

HADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 28 November 2024

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Hadstock.

Present: Parish Councillors: Keith Nuttall, John Lockton, Denise Wells, David Johnson. District Councillor John Moran & Parish Clerk. Also, present 2 members of the public one of whom was later elected to the Council.

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, reminded Councillors and members of the public of the fire safety procedure and announced that proceedings may be filmed or recorded.
2. Apologies and reason for absence from Cllr Hannam were considered and approved **RESOLVED 24/11/02**.
Apologies had been received from County Councillor Martin Foley
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.
Cllr Johnson arrived
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Wednesday 30 October 2024 [date change]** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 24/11/04**. The Chair signed them as a true record.
The Chair proposed that item 15 should be brought forward **RESOLVED 24/11 co-option consideration**
15b Hadstock Parish Council had reviewed an application which was acceptable under section 79 Local Government Act 1972 and that section 80 Local Government Act 1972 did not apply. The Chair invited discussion and then proposed that Simon Gosling should be co-opted to Hadstock Parish Council unanimously **RESOLVED 24/11/15**. Cllr Gosling was welcomed to HPC and duly signed the acceptance of office and took his place at the meeting.
5. **Public participation-** a member of the public spoke about the lack of Neighbourhood Watch in the village and would like to see a group formally adopted. Cllr Moran advised that Ashdon had an active group and would forward details for HPC. Clerk to action following email from Cllr Moran and then circulate detail to residents via Hadstock Info and request a co-ordinator.
6. County Councillor Martin Foley had sent apologies and had been included in all emails related to the problems of speeding in the village, the recent accident and FOIR to which he had responded to date.
7. District Councillor Moran was able to speak about the road traffic accident and would endeavour to get the assistance of Essex Police. He also reported that UDC are undergoing a Peer Review in the next week. The Local Plan preparation is ongoing and could go to the Inspectorate in March 2025. Essex is a county that is being considered to becoming a Unitary Authority.
8. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:**
[a] The Clerk's report actions would be noted throughout but additionally reported on the planning enforcement training provided by UDC which was excellent and really helpful in understanding the legislation and process of planning enforcement.
[b] Report from Councillors: Cllr Nuttall reported that he had attended to the catch on the noticeboard.

9. **HPC considered making a consultee comment to planning applications Planning Application UTT/24/2926/FUL | Change of use from agricultural to residential private amenity garden | 2 Yew Tree Place Linton Road Hadstock Cambridge CB21 4NU and **RESOLVED 24/11/09** no comment needed**

10. **To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s – UTT/24/0994/HHF | New rear extension, front porch and roof dormer alteration. | 4 The Row Linton Road Hadstock Essex CB21 4NY **APPROVED****

11. **To receive an update on planning matters – no matters to consider**

12. Applications still awaiting determination and for further comment if applicable – none

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

[a] Highways ~ Cllr Nuttall reported ongoing communications about speed through the village and road traffic accidents. Responses had been received from Freedom of Information requests made to Essex Police and Essex County Council which had produced some useful data information and ways of gathering further information. Cllr Nuttall had communicated with the PCSO and Speed Watch Co-ordinator who both confirmed it was a matter for Essex Highways. Cllr Moran who has been cc'd into all correspondence advised he would seek further assistance from the Police for an accident report related to recent events particularly pertinent, if the findings relate to speed, road surface or design of the road and then could report to Essex Highways Safety Unit. Cllr Moran stressed that he would communicate with County Councillor Foley. It was noted, that whilst both local logistic companies had been advised of HPC's concerns related to the manner of the driving of vehicles only one had acknowledged the problems.

The Clerk reported that a recent 20's plenty webinar had been extremely useful and emphasised the use of banners/stickers and planters to show that the Village takes ownership and that traffic is just passing through

[b] HPC discussed the overgrown vegetation on Bartlow Road going up to beyond Lower Farm. It is an area that is too big and high for the Green Team. A quote had been obtained £45 per hour [3-4 individual area one alone would be approximately £200.00]. Bartlow Road is narrow and increasingly dangerous due to the vegetation encroaching on cars and views of on-coming traffic. It was also noted of similar problems along Walden Road but this may be easier to resolve with owners

Options considered by HPC:

i request a contribution from the land/house owners

ii. advise this will be undertaken by HPC at no cost due to the urgency having sought permission via a letter.

