



## LITTLE GADDES DEN *parish council*

MINUTES OF A PUBLIC MEETING HELD BY VIDEO CONFERENCE ON  
19<sup>th</sup> April, 2021

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. Fruish, Hyde, Kelly, Saner, Townsend & Thompson. Also in attendance, Alastair Greene (Clerk), County and District Councillor Terry Douris and six members of the public.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr Magson

### 1. FORMALITIES

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how the meeting would be run, with an open microphone for Councillors and muted microphones for members of the public until the public open question session. Due to the mourning period for Duke of Edinburgh insufficient notice was available to meet the legalities of a Parish Council Meeting, hence he advised that the status of this meeting was a Public Meeting with any decisions being ratified at the next formal Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk noted the attendance and recorded it in the register.

The minutes of the previous month's 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, no points were raised.

### 3. REPORTS AND MATTERS ARISING

#### (a) Report from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

PCSO Lee Clements had advised the Clerk that the only reported crime that month had been theft of number plates in Ashridge.

#### (b) Discussion on the pre-application consultation for a radio mast at Holly Tree Farm

Cllr Thompson explained that with assistance of a number of experts in the village in various professions including Planning and Landscape Appraisal and Telecommunications she had been able to produce a report to be submitted to the promoters objecting to the mast. Councillors were very appreciative of the time and effort that everyone had given to put the letter of objection together and for the preparation of photographs of the cherry picker at its full height to demonstrate the likely impact of the mast. It was agreed that the report should be emailed the following day and the Clerk undertook to do that. (Full details on the web site)

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

**(c) Confirmation of the planned Ringshall works**

Cllr Douris was pleased to note that, as promised, flood alleviation works had commenced on April 6th.

**(d) To confirm action taken in relation to adverse possession of the land adjacent to the Lady Marian Alford Memorial**

Cllr. Townsend confirmed that the appointed surveyors had produced a scaled survey drawing showing the land subject to the Parish Council's adverse possession claim. It was agreed that a small sign with agreed wording would be erected at the memorial. The Clerk undertook to order the sign.

**(e) To confirm ownership of the strip of highway verge containing the bus stop (opposite Beacon Road, Ringshall**

It was agreed that a site visit should be carried out to determine what work of improvement needed to be carried out here. The safety of people waiting for the bus being one issue and the general untidiness of the verge being the other.

**(f) To confirm the outcome of the visit to the Hudnall Field Centre**

Cllr Saner read the following report:-

Robert Clarke, John Reynolds-Kettlewell and I went to visit Greenway Lodge with Terry Douris on Tuesday. We met Martha from HCC and Vicky the Manager of the Lodge.

Greenway Lodge and the main part of Hudnall Park are entirely separate entities managed by different teams within HCC

We were reassured that the Lodge is being used as a residential home for one (with the possibility of two) children in need of intensive care for a period of time. All the children who might be living there are children under the care of HCC and they may be living in children's care homes or with foster parents. Every now and again any one of these children may be in need of a period of intensive supervised care. When they are there, the children are closely supervised with two carers if there is one child, or three if there are two children. To date there has only ever been one child in residence at any one time. In normal times they will go out to their schools if they are able, and otherwise spend their time either in the lodge or out with the carer.

If a situation arises which the carers can't cope, such as a potential self-harming incident, the carers will call the police. The police have already been asked to tone down their response and that there is no need for blue flashing lights. Terry Douris is going to reinforce the Hudnall residents' concerns by writing to the Chief Inspector of Hertfordshire Police to ensure that the police response, while it may be necessary, is always appropriate.

We were satisfied that the Lodge is not a "secure" unit within the meaning of the planning legislation and therefore there was no requirement for HCC to apply for permission for a change of use. The use of the Lodge as a residential home falls within the existing use, which is long established.

HCC are planning to put cowls over the lights at the Lodge, which are very bright, so they do not light up the area. After the meeting Terry Douris went to see the Main Centre which also has excessively bright lights. They are also in the process of changing the lighting which they recognise is a problem.

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

**(g) Drivesafe report**

Cllr Hyde confirmed the latest statistics for the session held on 15<sup>th</sup> April on the road coming into the village from Ringshall and expressed her amazement at the speed of drivers, especially considering there were four in the team wearing reflective jackets that should have been spotted by drivers. Cllr Hyde advised that there was a need for more DriveSafe volunteers. She also advised that she would make a request for the new speed detection van to spend some time in Little Gaddesden.

