



LITTLE GADDES DEN *parish council*

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL ON
~~Draft~~ - Monday 15th January 2024

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

The meeting commenced at 7.30 pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs Gall, Hartwell, Holland, Hyde, Kelly, Scott

APOLOGIES: There were no apologies for absence. C/Cllr - Terry Douris joined the meeting at 20:15 item (d) onwards. 24 Members of the Public were present for items (a) to (d) 16 remained for items (e) to the end of the meeting

1. FORMALITIES

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained how the meeting would be run.

The attendance of Councillors was noted in the register.

Approval of the Minutes. The Minutes were agreed as a correct record of the meeting and were signed at the end of the meeting.

There was no declared conflict of interest.

2. OPEN SESSION FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A resident noted that none of the smaller houses in the village were available for people to downsize to or to move into the village. The Parish Council noted this and that the birth rate was falling nationally.

C/Cllr Terry Douris shared the good news about the Herts Lynx service, how well received and how cost effective it was. He was congratulated on this.

A resident asked if they could be sent all planning applications. The Chair didn't know why not and the Clerk agreed to look into this.

3. REPORTS AND MATTERS ARISING

(a) To receive a report from Hertfordshire Constabulary.

There was no one present from Hertfordshire Constabulary. Reminders had been sent and it was known that there had been crimes.

(b) Update on the current enforcement issues at Church Road

- Cllr Kelly

The meeting was informed that papers had been served on Dacorum at the courts to challenge the decision on enforcement on the shed and the S215 and an initial payment had been transferred to the lawyers on account.

Residents were thanked for their contributions and for continuing to report activities of concern and the importance of both continuing was stressed.

~~DRAFT~~

Ph
19/1/24

(c) To invite representation from the Parish to attend Council meetings on issues relevant to or pertinent to Church Road

The Council invited representation from the community to advise on the spending of monies raised for the legal challenge and were grateful that some residents put themselves forward to provide input.

It was unanimously agreed that:

- a working group be set up to include Council members and some members of the village.
- the Clerk look into how to set this up in the most appropriate way.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Scott

(d) To discuss the fundraising for Church Road

Fundraising for the legal challenge on Church Road was going very well. Fundraising would continue, as this would help to spread the costs more widely through the village.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Scott and Cllr Holland.

(e) To discuss further Councillor recruitment and next steps

Cllr Kelly

The Chair confirmed that there remained a vacancy on the Council and it was hoped that someone would step forward to assist with the work LGPC carried out on behalf of the village.

Action: All Cllrs to reach out to contacts

(f) To agree the 2024 – 2025 Budget and sign of the 2024-2025 Precept request

Cllr Hartwell presented the budget and the precept request.

It was noted that:

- DBC were increasing Council tax to just below 5%.
- LGPC costs had increased.
- LGPC had not increased the precept for 3 years
- in 2024-2025 the precept would not be sufficient to cover all the costs.
- some of the projected expenditure in 2024-25 could be covered by unspent budget in addition to submitting an increase in the precept (rounding to 5%). Consideration was given to a higher increase given unknown cost increases for insurance and other supplies. However, it was suggested that the Council try to absorb some of these in the coming year using the underspend and apply for grants and/or other funding for any major projects to avoid too large an increase in the precept in one year.

The Council unanimously and formally agreed to both the budget for 2024 -2025 and the Precept Increase for 2024 -2025 rounded to 5%.

Action: Clerk to submit form before 24 January deadline

(g) To update on the review of Council Policies

It was noted that

- there were many policies stored on the website with dates last reviewed. Also that the Finance and Management Risk assessment referred to these policies.
- To make their ongoing efficacy and review more manageable it was proposed and unanimously agreed that the policies should be categorised as Important, Medium Important, and Low in importance enabling them to be reviewed annually, biannually or every three years.
- Cllr Hartwell and the Clerk had reviewed the current Financial and Management Risk Assessment with a view to updating this and would be submitting this along with revised Financial Regulations and Standing Orders as a matter of priority in anticipation of the audit and to enable the categorization of the other policies.

~~DRAFT~~

PK.

Action: Clerk and Cllr Hartwell

4. ADMINISTRATION

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

This had been responded to.

(ii) Finance:

- The Council approved the Clerks Salary, PAYE and Pension.
- The schedule of payments was approved together with the report on expenditure for the previous month.
- The monthly financial report against budget and bank reconciliation was approved.

The Clerk noted that the agreed purchase of Pooh bags had been delayed and two boxes had been ordered instead of to reduce postage costs. This was within the Clerk's spending power and formally agreed.

(iii) Health and Safety

It was noted that

- no concerns had been raised via the Whatsapp monitoring group nor from the public regarding hazards on the playground areas.
- repairs noted by ROSPA were outstanding. Cllr Kelly had attained his qualification and was scheduling the repairs. Recent events had had to take priority over this.

(iv) Planning Schedule

The Planning Schedule was discussed and annotated.