It will be made clear that this is a one-off action and in future years the land/householder will be expected to take responsibility for their own hedging.

ACTION Cllr Nuttall to draft a letter and circulate followed by to **RESOLVE 24/11/13b** that option ii should be undertaken. Cllr Johnson offered to take letters and speak to residents.

ACTION Consider adding in budget for future years

[c] Speed watch~ Cllr Nuttall reported a further watch to be undertaken the next day and they continue routinely. On average 10-12 vehicles are noted as exceeding the speed limit.

[d] Pothole reporting update - many have been completed including the unofficial passing spaces on Bartlow Road. One on Walden Road has been repaired but there remains a further one a little further away. **ACTION** Clerk to chase. Clerk reported manhole cover left protruding near phone box dealt with relatively quickly by Highways.

[e] Road closure notifications – 2 planned road closures this month Bartlow Road and Walden Road

14. **FINANCE 2024/2025**

[a] the bank balance at 30 October 2024 being £38698.25 and reconciliation were noted and signed as confirmation by Cllr Nuttall. Payment £5000 play equipment UKSPF grant award was now showing in bank reconciliation.

[b] The budget monitor of accounts as at 25 November 2024/25 was noted [previously sent to Councillors] The RFO had previously sent to all 2025/26 draft budget v1 which was discussed and a

starting point for further discussion on 19 December 2024 to provide draft v2. RFO and Chair to meet prior to December meeting.

[c] HPC discussed and agreed to approve payments listed below **RESOLVED 24/11/13c** which included previously TBC Clerks Expenses

[d] HPC agreed and approved the invoice received after Agenda –**RESOLVED 24/11/13d EALC** £96.00 [Inc. VAT] which was accepted for Bursary payment by EALC and a refund will be expected of part costs.

| Cheque | Payee | Description | Net amount | VAT | Total | |
|--------|----------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------------|--------|--|
| 101525 | ROW SOLUTIONS | SUSTAINABLE HADSTOCK | 130.00 | | | |
| | ROW SOLUTIONS | SUSTAINABLE HADSTOCK | 210.00 | | 340.00 | |
| 101526 | CHRIS DODGE | SUSTAINABLE HADSTOCK | 275.00 | | 275.00 | |
| 101527 | Ms S A Beckett | CLERK EXPENSES | 238.68 | 8.67 not on all | 247.35 | |
| 101528 | EALC | PRoW Webinar Cllr Lockton | 80.00 | 16.00 | 96.00 | |
| 101529 | Ms S A Beckett | Salary month 8 | 381.35 | - | 381.35 | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

15. Governance

HPC noted the clerk used delegated powers to organise the removal of the dead tree on the recreation ground at a cost of £365.00 which included the spreading of shredded pieces by the gateway and the remaining logs left in situ.

[a] Barclays Bank signatory update- Barclays cannot locate ID forms to reapply via phone [simple process]

[b] to consider the co-option for the casual vacancy of HPC this was **RESOLVED** following item 4

[c] the position of a Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator was discussed and it was generally thought to be a good idea to try to re-instate depending on the availability of those wishing to act as co-ordinator. Cllr Moran had offered to assist with information. **ACTION** Clerk to review.

[d] HPC considered and approved the bench policy following amendments made following the last meeting **RESOLVED 24/11/15d**

16. The Sustainable Hadstock Working Group [SHWG] - Cllr Lockton had circulated an update which was discussed together with an outline of proposals for the following months. [report attached to minutes]

17. Sustainable Hadstock Funding Cllr Lockton presented an outline of proposed funding for the next financial year. This might involve rolling over some of the funding of 2024/25 which would need approval of UDC. A further funding opportunity for 2025/26 was presented, discussed, and with the addition of potential rental costs for grass cutting equipment approved by HPC, for submission by Cllr Lockton/Clerk **RESOLVED 24/11/17** It was noted following advice from the Clerk that any proposals for extending a ‘wild’ area, the inclusion of a pond, being a risk, or similar proposals must be approved by HPC. It was noted that the Hadstock Society would be granting £100.00 and it was anticipated the HPC would be able to provide £500.00

It was noted that Cllr Lockton was assisting the Village Hall committee with applying for funding to aid the recommendations made in a recent energy survey which might include solar panels and a storage battery.

A member of the public left the meeting.