Total vehicles passing:	251
Number exceeding 35 mph	66
Percentage	26%
Average Speed	41 mph
Median Speed	40 mph
<u>Range 36 – 64 mph</u>	
More than 40 mph	28
More than 45 mph	8
More than 50 mph	3

**4. ADMINISTRATION****(i) Correspondence not already covered above and that required action by the Council**

The Clerk confirmed he had received a copy of an email sent to the National Trust complaining about the amount of litter left by visitors to the estate.

**(ii) Finance**

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

**(iii) Health and Safety**

The Clerk confirmed that the monthly H&S inspection had been carried out on 14th April. No new issues were noted. The roundabout at Church Road remained the outstanding item and two companies recommended by Dacorum's parks team would be asked to quote for improvement works.

**5. COUNCILLOR UPDATE**

The Clerk confirmed as follows:-

That a meeting had been held between the Parish Council and Fiona and Mark Byers to confirm responsibilities for the land and trees in the corner of the playing field adjacent to the Byers/Telephone exchange.

Fly-tipping at the Beacon had been reported to the National Trust and Buckingham County Council.

Three large gravel bags had been delivered to the Sports Club car park to top up the gravel there, volunteer spreaders were needed.

The Clerk had received support from National Trust, Parish Councillors and the farmer Fergus Milne to the idea of relocating the wooden litter bin from the top of Hudnall Lane to the small NT car park opposite the Green. The Clerk to seek permission from Dacorum B C to the proposal.

Thanks to Cllrs Hyde and Townsend and George Godar for attending to some tree trimming work

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

on the Church Road playing fields where trees were interfering with the gym and play equipment and also on the Green where tree trunk protectors were removed from the trunks of a number of trees that had outgrown them.

Cllr Magson had agreed to take on the responsibility of the Parish Council representative on the Little Gaddesden Charities, a post vacated by Susan Pritchard.

#### Finance Schedule

a. Cheques approved.

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

SRT Trading Limited – £220 ex vat– Warden Services for **April**

MWAgri – £692 ex vat for **April**

Petty Cash payment to Clerk for **April** £65.20 inc vat (ICO reg fee and telephone)

KND Surveys Ltd £575 ex vat Land survey of Lady Marian Memorial

Zurich Insurance £667.88 last year of 3-year agreement, premium for insurance cover

HAPTC Subscription £645.60

Lyn Hyde £28.40 for stakes and tree ties for the Lady Marian conifers

TalkTalk Parish domain name and email £37.80

#### PLANNING SCHEDULE - CURRENT APPLICATIONS (status at 19<sup>th</sup> April, 2021)

#### Applications received since the last meeting.

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

Cedar House, Nettleden Road. Construction of gate and flanking walls 21/01060/FHA  
**Little Gaddesden Parish Council objects to this application. The Chiltern Design Guide recommends entrance gates should be simple and visibly permeable the PC would prefer to see a more traditional farm gate style as installed next door at Deer Leap Manor. The brick flanking walls do not conform to the Chiltern Design Guide and are considered a suburbanising feature. LGPC would prefer to see wooden gate posts. The gates opposite at The Oak House are similar, however Cedar House entrance is different to Oak House. There it could be argued that the wall matches and offsets the house. With Cedar House there is no house visible, so the wall has nothing to offset or match. It is just an ostentatious feature leading nowhere and would look very out of place. Even Deer Leap Manor doesn't have a wall. The Chiltern Design Guide recommends concrete kerbs are avoided. Boundary hedging should be locally common, and locally sourced native species are preferred...avoid fast growing exotic species, especially cypress and LAUREL; "Great weight should be given to conserving and enhancing landscapes and scenic beauty" (LPC have objected to brick piers to Torwood 19/02546/fha).**

3 Church Road Permission sought for existing garden office/workshop which has been built for about 6 years. 21/00968/LDE **Supported by LGPC**

3 Church Road. Replace existing asbestos garage with new structure on same foot-print. New doors and windows. 21/01129/LDP **Supported by LGPC**

