

# HORMEAD PARISH COUNCIL

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

**PRESENT:** Cllr Jayne Denham, Chairman (JD); Cllr Robb Denham (RED); Cllr John Kilby (JK);  
Cllr Teresa Marks (TM)

County / District Cllr Jeff Jones and four members of the public

Clerk: Colin Marks, Clerk to the Parish Council

**ACTION**

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

### 18.015 Apologies for absence

1. Councillors: Cllr Marty Kilby (unwell), Cllr Matthew Reeves-Hairs (unwell); Cllr Richard White (family commitments)
2. Other apologies: PC David Miller and a parishioner

### 18.016 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: NONE
3. **To consider requests for dispensations:** NONE.

### 18.017 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 January 2018

It was **RESOLVED that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 January were a true and accurate record.** The Chairman signed the Minutes.

**JD/Clerk**

### 18.018 Police Report: None

### 18.019 Chairman's announcements: None

In view of parishioners present and wishing to participate, the Chairman proposed to suspend the meeting and at 8.10pm it was unanimously **RESOLVED to suspend the meeting for public comments.**

- The parishioners said the views they were expressing were shared and supported by a number of others who were not present. There is a strong body of opinion that the quarry operator and its HGV contractors are not abiding by the conditions of their licence or within the constraints of HGV laws. Examples were cited such as on 9th February, 21 HGV movements were logged through Hare Street between 08.00 and 08.25. Similarly, on 13th February, 32 HGV movements were logged within a 1.5-hour period. A parishioner who was unable to be present emailed that HGV movements have been noted and were well in excess of 60 a day. There is a wealth of photographic evidence of breaches where HGVs are unsheeted and operating outside licenced hours; these have been submitted to Planning and Highways Enforcement, to no effect. The amount of mud and slurry left on the roads indicates that vehicle washing on exiting the site – a licence condition - is not being undertaken. There are at least two recent witnessed accounts of large rocks falling off lorries, narrowly avoiding causing serious accidents; these occurred by the Beehive and by New Cottages.

County Cllr Jeff Jones confirmed the present operation will cease on 31st December 2018. He agreed to investigate activity at the quarry and to support the B1368 pressure group that was being formed by parishes along the road from Barkway to Braughing. The Chairman has signed up to be part of this group, as have a number of parishioners. Aggressive HGV driving is also a safety concern and rude gestures have been made by HGV drivers when challenged. Traffic calming, including the use of SIDs, was discussed and supported by Cllr Jeff Jones. The Clerk said he would send Cllr Jones an extract of the relevant 2013 quarry licencing conditions and Cllr Jones said he would check HGV movement compliance.

**Clerk**

- Concerns were also expressed about the quarry's application to the Traffic Commissioner.

The notice in The Crow, although legally compliant, did not appear to be open and transparent because it is not regarded as the principle local newspaper. The proposed change of operation at the quarry give rise to concerns of yet more HGV movements and associated noise and traffic aggravation.

- A parishioner presented outline plans that are to be submitted for a development in Great Hornead. The Parish Council said it would comment in its statutory consultee capacity as and when it received the application notification from East Herts.

The Chairman called the meeting to order at 8.50pm

**18.020 PLANNING**

**1. New applications**

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

Following a discussion, and by a vote of 3:1, it was **RESOLVED to object to this application for the following reasons:** Over-development of the site by reason of the new building's size and location. It is within the Conservation Area, has a larger footprint than the building it would replace, and it is also taller. It would have an unacceptably adverse impact on the amenities of the neighbouring properties immediately to the south by overlooking, loss of privacy, and being visually overbearing. The adverse effects of the development would outweigh its benefits and represent unsustainable development.

The Clerk was instructed to submit the objection accordingly.

Clerk

**2. Decision Notices**

**3/17/2928/AGPN Great Hornead Hall:** Erection of steel portal frame building with profile sheet steel roof. **PRIOR APPROVAL NOT NECESSARY**

**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**

**3/17/2748/HH & 2749/LBC Little Meadow, Conduit Lane.** Convert Grade II listed barn into ancillary residential accommodation. **APPLICATION WITHDRAWN**

**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**

**3/17/2496/FUL Stonebury Farm.** Change of use from a B8 use (storage and distribution) to a B2 (general industrial) use. **GRANTED**

**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. **DECISION AWAITED**

**3/17/2498/FUL Stonebury Farm.** The change of use from agricultural land for the siting of five mobile homes for seasonal workers and creation of bund. **REFUSED**

**3/17/2499/FUL Stonebury Farm.** Change of use of agricultural land for use as non-commercial clay pigeon shooting and the creation of a 2.6 metre high bund. **REFUSED**

**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. Gt Hornead Conservation Area Appraisal:** The public meeting will be held on 8th March in the Meads Pavilion from 7pm to 9pm.

Clerk

**2. Anstey Quarry Application to extend licence:** The Parish Council sent a strong objection; issues discussed during the open session earlier

**3. HCC Waste Local Plan Initial Consultation, 5 Feb-30 March:** Deferred to March PC Meeting

Clerk/ALL

**18.021 FINANCE**

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

Finance Summary from 1 to 31 January:

<b>Opening bank balance statement 1 January</b>	£ <b>11,222.22</b>
Plus income 1 to 31 January	0.00
Minus expenditure 1 to 31 January	<u>927.13</u>
	<b>10,295.09</b>

Minus presented December cheques 1559,1561, 1562	554.90
Minus unrepresented October cheques 1542	<u>360.00</u>
<b>Balance available to Council at 31 January (cashbook)</b>	<b>9,380.19</b>
Plus unrepresented October cheques 1542	360.00
Plus unrepresented January cheques 1566, 1567	<u>613.90</u>
<b>Bank balance: reconciled with statement at 31 January</b>	<b><u>10,354.09</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.** Not signed.

