



## LITTLE GADDES DEN *parish council*

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL on  
9<sup>th</sup> December, 2019

PLEASE NOTE THAT MINUTES ARE ALSO PUBLISHED ON THE VILLAGE WEB SITE  
<https://littlegaddesdenpc.org.uk>

The meeting commenced at 8.00 pm.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. Hyde, Kelly, Lawson, Pritchard, Saner, Townsend. Also in attendance, Alastair Greene (Clerk), County and District Councillor Terry Douris, PCSO Lee Clements and ten members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. Magson

### 1. FORMALITIES

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting

The attendance register was signed. There were no declarations of interest.

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. Kelly asked if anyone wished to raise any matters not already covered in the agenda. Virginia Westmacott noted that the verges and road had been left in a mess following the works carried out by Openreach's contractors on Hudnall Lane. The Clerk confirmed he had received a letter from a resident complaining about the same issue.

Caroline Whiddett advised that she had been appointed by Dacorum Borough Council to the Community Review Panel. Councillor Kelly thanked her for volunteering and for letting the Parish Council know of her appointment to this important body.

David Brattle said that the Christmas Tree looked fabulous and the Chairman thanked Cllr. Pritchard for managing the arrangements this year.

### 3. REPORTS AND MATTERS ARISING

(a) To receive a report from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

PCSO Lee Clements confirmed that for the period 7<sup>th</sup> November to 6<sup>th</sup> December he had recorded one theft from a motor vehicle, two other thefts and one criminal damage.

He said that he was concerned about poachers and his team were keeping an eye out for suspect vehicles, one being a flatbed transit and another being a 4x4 pick up. If residents see poaching going on, they were asked to ring 999 but if they discovered the after effects of poaching to ring 101. He said that the appointed cull team would not leave animal body parts about, so discovering anything like that should be reported. Lee mentioned that the National Trust were trying to keep a record of any poaching activities so that the scale of poaching could be better understood.

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

**(b) To discuss the land for sale in Church Road.**

Members of the public attending the meeting were all there to express their concern about any potential development on the protected land in Church Road. The Chairman noted that a couple of residents who had displayed Planning Information Notices on their own boundary fences had received letters from a firm of solicitors threatening legal action. The Chairman advised those present that the Parish Council had also received threatening letters but that the Council was simply alerting people to the planning status of this very sensitive land in the centre of the village. A resident asked whether the thin boundary verge was owned by Hertfordshire County Council or formed part of the land for sale.

Cllr Hyde advised that she had taken photos of the land so that the current condition of the land was recorded in case needed in any action in the future.

**(c) To provide feedback on the DriveSafe actions Oct/Nov.**

Cllr. Hyde advised that Drivesafe sessions continued to be run and another one was planned for December.

**(d) To obtain an update on the scruffy verge in Beacon Road**

Cllr Douris said that he had reported the scruffy verge to the County Council though it would be a low priority item. The Clerk and the Chairman agreed to visit it and see if they could handle the clearance direct.

**(e) Luton Airport expansion/flightpath issues.**

Cllr. Pritchard advised that she had responded to the consultation, please see notes and response below.

**London Luton Airport Limited second consultation on Future LuToN.**

The Parish Council had the opportunity, to provide feedback to the second consultation on Future LuToN proposed expansion of London Luton Airport (LTN). This was completed via the online website – [futureluton.llal.org.uk](http://futureluton.llal.org.uk)

The Parish Council focussed responses on two areas, under section:-

**Managing and Mitigating the effects of the Expansion:**

- **Q9a – Do you have any comments on our proposal to manage and mitigate air pollution during construction and operations?**

**LGPC response was as follows:**

How will the noise envelope be managed and controlled?

The Governments Green Paper Aviation 2050 proposed a new objective "to limit, and where possible, reduce total adverse effects on health and quality of life from aviation noise". It was also stated in the Green Paper that the aim of noise caps will be to balance noise and growth and that there should be appropriate compliance mechanisms.

The A300 cargo plane flown from Luton is one of the most complained about types. LLAL have predicted that night flights will increase from 2,228 flights (2018 published figures), of which 1,582 (71%) are cargo flights, to a predicted figure of 9,650 flights and based on previous data, cargo flights could account to 71% (6,851) of night flights.

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

- **Q9b – Do you have any comments on our proposal to minimise increase to greenhouse gases, and to adapt our proposed development to climate change?**

**LGPC response was as follows:**

Direct emissions from aviation account for about 3% of the EU’s total greenhouse gas emissions and more than 2% of global emissions. If global aviation was a country, it would rank in the top 10 emitters.

