

# HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Hormead Parish Council Meeting Thursday 21 March 2019 in the Meads Pavilion at 8pm

\*Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD)  
Cllr Robb Denham (RED)  
\*Cllr Kevin Glogner (KG)  
\*Cllr Andrew Hazell (AH)

\*Cllr John Kilby (JK)  
\*Cllr Teresa Marks (TM)  
\*Cllr Richard White (RW)

\* Denotes present

Three members of the public, PC David Miller

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

**ACTION**

The Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 8pm

**19.027 Apologies for absence.** The following councillor apologies were accepted:

1. Councillors: Cllr Robb Denham (unwell);
2. Other apologies: County Cllr Jeff Jones

**19.028 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 Kevin Glogner: a DPI re agenda item 19.034.4 where his company (Landscape Concept Ltd) is receiving a payment.

**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.

**19.029 To approve and sign Minutes**

**Ordinary Parish Council Meeting, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019:** It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> February 2019 be taken as read and were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**JD/Clerk**

**19.030 Chairman's Announcements: None**

**19.031 Police Crime Report for the Parish**

The report from mid-February 2019 to mid-March 2019 was given by PC David Miller.

Calls to police and crimes recorded:

4 calls were made, and 4 crimes recorded. In the same period last year, 3 calls were made, and 1 crime was recorded:

The crimes were 2 x theft, involving plant from Hare Street and CCTV from the Meads (closed with no further lines of enquiry); 2 x public order offences involving dog owners.

Still a very low incidence in the parish.

No reports of hare coursing in the parish, although an incident at Hunsdon aerodrome has secured a conviction.

Fly tipping is becoming a major problem in the area, with costs of over £10k per incident being incurred by land owners for the clear-up. Four prosecutions have been secured by EHC.

The Chairman thanked PC Miller for attending and he left the meeting at 8.10pm.

**19.032 District and County Councillors' reports:** None received

**19.033 PLANNING**

### **1. New applications**

**3/19/0265/FUL The Shop & Petrol Station, Hare Street:** Erect 2 dwellings

It was **RESOLVED to make an objection on the following grounds:**

1. It is a gross deviation from the originally approved and excellent outline scheme. The latest proposed changes are totally out of character with the existing street scene; for example, there are currently no street-facing gables in the area. VILL2, V. (a), (b) (c). The proposal does not meet the criteria established in the 2018 District Plan, 17.1 and 17.2

**Clerk**

2. The proposal negatively impacts the amenity of neighbouring properties. Policies VILL2, V. (g), DES 4.1 (c).
3. The scheme fails to meet Policies HOU1 I. & II. and DES 4.1 in that it is appropriate to local character and needs.
4. It does not provide adequate parking which will inevitably impact the already unacceptable level of street parking. It is obvious from the internal plans that the option of easy future loft conversion is included, which would further increase the number of parking spaces required. The Parish Council has previously received written appeals for parking improvements from visitors to local relatives. There have also been incidents of malicious acts to parked cars, believed to have been caused by frustrated vehicle owners. All proposed further changes must not exacerbate an already difficult parking problem at this location. Policy TRA3.
5. There are also serious concerns that the visibility splays from adjacent properties are severely compromised and that these have not been addressed by Highways in its consultee capacity. The front wall height specified by Highways is the same as proposed hedging; this is an anomaly that would lead to further visibility reduction in time. The drawings showing trees with a height of some 10 feet are also misleading. Policy TRA2.
6. The application is misleading in stating that work has not commenced. In fact, the old house was demolished, site contamination remediation undertaken, and the site has been levelled.

**3/19/0456/HH Yeznaby, Horseshoe Hill:** Convert garage into gym with roof lights

It was **RESOLVED to make an objection on the following grounds:**

The two windows as proposed on the rear elevation are too close to the neighbouring property and due to the elevations and rising land towards that property, they would unduly compromise its privacy. This contravenes the East Herts District Plan 2018, 14.12.2 which states, "... development proposals should be sensitively designed to ensure that they would not have an unacceptable impact upon the amenities of the occupiers of ... any neighbouring dwellings."

Clerk

**2. Decision Notices** (for information only)

- 3/19/0199/LBC Shangles, Hare Street:** Retile part roof with Welsh slate. AWAITED
- 3/19/0043/HH Box Tree Cottage:** Detached garage, external staircase & room over **REFUSED**
- 3/18/2802/ARPN Bury Farm House:** Convert barn into 5 dwellings. **REFUSED**
- 3/19/0161/FUL & /0162/LBC Hormead Cottage:** Reconstruct three chimneys. AWAITED
- 3/18/0349/OUT High Trees, APPEALED 18/00140/REFUSE** APPEAL DECISION AWAITED
- 3/14/1624/CL Hillcrest:** *Certificate of Lawfulness for use as a dwelling.* DECISION AWAITED

**3. Other Planning matters** - Including any received too late to be included on the agenda:

1. No late planning applications.
2. Following a parishioner's enquiry via Buntingford Town Council, it was confirmed that the Parish Council has limited powers to influence EHC planning decisions.
3. Rural Strategy: It was agreed to take no action in supporting Rural Services Network to develop a Rural Strategy since it would be unlikely to influence future government policies.