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

**3. Performance to date against 2017/18 budget**

The Clerk presented the actual financial position at 31 January against the total budget. Expenditure to date is £19,533 net against £23,602 budgetted. Income to date is £22,987 against £22,565 budgetted. The projected balance at year-end, excluding the 2017/18 VAT reclaim of approximately £1,150, is £5,632 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
31/1	Clerk	Salary January	468.90	1567	LGA 1972 s112(1), (2A), & s151; LA 2011 s41
15/2	Clerk	Expenses January	26.16	1568	LGA 1972 s111
15/2	Clerk (cash)	Petty cash Jan	13.25	1569	LGA 1972 ss111, 114,140
15/2	BT Payphones	Hare Street kiosk Replace chq 1570	360.00	1570	LGA 1972 s144
15/2	Clerk reimburse	Speed aware bin stickers	80.00	1571	LGA 1972 s137
15/2	SC Ruff	Litterpick to 26/1	260.00	1572	OSA 1906 s9 & s10
15/2	Affinity Water	Water 10/8-7/2	20.99	1573	LGA 1972 s133
15/2	Clerk petty cash	Fan heater pavilion	15.00	1574	LGA 1972 s133
<b>Recoverable VAT included:</b>			<b>£ 60.00</b>		

Cheques were signed after the meeting.

Clerk

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

Awaiting DPO Ltd to provide contract service agreement for signing.

Clerk

**18.023 Correspondence**

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

- East Herts: Conservation Area Appraisal meeting arrangements (18.020.3.1)
- Parishioners: ditto above
- The Traffic Commissioner: re Anstey Quarry licence application (18.020.3.2)
- Parishioners (multiple): re Anstey Quarry HGVs (18.020.3.2 and 18.024.2.1)
- HCC: Herts Waste Local Plan consultation 5 February - 30 March (with dvd) (18.020.3.3)
- Cllr J Jones: B1038 emergency closure 31 Jan-1 Feb (broken water pipe)
- HHCC: Initial cricket arrangements for 2018

The Chairman added that Newsletter Editor Chrissy Withers had contacted her to kindly offer a donation from the Hormead Community Group for the purchase of a community asset. A marquee was a possibility and it was agreed that the Chairman explore a possible source. It was also noted that benches around the Meads are in need of repair. It was agreed to record a note of thanks in the Newsletter.

JD

**18.024 Special Interest Matters**

**1. Village Hall.** Cllr Reeves-Hairs was not present but sent a report that a grant has been won for the acoustic improvements. It was hoped to place orders and begin works shortly.

- 2. Highways**
    - 1. Joint plans for parishes along the B1368 were discussed at the open session earlier.
    - 2. Wheelie bin speed aware stickers: The police said they will neither sponsor nor endorse these. The Clerk reported that he had therefore ordered 100 as agreed and delivery was due shortly – the manufacturer said they have been overwhelmed with orders. More parishioners have asked for stickers when available. Clerk
  - 3. Public Rights of Way - footpaths and byways** Clerk
    - 1. The PRow Countryside Officer's January report was received and noted. A copy is on the PC website.  
Modification Order 2017 for FP Hormead 35, from the B1368 SW towards Stonebury until it meets with Buntingford Bridleway 23, has been confirmed. The statutory confirmation notice will be on the Hare Street notice board until 28th March. Clerk
  - 4. Parishioners' concerns and other matters:**
    - 1. Allotments: The Clerk said he is still waiting for letters/statements from allotment Tenants before submitting the Asset of Community Value registration. All other matters were discussed in the open session earlier. Clerk
- 18.025 Meads field and buildings**
- 1. **Pavilion: Shower room ceiling:** Work is in hand. RW
  - 2. **New litter bin:** This is now in situ in the play area.
  - 3. **New entrance gate possibility:** Unfortunately, the gate that was offered by a parishioner was not big enough. Other possibilities are being considered. Clerk/TM
  - 4. **Other matters:**
    - The pavilion hire for the Cycle Tour on Sunday 18th March was confirmed and it was noted that they had agreed – and paid – the increased charge of £150. JD/Clerk
    - A handyman for various jobs has not yet been sourced. RW/Clerk
- 18.026 Royal Wedding Tea Party**  
Cllr Jeff Jones said he would support this with a grant from his locality budget if the Clerk would make the formal application. If approved, this will greatly assist preparations. Clerk  
JD
- 18.027 Late items and items for future agendas**
- 1. Late items: None
  - 2. Items for future agendas:
    - A talk by the Hundred Parishes Society at the March PC meeting Clerk
    - HCC Waste Local Plan Initial Consultation, 5 February – 30 March: March meeting Clerk/ALL
    - 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. ALL
- Suspension of meeting for public comments**  
In view of the earlier suspension for comments, it was agreed not to suspend the meeting again.
- 18.028 Date of next Meeting** Clerk/JD  
Thursday 15th March 2018 at 8pm in the Meads Pavilion.
- Clerk's note: it was subsequently agreed to postpone the March meeting for one week until 22nd March.*
- The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.45pm
- Signed..... Dated.....