How are you proposing to reduce emissions?

In addition to the formal response it was agreed that residents should be encouraged to complain when they are disturbed by aircraft noise and contact details for such complaints should be made available on notice boards web sites and in the Gaddesden diary.

**(f) To receive an update to the Conservation Area Character Appraisal**

Cllr. Hyde confirmed that the first draft would be reviewed at a meeting on Dec 18<sup>th</sup> with volunteers and the Conservation Officers from DBC.

**(g) Response to the HCC budget survey**

It was agreed that the Clerk and Chairman would respond to the survey. It was suggested that in particular the Parish Council should comment on matters that were of particular concern to a rural village, such as the bus service.

**(h) To obtain budget approval for the fencing between the Sports Pavilion and the hedge at John O Gaddesden**

The Clerk confirmed he had received two quotes, one from the Kayst Fencing and the other from Malcolm Weaver.

To install 10 new rails, three upright fence posts, a new gate post and new gate with hinges would cost £635 with softwood, (£1,241 with oak) for Malcom Weaver and £1,029 softwood (and £1,830 oak) for Kayst. The Clerk confirmed that there were funds in the budget for Gates fences etc. and that there was £1,400 remaining at the moment.

It was agreed that hardwood was preferred but that a variation of the quote should be sought for an alternative hardwood and if that was £800 or less to proceed with that.

**Items brought forward from previous meetings**

**None**

**4. ADMINISTRATION**

**(i) Correspondence not already covered above and that requires action by the Council**

The Clerk advised that he had received an invitation from Dacorum Borough Council to the Annual Community Grant Awards Evening on 17 March 2020. It was agreed that the Parish Council who had received grants in previous years should support the evening and the Clerk was asked to seek a couple of places.

**(ii) Finance**

The schedule of payments was approved together with the report on expenditure for the previous month.

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

**(iii) Budget for 2020-21**

The Clerk advised that Dacorum Borough Council had confirmed payment of the wardens grant and the concurrent grant at similar levels to this financial year but it would be necessary to get together to consider the level of the precept for next year. It was agreed that a Finance Meeting would be held on 13<sup>th</sup> January at 8pm hosted by Cllr. Lawson.

**(iv) Health and Safety**

The Clerk confirmed that the Safety inspections of the play areas had taken place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec and Monday 9<sup>th</sup> December. No new faults were found. It was acknowledged that the picnic bench refurbished by David Brattle had been placed in Cromer Close Play area adjacent to the other picnic bench.

**Finance Schedule**

a. The Council approved the following payments:-

Clerk & Village Hall Manager – Salary & PAYE for Dec

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

MWAgri – £692 ex vat (Dec invoice) and £698 ex vat for footpath improvement work (Total £1668 inc vat)

Petty Cash payment £97.66 ex vat to Clerk. Phone bill and Poo bags

Strongs Printers £109 ex vat, printing of planning posters

G.I.Rogers Christmas Tree, supply, delivery and removal for the Green. £375 ex vat

b. Cheques/payments received

LGVH Management Committee - Village Hall Manager salary

**PLANNING SCHEDULE - CURRENT APPLICATIONS (status at 9<sup>th</sup> December 2019)  
(Red text show changes since previous meeting)**

**THE BRIDGEWATER ARMS, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH. INSTALLATION OF REPLACEMENT ILLUMINATED AND NON-ILLUMINATED SIGN TO THE EXTERIOR OF THE BUILDING.**

**4/02054/19/ADV and 4/02106/19/LBC**

**Objection by LGPC. Still shown on web site as DBC decision awaited but see new application**

**10 RINGSHALL ROAD, RINGSHALL. CONSTRUCTION OF WOODEN SUMMER HOUSE IN REAR GARDEN. 4/02087/19/FHA Supported by LGPC, Application withdrawn**

**SILVER BIRCHES, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH. RETENTION OF CHANGE OF USE OF A BARN INTO A RESIDENTIAL DWELLING, ROOF EXTENSION WITH DORMER EXTENSION. MODIFICATIONS TO OPENINGS. 4/02148/19/RET Objection by LGPC (please see wording below), no decision by DBC**

**This is an application for retrospective permission for the conversion of a barn/shed into a three bedroomed dwelling. The work was started without planning permission in July 2017 and completed in January 2019.**

**Dacorum's core strategy for its countryside area is that there should be a limited number of new dwellings in identified small villages in Dacorum between 2006 and 2026. Little**

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

Gaddesden is not one of the identified villages. It follows therefore that permission for this new dwelling is unlikely to have been granted if permission had been applied for prior to the commencement of works and planning permission should not be granted retrospectively. Little Gaddesden Parish Council therefore objects to this application

