



LITTLE GADDESSEN *parish council*

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL on
17th December, 2018

PLEASE NOTE THAT MINUTES ARE ALSO PUBLISHED ON THE VILLAGE WEB SITE
<http://www.littlegaddesden.org.uk>

The meeting commenced at 8.00pm.

Present: Cllrs. Archer, Heaphy, Hyde, Irving, Kelly, Magson and Saner; Alastair Greene (Clerk), County and Borough (C&B) Councillor Terry Douris, and eight members of the public.

Apologies: None.

1. FORMALITIES

The attendance register was signed. There were declarations of interest from Cllr. Archer and Cllr. Kelly in relation to the planning application on the Summer House. Both Councillors agreed not to speak and not to vote.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and were signed at the end of the meeting.

2. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Cllr. Irving asked if anyone wished to raise any matters not already covered in the Agenda.

A member of the public said that there was a rumour that the original property known as Oak House would not be demolished when the new house was completed. Councillors said that as far as they were aware a condition linked to the planning approval stated that the property had to be demolished, though they were not sure about the timescale.

David Brattle offered to carry out some repair work to the Cromer Close play equipment. Cllr. Hyde thanked David but said that she had received an offer from Dacorum Council to help with that work also, so it was agreed to wait to see to what extent Dacorum could help.

3. REPORTS AND MATTERS ARISING

(a) To receive a report from Hertfordshire Constabulary

PCSO Lee Clements advised that they had five recorded incidents of poaching in the area including some theft from the National Trust yard. There were no other crimes reported.

A speed check was carried out along Nettleden Road in the 30mph zone and a number of vehicles were recorded at over 40mph.

A missing person had made found safe and well. It was agreed that Owl messaging was a good way of keeping up with the Police news, as was following Herts Police on Twitter.

(b) Progress against the Parish Council's objectives

Village Hall facilities. David Brattle advised that he had held a Village Hall Management Committee

Signed by the Chairman.....Dated.....

meeting which had included a discussion on whether gender neutral toilets would be acceptable to residents. The suggestion had proved controversial he said and required further discussion.

Conservation Area Character Appraisal (CACA). Cllr. Irving advised that a meeting would be held, for those volunteers who were available, at 7pm in the Village Hall on Jan 2nd to discuss the survey areas and the timing of the work.

Develop a Parish Council web site. The Clerk advised that he had received some helpful feedback from Councillors and had then instructed Town and Country web sites to commence work on the web site with the intention of having a first draft by end of February.

Upgrading of play equipment at Cromer Close Play Area. Cllr. Hyde advised that the agreed location for the new swing unit, which will comprise a basket and a child swing, was adjacent to the existing swings. As part of the arrangements the end of the earth mound would be removed and the goal would be provided with a deer friendly, chain link fence net.

Dacorum Borough Council as landowner of the playing field area approved the Health and Safety aspect of the new swing project at a recent site meeting but made some suggestions about the old swing unit. There was a possibility of replacing it or reconfiguring it. Such replacement would be unlikely to change the position of the new swing but before proceeding with the new swing, Cllr Hyde suggested we should wait to see what Dacorum Borough Council propose.

Teenagers' project to develop fitness equipment on the playing field. Cllr. Heaphy confirmed that the supplier would be Caloo and that a working party was planning to meet and agree the final selection and location of equipment.

Traffic monitoring capability.

See under Police report

(c) Safe Route to School along Hudnall Lane

Cllr. Douris advised that HCC would make minor improvements to the existing signage and install some new signs also. The intention was to raise driver awareness on the approach to the narrow section of Hudnall Lane. Although it was acknowledged that this was not a formal consultation, Parish Councillors put forward their suggestions on the preliminary scheme.

The Clerk advised that the Parish Council had made an application under the Police and Crime Commissioner's Safety Fund for additional work to re-establish the Hudnall Lane road boundary, rebuild a damaged area of the road opposite Field End and make the buried highway signs visible again. He was waiting to hear whether the application had been successful.