**19.034 FINANCE**

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

Finance Summary from 1 to 28 February:	£
<b>Opening bank balance statement 1 February</b>	<b>14,332.99</b>
Plus income	49.00
Minus expenditure	<u>1,188.73</u>
	13,193.26
Minus presented prev months' cheques 1686, 1687	<u>508.83</u>
<b>Balance available to Council at 31 January (cashbook balance)</b>	<b>12,684.43</b>
Plus unrepresented February cheques 1690, 1691, 1694	<u>1,028.32</u>
<b>Bank balance reconciled with statement at 28 February</b>	<b><u>13,713.15</u></b>
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.**

Clerk

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

KG/Clerk

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

**3. Budget vs performance to 28 February and year-end forecast**

The Clerk presented an itemised performance report against the budget. Against the anticipated year-end bank balance of £8,367, the projected balance stands at £10,271 (exclusive of the anticipated VAT reclaim of £1,372) and subject to any expenditure or income that cannot be anticipated at this time. It was unanimously **RESOLVED to accept the report as presented.**

Clerk

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

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
28/2	Clerk	Salary February	508.32	1694	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
21/3	Clerk	Expenses Feb	34.10	1695	LGA 1972 s111
21/3	Petty cash	Office exp Feb	44.99	1696	LGA 1972 s111, s114, s140
21/3	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 22/2	260.00	1697	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
21/3	Landscape Concept	Meads 1 of 8	975.00	1698	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
31/3	Landscape Concept	Meads paint etc	261.17	1699	LG(MP)A 1976 s19
<b>Recoverable VAT included:</b>			<b>£ 206.03</b>		

Cheques were signed after the meeting.

Clerk

**19.035 Correspondence** (As per the Agenda - noted for information)

- Parishioner: concerns about planning development and decisions in Great Hornead (19.033)
- Pensions Regulator: 3-yearly re-enrolment and re-declaration - deadlines 31 August & 31 October
- Parishioner: Concerns about Box Tree Cottage development (19.033.2)
- Parishioner: Concerns about EHC moving the village boundary in the District Plan (19.033.3.2)
- Rural Services Network: A call on the government for a rural strategy (19.033.3.3)
- EHC Electoral Services: Parish council election information (19.038)

**19.036 Special Interest Matters**

**1. Highways**

1. Conduit Lane and Worsted Lane temporary road closures were noted.
2. Traffic speed and footway concerns by the schools: Speeding traffic and the state of the footway were raised and it was agreed to again bring these to the attention of Highways and the Police. The Senior Teacher of the School was in attendance and said she would like the Parish Council and the School to unite in trying to get support for traffic calming measures. The Council agreed to put something in the Newsletter and to investigate if it is possible to install a SID on the approach to the school from the direction of Hare Street.
3. Hare Street SID: This has been installed by Highways, but at a totally inappropriate location that is at odds with that agreed by the Parish Council. The issue is being raised with County Cllr Jeff Jones.

Clerk

JD

**2. Public Rights of Way (PRoW) - footpaths and byways**

1. The PRoW Countryside Officer's February report was received and noted. A copy is on the PC website.
2. Countryside Management Service's volunteer role and application information was noted.
3. **Parishioners' concerns and other matters**  
A question was raised as to what would happen to the Hare Street phone box contract (£300 pa plus VAT) if the phone was disconnected. The Clerk to check.

Clerk

**19.037 Meads field and buildings**

1. **Pavilion** shower room ceiling and leaking roof: To be checked over working part weekend.
2. **Cricket Club.** Removal of belongings from the premises – Chairman liaising with HHCC.
3. **Vandalised PIR:** This has been replaced.

ALL

JD

**4. Gate security:** Improvements have now been completed.  
**5. Tree management** update: Will be completed by the end of the month.  
**6. Working Party for pavilion.** Agreed Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> March, 8am start.  
**Other:** It was agreed that the cricket square could be maintained to a standard suitable for a private family cricket match could be accommodated in the summer.

Regarding concerns about repainting play equipment, councillors confirmed that all paint is now lead-free and is therefore safe to use.

Clerk  
**ALL**  
**KG**  
**KG/RW**

**19.038 Parish Council elections, Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**  
 The timetable and April 3<sup>rd</sup> deadline for nomination papers to be submitted was noted.

**ALL**

**19.039 Late items and items for future agendas**

1. Late items: None
2. Items for future agendas:
  - Fire extinguisher commissioning
  - Source suitable wood for play area bench refurbishment

Clerk  
**AH**

*Suspension of meeting for public comments*

Since parishioners present had been permitted to make comments during the consideration of planning applications and Highways speeding concerns, it was agreed not to suspend the meeting for further comments.

**19.040 Date of next Parish Council Meeting:** Thursday 18 April at 8pm in the Meads Pavilion

**Clerk/JD**

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

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