

HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Hormead Parish Council Meeting Thursday 15 November 2018 in the Meads Pavilion at 8pm

PRESENT: Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr Robb Denham; Cllr Kevin Glogner (KG);
Cllr Andrew Hazell; Cllr John Kilby; Cllr Teresa Marks (TM)

Three members of the public, PCSO Aaron Pender

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

ACTION

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

18.145 Apologies for absence. The following councillor apologies were accepted:

1. Councillors: Cllr Richard White (work)
2. Other apologies: Sgt Duncan Wallace, County Cllr Jeff Jones

18.146 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: one cheque for payment is to Landscape Concept Ltd, of which he is director.

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.

Clerk

18.147 To approve and sign Minutes

The Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held on 18th October 2018: It was unanimously **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18th October were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

JD/Clerk

18.148 Chairman's Announcements

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and helping at the WWI event on the evening of Sunday 11th November, which had been a great success.

18.149 Police Crime Report for the Parish

PCSO Aaron Pender said that no crimes had been reported in the parish during the last month. However, four incidents had been reported: one involving a child protection order, a fire in the bed of the River Quin, a stranger was seen in a farmyard, and a suspicious vehicle was reported in Anderson's Lane at 6 o'clock one morning. It was noted that satnavs have led vehicles up the Lane in the past and with no other information, it was acknowledged that this could have been such an incident.

There have been reports of speeding and dangerous driving by the school. One of the most dangerous things is parents who attempt 3-point turns from their parking position, this includes reversing up to, or even on to, the pavement where children are walking. This also presents the added danger of straddling the road when cars are approaching at speed. The danger was acknowledged. PCSO Pender left DriveSafe information in the hope it might be possible to get a group of residents to start a DriveSafe scheme (which has been unsuccessfully attempted several years).

The Chairman thanked the PCSO for his attendance and he then left the meeting.

18.150 District and County Councillors' reports: NONE

18.151 PLANNING

1. New applications

3/18/2378/VAR Land adj to Layston House: Variation to condition 2 of approved plan 3/17/1690/FUL

It was **RESOLVED to make strong objections to the variations set out in this application for the following reasons:**

1. They significantly down-grade the approved plans in terms of building quality and design and will have a severely negative visual impact on the street scene.

Clerk

2. Contrary to the Variation request from the new developer, the alterations, together with layout and other revisions, go well beyond what have been described as “small changes”.
3. The Planning Statement contains a proposal to narrow the approved footway width on the corner by Plot 5. This is totally unacceptable and has been rejected by Herts Highways in their comments.
4. The proposed changes to pedestrian access and the planting of hedges across the frontages raise serious issues about safe vehicular egress from the service road due to the potential loss of sight lines. This must be rejected because even if conditions are imposed regarding the ongoing management of such a hedge, it is unlikely that any such conditions would be satisfactorily monitored in the longer term. This is a serious safety concern that must be addressed.
5. The Parish Council has already raised strong objections with Planning Enforcement about the work currently in hand and which is quickly progressing. There is no sign of works being suspended until all the applicable conditions have been discharged in writing prior to commencement as imposed in the planning approval. Also, there is a retrospective element since some of the variations are affecting the work already going on. There is no mention of this retrospective aspect in the variation application.
6. The work currently taking place is causing anxiety and stress to some of the neighbours most closely affected by this development. This both calls into question, and undermines confidence in, Development Control’s ability or willingness to oversee the planning conditions it imposes.

It was agreed that the comments be copied to Cllr Jeff Jones.

Clerk

3/18/2377/VAR Layston House: Variation to Condition 2 of approved plan 3/17/2168/FUL

It was **RESOLVED to make strong objections to the variations set out in this application for the following reasons:**

Clerk

1. They are a significant down-grading of the approved plans in terms of building quality and the negative visual impact this will have on the street scene.
2. Contrary to the Planning Statement provided by the new developer, the variations go beyond what have been embraced within the description of “minor changes”.
3. The increased height and changed appearance will negatively impact the prospect from properties on the opposite side of the B1368.
4. The proposed changes to the pedestrian access and the proposed planting of a hedge across the frontage raise serious issues about the safe vehicular egress from the service road due to the potential loss of clear sight lines. This change must be rejected because even if conditions are imposed regarding the ongoing management of such a hedge, it is unlikely that any such conditions could be satisfactorily monitored in the longer term. This serious safety concern cannot be ignored.

2. Decision Notices (for information only)

3/18/2182/HH 2 Bradbury Farm Barns, Hare Street: Conversion of garage and outbuilding to annex and erect a double garage. *DECISION AWAITED*

3/18/1953/REM Hare Street Garage: Application for reserved matters following approval of outline permission against 3/17/1862/OUT *DECISION AWAITED*

3/18/1915/DEM Hare Street Garage: Prior notification of demolition of former garage buildings and canopy. *Permission not required*

3/18/1936/OUT High Trees, Gt Hornead: Outline permission to demolish dwelling and garage and erect 4 x dwellings – all matters reserved *REFUSED*

3/18/1648/HH Great Hornead Dane: Erect detached 3-bay garage. *REFUSED*

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. It was noted that a letter regarding the Layston development had been received from the East Herts Enforcement Officer.
2. It was noted that the East Herts District Plan was formally adopted on 23 October 2018

18.152 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 1 October	20,114.78
Plus income 1 to 31 October	90.00
Minus expenditure 1 to 31 October	<u>2,825.25</u>
	17,379.53
Minus presented prev months’ cheques 1640, 1641, 1643, 1644	2,568.90
Plus unpresented cheques October 1657, 1658	<u>768.90</u>
Bank balance: reconciled with statement at 31 October	<u>15,579.53</u>
Minus unpresented October cheques 1657, 1658	768.90
Unpresented cheque 1583 (March) £55 written off in cashbook	<u>0.00</u>
Balance available to Council at 31 October (cashbook balance)	<u>14,810.63</u>
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.

