



## LITTLE GADDES DEN *parish council*

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

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

**Apologies:** Cllr. Archer

### **1. FORMALITIES**

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

Jim Townsend asked to what extent the Parish Council were involved with the proposed widening works to the Bede Court footpath adjacent to the houses. The Clerk advised that a meeting had been held on site between Louise Archer, Lyn Hyde, the Clerk and Clayton Rae the County Footpaths Officer who was proposing to remove the hedges and replant them and provide a new fence set back to give plenty of width to the footpath. It had been agreed that the Parish Council would await the details. Since no details had been received prior to the January meeting it had been minuted at the January meeting that the Parish Council would focus its footpath plans in other areas such as Cromer Close. The Clerk confirmed that he had received and circulated a copy of an email from Helene Hocking addressed to Clayton Rae raising concerns about the short term loss of habitat.

Penny Holland asked what the procedure was for topping up the salt bin in Cromer Close. The Clerk said he would use the spare bags of salt from the rear of the Village Hall to top up the bin.

### **3. REPORTS AND MATTERS ARISING**

#### **(a) To receive a report from Hertfordshire Constabulary**

There was no report provided by the Police.

#### **(b) Progress against the Parish Council's objectives**

**Village Hall facilities.** No change from the previous month: plans were still awaited from the Chair of the Village Hall Management Committee so that fund-raising by the Parish Council could commence.

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

Conservation Area Character Appraisal (CACA). Cllr. Irving advised that a meeting had been held prior to the Parish Meeting that evening for volunteers to feedback progress and discuss issues on the survey work. A further meeting date had been set for the 18<sup>th</sup> March by which time it was hoped that the initial surveys would be completed.

Develop a Parish Council web site. The Clerk advised that Town and Country web sites had commenced work on the web site with the intention of having a first draft by the end of February

Upgrading of play equipment at Cromer Close Play Area. Cllr. Hyde advised that the new swing had been installed and residents had already been trying it out. Penny Holland said that the residents were pleased to have this investment in the Cromer Close play area. She also asked whether the ground matting had been installed correctly. The Clerk undertook to check it.

Teenagers' project to develop fitness equipment on the playing field. Cllr. Magson confirmed that the gym equipment and basketball stand had been installed. There was a short discussion about the proposed basketball surfacing and how large it should be and how it should be funded. The Clerk said he would circulate a couple of quotes he had received for an 8m x 8m court. Cllr. Magson said she hoped still to raise additional funds through Epsom. It was suggested that a formal opening /launch of the new equipment could take place on the date of the Gaddesden Gallop on 5<sup>th</sup> May and that assuming he was re-elected and nominated at the 2 May election perhaps the Mayor could be asked to cut the ribbon.

Traffic monitoring capability.

Cllr. Irving read out a communication from Hertfordshire Constabulary regarding the progress of the administration work necessary to get the Drivesafe scheme underway.

(c) Safe Route to School along Hudnall Lane

Cllr. Douris advised that HCC would make minor amendments to the scheme that he had showed the Councillors previously. As a third party landowner was involved, there would be a need to discuss the scheme with that party before being able to commit to a starting date.

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. In the meantime it had been noted that some of the hedging along Hudnall lane had been cut back.

(d) Parking at Cromer Close

Cllr. Terry Douris advised that he was still discussing 'verge hardening' with officers at Dacorum Borough Council as a way of providing additional off-road parking at Cromer Close. He said that it was on a list of potential projects in Dacorum for the next financial year.

Cllr. Douris also agreed to meet up with Penny Holland and other residents to review the opportunity of improving the partially used garages and parking area to the rear of Cromer Close.

(e) Flooding on Nettleden Road

Nothing to report

(f) Planters at the gateways to Little Gaddesden.

Cllr Irving advised that the VPA had donated four planters, three had been installed and a decision was required by the VPA about where to locate the fourth one.

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

Volunteers had been found to maintain planters, the Nettleden one to be cared for by Jilly Scriven, the Cromer one being maintained by Jenny Birks. Janet Stinton had volunteered to look after the one at Ringshall. It was agreed that Cllr Hyde, June Abraham and Janet Stinton would carry out the initial planting and the costs for the initial planting would be met by the Parish Council.

**(g) Grounds Maintenance Tender**

It was agreed that the discussion on the tender bids for Grounds Maintenance would take place after the public section of the meeting and be reported in due course.

**(h) Litter Volunteers for Hudnall Lane –2019**

The Clerk advised that he had received many offers of help to continue with the volunteer litter picking scheme in 2019, and needed just a few more folks to complete the schedule to cover every month. Please contact the Clerk to volunteer.

Councillors thanked the volunteers for their work in keeping the area clean and tidy with special thanks to David & Pat Seymour for removing a car load of fly-tipped materials from Hudnall Lane.

The Clerk advised that he had received complaints about the litter problem on Nettleden Hill and wondered how best to respond. It was agreed that this was a dangerous section of road and needed special attention, possibly road closure in order to litter pick. Cllr. Irving requested Cllr Douris to seek assistance from DBC and he agreed he would speak to DBC to see whether they could assist.