(d) Parking at Cromer Close

Cllr. Terry Douris advised that he was discussing 'verge hardening' with officers at Dacorum Borough Council as a way of providing additional off road parking at Cromer Close.

(e) Flooding on Nettleden Road

The Clerk advised that he had received a request from Amit Odedra for someone to look at the flooding problem on the east side (pavement side) of Nettleden Road near the shop and the adjacent dwellings. Cllr. Douris said that he would ask the HCC Engineer to visit.

(f) Hudnall Common Field Centre – Boundary posts

Cllr. Irving noted that there had been some concern expressed about the posts erected recently along the verge boundary of the Field Centre on Hudnall Common. Although they had been installed as a result of a request by the residents, they were considered to be too numerous and too tall and together with the reflectors on the posts rather changed the character of the road.

Many of the reflectors had been subsequently removed and Cllr. Irving said that that had improved the look but asked that further discussions be held with the Field Centre to reduce the impact of the posts. Cllr. Douris agreed to help with those discussions.

(g) Christmas Carols on the Green

Cllr. Heaphy confirmed that the Carols around the Christmas tree would, weather permitting, be on 18th December at 6pm.

(h) Litter Volunteers for Hudnall Lane – 2018 & 2019

Councillors thanked those volunteers who had kindly carried out litter picks on the stretch of road from Hudnall Common Crossroads to Fourways Garage at the bottom of Hudnall Lane. Some volunteers had come from as far away as Ringshall to support the initiative. Every month one litter pick had been done by the volunteer for that month, so 12 picks had been carried out across 2018 and each time an average of two black sacks had been filled.

It was agreed that the Clerk would ask residents for support again in 2019.

(i) Widening of the footpath at the rear of Bede Court

The Clerk explained that he had received an e-mail from Clayton Rae, the Footpaths Officer from HCC, advising that he had received the landowner's permission to remove the hedge and fence and widen the path, providing a new fence and hedge as part of the project. Councillors thought that might be a good improvement but asked if a site meeting could be set up so that the detail could be discussed, including the surfacing of the widened path.

(j) Documents to be approved

The Clerk advised that he had circulated three documents and actions were agreed as follows:-

1. The Complaints Procedure - the document was adopted as amended
2. The Draft Policy on advertisements - comments from clubs and societies had been incorporated. It was agreed that the policy should be adopted with one amendment; that banner signs could stay up a maximum of four weeks to give organisers time to sell tickets for their events.
3. Planning Code of Practice – Agreed in principle however the Clerk and Cllr. Archer agreed to meet to re-word the document and give feedback to DBC.

Items brought forward from previous meetings.

None

4. ADMINISTRATION**Correspondence not already covered above and that requires action by the Council**

The Clerk advised that he had received a complaint from a resident regarding parking on the Green. Cllr. Magson was aware of this issue and advised that she had received a note from the resident who had parked on the Green, she had apologized for any distress caused but had parked on the Green as she was expecting a large vehicle to deliver goods.

Signed by the Chairman.....Dated.....

It was acknowledged that the Parish Council had previously given permission to that resident to park on the Green whilst building work was being carried out. The resident had relied on this previous consent. It was agreed that the Clerk would let the complainant know the background to the matter.

The Clerk had received a request from a resident to place a bench on the Church Road Playing field to mark the passing of her father who had been a well-known resident of the village. It was agreed in principle with the proviso that Cllr. Hyde agree with the resident the location of the bench bearing in mind other benches that are currently being repaired or removed.

Cllr. Magson advised that she had received a complaint from a resident about noise from a party that had gone on until 1.30am. Cllr. Magson said she was investigating the origin of the noise and thought there may have been two parties going on that night.