Clerk

3. Budget vs performance to 30 September 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 currently stands at £8,855, 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. Budget and precept proposals for 2019/20

The Clerk presented possible budget and precept suggestions for consideration in January. These projected a potential precept of £20,260. It was agreed that the Clerk would circulate the current Earthworms contract schedule to members and also seek Earthworms intentions regarding costs for next year. This to include picking up grass cuttings rather than leaving them on the ground. Earthworms’ prices (or those of an alternative contractor) could be an important factor in determining the budget.

Clerk

5. Citizens Advice Service grant request

It was agreed not to make a grant to the CAB at this time.

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

Date	Payee	Item	£	Chq	Power
31/10	Cash	Advance #1 event	300.00	1657	LGA 1972 s145
31/10	Clerk	Salary September	468.90	1658	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
6/11	Cash	Advance #2 event	200.00	1659	LGA 1972 s145
6/11	Anna Virage	Pavilion clean Oct	26.00	1660	LGA 1972 s111, s133
8/11	Clerk reimburse	Lights for event	42.00	1661	LGA 1972 s145
15/11	Landscape Conc	Pavilion lock	71.99	1662	LGA 1972 s111, s133
15/11	Clerk reimburse	TEN error repay	21.00	1663	LGA 1972 s145
15/11	Good neighbours	Donation	50.00	1664	LGA 1972 s137
15/11	Clerk	Expenses Oct	33.40	1665	LGA 1972 s111
15/11	EHC	Dog bin contract	198.38	1666	OSA 1906 s10(b)
15/11	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 3/11	260.00	1667	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
15/11	Clerk petty cash	Petty cash event	22.65	1668	LGA 1972 s145
15/11	R White	Security light grill	20.00	1669	LGA 1972 s111, s133
Recoverable VAT included:			£ 45.06		

Cheques were signed after the meeting.

Clerk

18.153 Correspondence (As per the Agenda - noted for information)
 Parishioners: Complaints re work at Layston House site contrary to planning conditions (18.151.1)
 Parishioner: Dangerous parking at the junction of Worsted Lane and the B1368 (18.154.2.1)
 Able Community Care: general information
 CAB: Request for a donation (18.152.5)

18.154 Special Interest Matters

1. **Village Hall:** No report
2. **Highways.** TRO12360 – temporary closure of The Street was noted. See also item 4 below.
3. **Public Rights of Way (PRoW) - footpaths and byways:** The PRoW Countryside Officer's October report was received and noted. A copy is on the PC website.
4. **Parishioners' concerns and other matters**
 A parishioner's complaint about dangerous parking at the Worsted Lane/B1368 junction was noted. County Cllr Jeff Jones had visited the site with a Herts Highways Officer but reported that they did not observe any illegal parking and there is little that can be done to prevent occasional dangerous parking if it not reported to the police at the time.

Cllr Hazell asked the Clerk to write a note of thanks to the owner of The Willows for clearing the footway around the junction of the B1368/B1038.

Clerk

18.155 Meads field and buildings

1. Pavilion shower room ceiling: Ongoing
2. Improved gate security arrangements and CCTV: In hand.
3. Vandalised pavilion PIR: Repair/replacement in hand
4. Bench refurbishment and replacement: In hand.
5. Tree management update: Work in hand with Tim Fuller
6. Marquee storage arrangements: In hand.
7. Pavilion door handle and lock: Cllr Glogner has bought and fitted a new mortice lock.

RW
RW
RW
KG
Clerk
RW/JK
KG

18.156 Battle's Over event, 11th November: Report given by Chairman in agenda item 18.148

18.157 Late items and items for future agendas

1. Late items: None
2. Items for future agendas:
 - New play area equipment/zip wire
 - To review Meads maintenance contract (January PC meeting)
 - Budget and Precept (January PC meeting)

TM/Clerk
Clerk/ALL

At 9.14pm it was **RESOLVED to suspend the meeting for public comments**

Questions were raised regarding a development at the northern end of Hare Street and a house on the Hare Street Road. The Parish Council was not able to comment on either matter.

The meeting was restored to order at 9.17pm

18.158 1. Calendar of Meetings for 2019: This was not considered, in part due to the elections on 2 May.

2. Date of next Parish Council Meeting: Thursday 17th January 2019 at 8pm in the Meads Pavilion. There will not be an Ordinary Council meeting in December.

Clerk/JD

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending, wishing them a Happy Christmas and New Year, and closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

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