NORWOOD HOUSE, THE GREEN. Remove branches from Eucalyptus tree on border of neighbouring property. 19/02540/TCA Supported by LGPC, **DBC decision raise no objection**

45, Nettleden Road. Demolition of existing attached rear outbuilding & construction of a new single storey extension. Provision of small single storey side extension, replace single glazed windows with double glazed units and provision of small canopy to the side elevation door. 19/02525/FHA **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision awaited**

Bridgewater Mews Cottage Nettleden Road. T1 and T2 coppice two Hazel trees and G1 reduce height of five Prunus trees. 19/02573/TCA **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision awaited**

Little Gaddesden Village Green, Church Road. Remove dead wood T14 Sweet Chestnut, work to branch limb on T15 English Oak and Crown Clean T30 English Oak 19/02655/TCA **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision Raise no objection**

Little Gaddesden Playing Field Church Road Little Gaddesden Berkhamsted Hertfordshire HP4 1NX. Works to trees. 19/02654/TCA **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision Raise no objection**

John O Gaddesden House, 29 Nettleden Road. Works to Ash Tree. 19/02739/TPO **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision awaited**

6 Bridgewater Court. Fell a Christmas Tree. 19/02747/TCA **Supported by LGPC, DBC decision Raise no objection**

**Applications received since the last meeting.**

**After the public attending this meeting had had an opportunity to comment on the applications below, the Planning Working Group made recommendations to the full Parish Council.**

The Bridgewater Arms Nettleden Road North. Installation of replacement illuminated and non - illuminated signs to the exterior of the building. 19/02978/ADV & 19/02982/LBC **Submission set out below.**

**Item 1: Lighting for the new gibbet and pictorial sign in the car park - LGPC would prefer down lighters on the sign to avoid unnecessary light spill into our dark skies.**

**Item 2: LGPC does not consider the addition of illuminated lettering to the main building to be appropriate for a listed building in the Conservation Area.**

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

**Item 8: The large advertising board in the car park is inappropriate clutter and unsympathetic to the building and its surroundings within the Conservation Area**

**If item 2 and 8 were omitted and downlighters proposed for item 1 the Parish Council would happily remove its objection.**

The Bothy Nettleden Road. The demolition of a garage block and conservatory and the extension and re-cladding of the existing dwelling. 19/03008/FHA. **It was agreed to ask for additional time to consider the cladding issue.**

25 Nettleden Road North. Works to Hawthorne. 19/03034/TCA, **Supported by LGPC**

John O Gaddesden House. Internal Alteration. Replacing an existing window into double doors. 19/03061/LBC **Supported by LGPC**

Torwood, Nettleden Road. Single storey rear extension to replace conservatory, external alterations including removal of balcony, replacement entrance porch; alterations to garage to facilitate its use as an annex, and entrance gates. 19/02546/FHA **Submission set out below. Little Gaddesden Parish Council has reviewed this application, it has no objection to the application in general but objects strongly to the proposed gates. The Council feel the gates are inappropriate in a rural setting and against the Chiltern Design Guide recommendations. If the gates were deleted from the application then the Parish Council would withdraw its objection to the application.**

Information to share / Items for the next meeting

Cllr Hyde said she had seen some information from Wigginton Parish Council regarding sustainability ideas at parish level and said she would monitor the development of such ideas and consider whether they were practical for Little Gaddesden to adopt.

Cllr Hyde asked what the arrangements would be for the Carol singing on 16<sup>th</sup> Dec and the Chairman undertook to check with Rachel Heaphy.

The Clerk sought permission to make the donation to the Church of £1,000 that had been set aside in the budget for the purpose. It was agreed following discussion about the powers to do so that the donation would, on legal advice, be specifically made for the Church’s Charitable purposes.

Cllr. Pritchard noted following a quick village tour recently that the surfaced path leading from Cromer Close houses down towards the junction with the Hertfordshire way footpath was very slippery. Penny Holland undertook to deal with that on behalf of the residents there.

Cllr Pritchard also mentioned the state of the garages and land at the rear of Cromer Close and felt that it was all overgrown and difficult to access.

Following a question by Penny Holland, Cllr Douris confirmed that the additional parking provision at Cromer Close was still on the list of potential actions though it might get postponed until the following year.

Richard Baker noted that parking had become a problem on a Saturday morning at Bede Court with footballers. Cllr Lawson undertook to speak to the footballers.

The meeting closed at **9.30pm.** The next meeting is on **Monday 20<sup>th</sup> January 2020.**

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