Finance

a. The Council approved the following payments:-

Clerk & Village Hall Manager – Salary & PAYE for **Dec**

SRT Trading Limited – £220 plus vat – Warden Services (**Dec** invoice)

MWAgri – £465 ex vat (**Dec** invoice)

Petty Cash Clerk - £94.77 inc vat, Poo bags and stationery (**Dec**)

Glasdon Salt bin for Cromer Close £148.19 plus vat

HCP Printing of CACA communication £125 plus vat

David Brattle £150 and £83, materials for Franks Rogers and Mary Lane bench refurbishment

G. I. Rogers, £375 plus vat for Christmas tree (£180 funded by DBC)

b. Cheques/payments received

LGVH Management Committee - Village Hall Manager salary

Donations for Gym equipment, Cricket Club £500, VPA £1,125, Fund raising for Gym equipment

£550, Contributions towards clamp relocation £240, Donations for Oak Tree deer proof fencing,

£600

PLANNING SCHEDULE - CURRENT APPLICATIONS (status at 15th December, 2018)

(**Red text** show changes since previous meeting)

BLUEFRIARS HOUSE, GOLF CLUB ROAD. NEW OUTBUILDING. 4/01841/18/FHA.

Supported by LGPC, DBC decision awaited

BEGGARS ROOST, ALDERTON DRIVE, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING HOUSE AND CONSTRUCTION OF TWO STOREY DETACHED DWELLING. 4/02392/18/FUL.

No objection from LGPC, await DBC decision

VALLEY VIEW. Temporary permission granted at appeal to a permanent use.

CB/18/03451/VOC Objection by LGPC, **Central Bedfordshire decision awaited.**

1 THE LYE, PROPOSED TWO STOREY FRONT AND REAR EXTENSIONS WITH PARTIAL LOFT CONVERSION. 4/02564/18/FHA. This application was considered carefully by the Planning Working Group, who commented, 'Noted that four residents of The Lye have objected to the application. Also noted that recent amended plans have addressed the issue of privacy and the overlooking of adjacent properties. The Council's attention is drawn to the fact that this two storey extension is of considerable size and therefore it could be argued that it raises

Signed by the Chairman.....Dated.....

issues of density and layout. However there have previously been significant extensions to properties on The Lye and the Working Group does not believe that it can support an objection to the application based on material planning considerations.'

No objection from LGPC, **Granted by DBC**

GABLE END COTTAGE, CHURCH ROAD. WORKS TO T1 OAK TREE. 4/02621/18/TPO.

No objection from LGPC, **Granted by DBC**

BEANEY, NETTLEDEN ROAD, FELL TREE. 4/02760/18/TCA **No objection from LGPC**

FARTHINGS, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH. WORK TO TREES. 4/02764/18/TPO

No objection from LGPC, **Awaiting DBC decision**

Applications received since the last meeting.

THE SUMMER HOUSE, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING DWELLING AND CAR PORT. CONSTRUCTION OF REPLACEMENT DETACHED DWELLING AND CAR PORT.

4/02963/18/FUL **No objection from LGPC**

Extension of time to be requested from DBC on applications below to allow LGPC to report recommendations to the next Parish Meeting

KILBRACKEN, HUDNALL COMMON PROPOSED CAR PORT. 4/03077/18/FHA

HITHER COPPICE, COPPICE CLOSE, TWO STOREY PORCH EXTENSION, SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION AND REPLACEMENT WINDOWS. 4/03013/18/FHA

HITHER COPPICE, COPPICE CLOSE. PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OUTBUILDING. 4/03015/18/FHA

Information to share / Items for the next meeting

The Clerk advised that he had purchased some storage boxes for the Christmas decorations which he would claim back on petty cash however the Gaddesden Society had agreed to cover the net of vat cost of £76.67

The Clerk advised that he had reported the sunken manhole cover on Nettleden road and the damaged illuminated bollard at the bottom of Hudnall Lane.

The meeting closed at **9.50pm.** The next meeting is on **Monday 28th January, 2018.**

Signed by the Chairman.....Dated.....