The meeting was informed that DBC had asked LGPC to ask if anyone present had any evidence of agricultural use within the last 10 years at Silver Birches in Nettleden Road. No one was able to provide any evidence of this. There had not been time to review 25 Nettleden Road North or 44 Nettleden Road. These would be scheduled for the next meeting.

5. COUNCILLOR UPDATE/ Agenda Items for next meeting

Cllr Gall to review the findings of the survey carried out by LGPC on what was important to the village.

Cllr Gall wanted to know what more LGPC could do to engage with the village. Those present felt engaged with and C/Cllr Douris feedback that LGPC had better attendance and engagement from its community that others he attended.

6. The next meeting is on Monday 19th February 2024 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

The meeting closed at c21.15

~~DRAFT~~

PW

15 January 2024

LGPC Council Meeting

Item 4 (ii) Finance – Schedule

a) To approve the appended schedule of payments for January

Payee	Purpose	Expenditure ex vat	Vat	Expenditure inc vat
Reimbursement	Expenses-LGPC monthly phone fees 7 Jan to 6 Feb	10.28		10.28
Reimbursement	Expenses-Microsoft-Clr Emails 25/12to24/01/24	19.80	3.96	23.76
Reimbursement	Expenses-Microsoft-LGPC MSO & Email 25/12to24/1	10.30	2.06	12.36
Reimbursement	Expenses-Paper and Printer ink	164.96		164.96
Scottish Power	Electricity	15.82	.79	16.61
Village Hall	LGPC Official Monthly Meetings - Room Hire	64.00		64.00
Village Hall	LGPC – Extraordinary Meeting – 2 and 4 January 2024	108.00		108.00
MW Agri	Grounds maintenance- January estimate	741.00	148.20	889.20
SRT Warden Services	Warden Services for January	220.00	44.00	264.00
Reimbursement	Community Event Support Xmas Carols on the Green	63.36		63.36

(Pooch bags approved in December, to be purchased in January)

15 January 2024

LGPC Council Meeting

Item 4 (iv) Planning– Schedule

Planning Applications received since the last meeting of the Parish Council
 For public comment before decision by Parish Council - see overleaf

Date received	Address	Post Code	Proposal	Application number
08/12/2023	Ash Riding Gatedene Close	HP4 1PB	Single storey rear extensions, porch, bay window, extension above ga	23/02897/FHA
11/12/2023	Old Cottage Paddock Nettleden Rc	HP4 1PE	Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new dwelling with	23/02903/FUL
11/12/2023	White Meadows Nettleden Road North		Work to tree	23/02929/TCA
18/12/2023	Mascalls Coppice Close LG	HP4 1QN	Variation of conditions 1 (date works commence)	23/02953/ROC
28/12/2023	Ashridge House Ashridge Park	HP4 1NS	Relocation of ensuite guest bedrooms and ancillary office space with	23/03030/FUL
08/01/2024	Pinetrees The Grovels	HP4 1QJ	Variation of condition 4 (approved plans) attached to planning	23/02976/ROC
03/01/2024	Lutece Nettleden Road	HP4 1PH	permisson 23/01476/FHA (Garden Room Outbuilding.) Fell Trees	24/00001/TPO

~~DRAFT~~

PK

15 January 2024

LGPC Council Meeting

Item 4 (iv) Planning – Schedule

Planning Applications received since the last meeting of the Parish Council
For public comment before decision by Parish Council

Revised List to reflect additional applications received after the posting of the Agenda

Date received	Address	Post Code	Proposal	Application number	LGPC Decision
05/10/2023	Silver Birches Nettleden Rd Nrth LG	HP4 1PE	Use as a dwelling house in breach of previously imposed condition	23/02376/LDE	No evidence of agricultural use in 10 years
11/12/2023	Old Cottage Paddock Nettleden Rd	HP4 1PE	Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of new dwelling with	23/02903/FUL	Neutral
18/12/2023	Mascalls Coppice Close LG	HP4 1QN	Variation of conditions 1 (date works commence)	23/02953/ROC	Neutral
28/12/2023	Ashridge House Ashridge Park	HP4 1NS	Relocation of ensuite guest bedrooms and ancillary office space with	23/03030/FUL	Support
08/01/2024	Pinetrees The Grovells	HP4 1QJ	Variation of condition 4 (approved plans) attached to planning permisison 23/01476/FHA (Garden Room Outbuilding.)	23/02976/ROC	Neutral
03/01/2024	Lutece Nettleden Road	HP4 1PH	Fell Trees	24/00001/TPO	Support
10/01/2024	25 Nettleden Road North	HP4 1PG	Construction of two-storey extension to side following demolition of existing extension, single storey extension to rear, alterations (minor material amendments to scheme approved under planning permission 23/00884/FHA)	23/00884/FHA	Need more time
15/01/2024	44 Nettleden Road North	HP4 1PH	Installation of PV Panels on the South Elevation pitched roof of the existing detached Annex and Garage building.	24/00062/LBC	Need more time

~~DRAFT~~

PK