion and are therefore outside PRoW powers. It has been confirmed that the public notice in question does not indicate any intention to modify the status or line of FP12. **Clerk**

4. Parishioners' concerns and other matters:

1. Allotments: Tenants' statements were handed to the Clerk, with an undertaking to provide further historical evidence of the allotments' existence since the 1870's. **Clerk**

18.039 Meads field and buildings

1. **Pavilion: Shower room ceiling:** Work is in hand. It was noted that E.ON are changing their rates and charge basis from April. When applied to the last bill, the effect would be a small saving. **RW Clerk**
2. **Gate Lock:** There is a new combination lock (with a new number) – the old lock being stolen.
3. **A handyman** for various jobs: Cllr Richard White said he would refurbish the Meads notice board. **RW/Clerk**

18.040 Royal Wedding Tea Party, 19th May

1. The Chairman and Cllr White are looking on Tuesday at a marquee that is for sale. **JD/RW**
2. It was noted that the £500 Locality grant has been received from Cllr Jeff Jones.

18.041 Late items and items for future agendas

1. Late items: None
2. Items for future agendas:
 - To consider new pavilion fire extinguishers and Fire RA **Clerk**
 - New play area equipment/zip wire **Clerk/TM**
 - Battle's Over – National tribute, with beacons, 11th November (with Cllr John Kilby) **JK**

Suspension of meeting for public comments

At 9.45pm it was unanimously **RESOLVED to suspend the meeting for public comments.**

- Comments were received asserting that FP12 had been improperly blocked by the land owner, contrary to years of common use. The Clerk pointed out that, as reported at

agenda item 18.038.3.1, the commonly used FP line from Worsted Lane on the west side west of the river is not the recorded FP line (which is actually FP16 and which is on the east side of the river).

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 9.50pm

18.042 Date of next Meeting

1. Thursday 19th April 2018 at 8pm in the Meads Pavilion.
2. The date of the Annual Meeting of the Parish will be considered at the April meeting.

**Clerk/JD
Clerk**

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.55pm

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