22 Ringshall Road, Insertion of dormers. 20/03961/FHA (Amended plans) **Supported by LGPC**

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

The Bungalow, Ringshall Road. Fell trees. 21/01333/TCA **Supported by LGPC**

4 Little Gaddesden House, Works to trees. 21/01389/TCA **Supported by LGPC**

4 Nettleden Road North. Infill extension into the existing courtyard, replacement of existing uPVC fenestration for white painted timber frame casement windows, other minor changes to the fenestration to the rear elevation and associated internal works. 21/01345/FHA  
**Supported by LGPC**

Woodpeckers, The Grovells. Single storey side and rear extension, first floor rear extension, new front door and porch and new double garage. 21/01433/FHA **Supported by LGPC**

5 Church Road. Demolition of existing garage and single storey rear extension. 21/01496/FHA  
**To be considered by LGPC**

Cromer Wood Cottage, Nettleden Road. Works to boundary hedge and trees. 21/01553/TCA  
**To be considered by LGPC**

**For applications below LGPC has already submitted its consultation response.**  
(Red text show changes since previous meeting)

Witches Hollow, Ringshall Drive. Single storey side extension to replace link and alterations. 21/00613/LBC & 21/00613/FHA **Originally supported by LGPC, however following a site visit and further review of the plans and review of the history of applications, the PC amended their recommendation to 'no objection'.**

54 Nettleden Road. Replacement of 9 existing windows, installation of 1 Velux window and paint front picket fence. 21/00623/LBC & 21/00622/FHA **Supported by LGPC, Granted by DBC**

1 Little Gaddesden House. Extension to stables building. 21/00745/FUL **No objection from LGPC, Not yet decided by DBC**

26 Cromer Close. 2 storey side extension. 21/00746/FHA **LGPC Supported Not yet decided by DBC**

The Brown House, Nettleden Road North. Change of use from paddock to equestrian manege and construction of manege. 21/00829/FUL **Supported by LGPC, Not yet decided by DBC**

Denison House, Nettleden Road North. Fell cypress trees. 21/00927/TCA **Supported by LGPC, Granted by DBC**

2 Ashridge Cottages, Nettleden Road. To replace the current front door. 21/00966/LBC  
**Supported by LGPC, Granted by DBC**

3 Little Gaddesden House Nettleden Road. Construction of a Victorian style glasshouse house with dwarf wall. 21/00379/FHA **Supported by LGPC, Granted by DBC**

Peacocks Wood Nettleden Road. Replacement detached house and integral garages. 21/00486/FUL

LGPC supports the application with this proviso. It is noted that whilst gates appear on the application, no design is shown. In line with LGPC responses to 19/02546/FHA & 20/02145/FHA

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

Torwood which is next door but one, for their gates the Chiltern Design Guide states: In rural areas the entrances and boundaries should be simple and permeable; preferably with an open entrance or a 5 bar wooden gates with hedgerow boundary. Brick pillars and solid gates are not characteristic, give a suburban feel and should be avoided. **Not yet decided by DBC**

22 Ringshall Road Ringshall, To insert dormers to existing roof. 20/03961/FHA

Supported by LGPC, **Not yet decided by DBC due to amended plans**

Paddock to the east of The Red House. Demolition of existing garage and replacement with a new 3 bay oak framed garage. 20/04032/FUL Supported by LGPC, **Granted by DBC.**

Meadow Farm, The Grovells, Hudnall Common. Relocation of existing 5 bar gate on Hudnall Lane to create wider vehicle entrance bay. 20/03249/FUL. Little Gaddesden Parish Council supports the principle of the relocation of the gate, however would like to request that a restriction is imposed to allow only agricultural and/or equestrian access. LGPC are concerned an application for improved access may in the future allow for access for the purpose of housing. **Granted by DBC without a condition limiting use to agricultural/equestrian use.**

Woodlands, Hudnall Common. Replacement of vehicular gates. 20/03651/FHA

LGPC strongly objects to this application to replace the existing traditional farm style five bar gates with a solid 1.8 m high wooden design that is out of keeping with the rural nature of the property within the AONB. The Council feel the gates are inappropriate to a rural setting and against the Chiltern Design Guide recommendations. **Application withdrawn.**

Robin Hood Farm Nettleden Road North. Demolition of existing building. Construction of new agricultural office building. 20/03316/FUL Supported by LGPC, **Decision awaited from DBC.**

The meeting closed at **9.45pm.**

The next meeting is on **Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2021.**

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