18. HPC considered the allocation of funding from Cllr Foley [ECC] It was **RESOLVED 24/11/19** to request funding towards a plastic bench for the Recreation ground

19. HPC considered the allocation of funding from Cllr Moran [UDC] It was **RESOLVED 24/11/20** to request funding towards a plastic picnic table for the Recreation ground to replace the degraded wooden one currently in situ.

20. Recreation Ground Report ~

[a] Cllr Wells gave an update on the replacement of a memorial bench on the recreation ground. Contact has been made with the family but no response as yet. It was recognised that HPC would have preference for a plastic bench but that would be the decision of the family.

[b] HPC gave consideration of a new piece of play equipment in the recreation ground to the value of £5000.00. A few suggestions had been brought forward but considering the practicalities of those it was decided to investigate a particular type of play equipment similar to one called Foxtail in a brochure. **RESOLVED 24/11/20b** that Clerk to provide quote for a suitable size and price plus cost of installation at the next meeting when an order can placed for delivery.

[c] Cllr Johnson had left the meeting prior to this item so no specific report on recreation ground was presented

[d] the recreation ground was confirmed as being in good order and looking very good. **RESOLVED 24/11/20d**

[e] All play equipment has been visually checked during the week and useable **RESOLVED 24/11/20e**

21. Defibrillator Cllr Wells reported that all was in good order. The recent replacement of the battery may now give longevity of the unit and therefore might not need replacing in 2027 [check date with Cllr Wells] as perhaps originally thought. Consideration should be given to the cost of a future replacement [EMR]

22. HPC considered the work required on the Telephone Box and it was **RESOLVED 24/11/22** that this would be carried out in the spring 2025

23. Parish Land Report & PRow's ~

[b] Cllr Lockton reported on the Public Rights of Way & The Roles of Local Councils webinar which he had found very informative and useful. The slides that were presented will be circulated. Many different types of pathways were identified and discussed. The importance of knowing where and what the different types of paths within the parish were situated was emphasised especially as those that are not updated to the definitive map would /could be lost

24. Village Hall Report- Cllr Hannam was not available to give a report

25. To note items for next agenda- throughout meeting

26. To note the next Meetings will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 19 December 2024 at 7.45pm followed by Thursday 23 January 2025 at **7.45pm**

27. A public exempt not required

28. Chairman closed the meeting at 10.02pm

..... **Chairman.**

Signed as a true record and RESOLVED to approve on 19 December 2024.

Sustainable Hadstock

Report: November

28/11/24

Overall progress: on plan

Issues: none. Finances: progressing against budget.

Activities in November: identifying UDC support for 2025; House Energy Reviews and lending out the Thermal Imaging Camera

· Events & Talks

o The 22 November talk by Kirsty Shanahan from CommuniEnergySouth on 'Solutions, hints and tips for Home Energy Efficiency' was very well received with over 30 people attending and many positive comments.

· On Home&Energy

o Over 12 House Energy Reviews were completed in November by Adrian Rowland

o Plus 2 'traditional/older' house retrofit energy surveys by Jonathan Ashe

o Adrian and the Home&Energy team have reviewed the Village Hall – and suggestions made to the Village Hall Committee

o The Thermal Imaging Camera is now out to loan through Ian Jennings/Peter Jarritt.

· On Nature&Biodiversity

o We have reached out to a number of local farmers for a chat on Biodiversity

o We have started mapping the 'wild' areas attached to houses in the Village to identify biodiversity opportunities – and will continue this activity in the New Year

o A group met on the Rec with Tony Morton, EWT, and an outline plan has been developed for the area. This will include a village nature trail.

· 2025

o We are going to apply for an extension to the Sustainable Hadstock initiative for 2025 and are in discussions with the Village Hall on a second grant application

· SHWG monthly session – held on the 20 November.

Activities in December: submitting an application to UDC for support in 2025; continuing House Energy Reviews and lending out the Thermal Imaging Camera

· We will be continuing to carry out House Energy Reviews and the loan of the Thermal Imaging Camera

· Our Event will be to support the talk by Tony Morton, EWT, on 'Our Local Woodlands' at the Hadstock Society AGM

· We are building an Event programme for the first part of 2025 – and will publish this during December

· We will submit our application to the UDC Zero Carbon initiative for a grant for 2025.

Councillor John Lockton