**(i) Documents to be approved**

The Clerk advised that he had circulated three documents for review at the meeting:-

1. The Annual Risk Assessment
2. The Training and Development Policy
3. The Code of Conduct

On item 1 it was agreed to hold for further discussion on the issue of play area inspections, however documents 2 and 3 were adopted as amended and signed by the Chairman after the meeting.

#### **4. ADMINISTRATION**

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

Cllr. Heaphy confirmed that she had spoken to the School Head about the damage to the football pitch nearest to the road by the school children and that the Head had apologized. The Head said that she would ensure that her team know where to play when the pitches are wet. Cllr. Heaphy confirmed that the school do have the plans from the Football Club showing where to play when the pitches are heavy/muddy.

The Clerk advised he had received an email from Claire Owen who was concerned about the orientation of the basketball court on the playing field, facing the children's play area. It was agreed that the seat would be relocated and that use of the court would be monitored to see if any mitigating actions were necessary.

The Clerk advised that he had received an email from Mike Walsham who was concerned as to whether development work at 13, Ringshall Cottages was in accordance with approved plans. Cllrs Hyde and Kelly made a site visit to review the matter and had since confirmed to Mike that all was indeed in accordance with approved plans.

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

The Clerk had received a request from Ivinghoe Parish Council to allow it to use the LGPC notice board at the Ringshall end of the village, for putting up information about Ivinghoe Parish Council activities, to benefit a number of residents in Ringshall who fell into the adjacent Parish. It was agreed this would be unnecessarily confusing and the Clerk was asked to decline the request.

#### Finance

a. The Council approved the following payments:-

Clerk & Village Hall Manager – Salary & PAYE for Feb

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

MWAgri – £465 ex vat (Feb invoice)

Petty Cash Clerk £29.20 inc vat, (Feb)

Caloo £7,667.67 plus vat (Gym equipment and basketball stand)

Caloo £5,503.55 plus vat (Nest /toddler swing plus new chains and flat seat swing at Cromer Close)

David Brattle £78 no vat. Materials for repair and renovation of the Jubilee bench

b. Cheques/payments received

LGVH Management Committee - Village Hall Manager salary

Local Community Grant from Dacorum Borough Council for Gym equipment £3,000

c. It was agreed that Cllrs. John Saner and Paul Kelly would be added to the list of Bank signatories

#### PLANNING SCHEDULE - CURRENT APPLICATIONS (status at 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2019)

(Red text show changes since previous meeting)

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

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

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, DBC decision awaited

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

Little Gaddesden Parish Council objects to this application on the grounds that it is contrary to Policy CS7 of the Dacorum Core Strategy for the following reasons:-

1 The proposal significantly increases the built development between the house and the property boundary.

2 The proposed building is (at above 4m) too high for a building within 2m of the property boundary.

3 The roof line at the sides and rear of the building comes down to 0.9m from the ground and has a significant visual impact.

The Parish Council believes that the development has a significant impact on the openness and rural appearance of the countryside in breach of Policy CS7.

DBC Decision awaited

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

Supported by LGPC, Granted by DBC

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

HITHER COPPICE, COPPICE CLOSE. PROPOSED REPLACEMENT OUTBUILDING. 4/03015/18/FHA  
Supported by LGPC, awaiting DBC decision

2 BROWNLOW GATE, WORK TO TREES. 4/03240/18/TCA  
Supported by LGPC, DBC decision - Raise no objection.

MANOR COTTAGE, WORK TO TREES. 4/00023/19/TCA  
Supported by LGPC, DBC decision awaited

KENT HOUSE, HUDNALL LANE, TWO STOREY AND SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSIONS, NEW  
ROOF-LIGHTS AND ASSOCIATED ALTERATIONS. 4/03241/18/FHA Supported by LGPC,  
DBC decision awaited

### Applications received since the last meeting.

GREENFIELDS, HUDNALL LANE. SINGLE STOREY REAR EXTENSION. 4/00106/19/FHA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

STREET RECORD, NETTLEDEN ROAD. WORK TO TREES. 4/00121/19/TCA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

THE TRACTION ENGINE SHED, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW DETACHED  
GARAGE AND LOG STORE. 4/00169/19/FHA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

THE TRACTION ENGINE SHED, NETTLEDEN ROAD NORTH. WORK TO TREES. 4/00256/19/TCA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

THE OLD RECTORY. WORK TO TREES. 4/00278/19/TCA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

BEGGARS ROOST, ALDERTON DRIVE, DEMOLITION OF EXISTING HOUSE. CONSTRUCTION OF NEW  
DETACHED HOUSE. 4/00304/19/FUL  
LGPC requested additional time and will review at the next meeting

WHITE MEADOWS. WORK TO TREES. 4/00297/19/TCA  
LGPC has no objection. DBC decision awaited

FOURWAYS GARAGE, HUDNALL CORNER. DEMOLITION AND REMOVAL OF EXISTING BUILDINGS.  
CONSTRUCTION OF 8 DWELLINGS WITH DETACHED CARPORT, GARAGES, CAR PARKING AND  
ALTERED VEHICULAR ACCESSES 4/00266/19/OUT  
LGPC requested additional time and will review at the next meeting

### Information to share / Items for the next meeting

None

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

The next meeting is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2019.

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