

HADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 19 December 2024

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Hadstock.

Present: Parish Councillors: Keith Nuttall, John Lockton, Denise Wells, Simon Gosling & Parish Clerk.

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, reminded Councillors of the fire safety procedure and announced that proceedings may be filmed or recorded.
2. Apologies and reason for absence from Cllrs Hannam and Johnson were considered and approved **RESOLVED 24/12/02.**
Apologies had been received from County Councillor Martin Foley and District Councillor John Moran.
3. Declaration of Members' Interests & to remind Councillors of the need to keep up to date their Register of Members' Interests and to receive any Members' Dispensations – none notified.
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 28 November 2024** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 24/12/04.** The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public participation-** no members of the public present.
6. County Councillor Martin Foley had sent an update about the local plan The Draft Uttlesford Local Plan, which will bring high quality homes, employment and infrastructure to the district over the next two decades, has been submitted for independent examination. Uttlesford District Council submitted the plan to the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government today (Wednesday 18 December), along with the many supporting evidence documents and more than 500 responses that were received in the latest round of public consultation held in the autumn. This is the next stage in the process leading towards adoption of the local plan. Now the plan has been submitted, the Secretary of State will appoint a Planning Inspector to review and assess it. They will consider whether the plan has met the legal requirements and tests of 'soundness' – to be judged against national policy, including how the council has consulted, engaged and worked with neighbouring authorities and statutory bodies. Once appointed, the Planning Inspector will set out the next steps and timetable to be followed in the examination process. The details will be published on the council's website, when known and a Parish Briefing report
<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKUTTLESFORD/bulletins/3c5a767>
7. District Councillor Moran had sent a report UDC Cabinet have passed the budget and it will move onto to be voted on at the February full council. Rise in UDC precept will be in-line with recent years. Concerns in regard to the failure to find a buyer for the council's asset of 50% of Chesterford Research Park as the interest on monies taken out to further develop the site will become exorbitant in the next few years. The potential move to unitary authorities for Essex is moving at top speed. Next year's county council elections are unlikely to not take place. We may have mayoral and unitary elections as early as May 2026, with shadow county and district bodies still in place until 2027. Essex is likely to get either 3 or 4 unitary authorities which will provide all the services currently provided by county and district. Cllr Moran's focus at present is to help to create unitary authorities that can provide the best possible level of services to our residents. We do not want any avoidable imbalance in resources that any of the authorities inherits. The councils to be merged have to border each

other. What the impact on parish councils will be of this major reorganization of councils is unclear at present. UDC have an extraordinary full council meeting to discuss the changes on the 8th of January 2025

8. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:** none

9. **HPC considered making a consultee comment to planning applications Planning Application**

UTT/24/3133/TCA | Tree reduction Waylands Bartlow Road Hadstock Essex CB21 4PH and

RESOLVED 24/12/09 no comment

10. **To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s – none**

11. **Highways ~ to receive an update on highways issues, discuss and resolve actions**

[a] General Highways ~ Cllr Nuttall reported that there was no progress to report on issues recently discussed but continues to cc email correspondence to Essex County Councillor Foley. **ACTION** Cllr Nuttall will send a Speed Watch review of the year to the magazine

[b] The draft letter to residents re vegetation Bartlow Road was approved and for delivery by Cllrs Johnson and Nuttall [to be arranged] **RESOLVED 24/12/11b**

It was **RESOLVED 24/12** to deal with all items remaining on the Agenda and come back to 12b.

12. **FINANCE 2024/2025**

[a] the bank balance of £27133.91, reconciliation of accounts as at 29 November 2024/25 was noted and signed by Cllr Nuttall.

[c] HPC agreed and approved the payments listed below **RESOLVED 24/12/12c**

[d] No invoices were received after Agenda issued

Cheque	Payee	Description	Net amount	VAT	Total	
	Mr R Dolby	ASTUTE GRAPHICS	129.00	25.80	154.80	
	Ms S A Beckett	Salary month 9 including back dated	538.71	-	538.71	
	HMRC	PAYE	253.40		253.40	
	MR J LOCKTON	SH EXPENSES RECLAIM	81.43	16.29	92.72	
	MR RICHARDS	GRASS CUTTING	2015.5		2015.5	
	JONATHAN ASHE ARCHITECTS	SH HOUSE SURVEYS	780.00	156.00	936.00	

13. HPC considered and resolved to request allocation of funding from Cllr Foley [ECC] for a replacement bench on the recreation ground at £600.00. This is to be recycled plastic

RESOLVED 24/12/13

14. HPC considered and resolved to request allocation of funding from Cllr Moran [UDC] for a replacement picnic table on the recreation ground at £600.00 This is to be recycled plastic

RESOLVED 24/12/14

15. **Recreation Ground Report ~ Cllr Johnson**

[a] Cllr Wells reported that there was no further update from the family connected to the memorial bench on the recreation ground. It was **RESOLVED 24/12/15a** to use the proposed funding at item 13

[b] HPC discussed a new piece of play equipment in the recreation ground to the value of £5000.00 and **RESOLVED 24/12/15b** to proceed with the Sovereign Foxtail. The clerk will meet the company representative in January 2025 before placing order.

[c] No report had been received specifically for the recreation ground

[d] HPC were able to confirm all was in good order on the recreation ground due to recent visits

[e] No report had been received specifically for the play equipment but HPC were able to confirm all was in good order due to recent visits.

12. [b] HPC considered a second draft of budget 2025/26 as presented by the RFO. Each line was discussed and justified. It was suggested that £500 should be used from reserves to pay for office equipment [laptop]. Additions of £300 external audit – rental grass cutter 150- play equipment maintenance £150 - Christmas £125 tree. Adjust green skip to £1800 for 1 year payment rather than 2- revert to £500 for SH . To review to enable precept demand to be resolved at the next meeting

- 16. To note items for next agenda- no specific items
- 17. To note the next Meetings will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 23 January 2025 at 7.45pm
- 18. A public exempt not required
- 19. Chairman closed the meeting at 21.15 pm and wished all a Happy Christmas

..... Chairman.
Signed as a true record and RESOLVED to approve on 23 January 2025.

DRAFT