

HADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council held on Thursday 17 October 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Parish Councillors Rick Albrow, Keith Nuttall, Sara Porter, Trevor Smith and Parish Clerk Sara Beckett. Mr Mike Young (Hundred Parishes Society) and one member of the public were present

1. The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting, read the fire safety notice and informed all that the meeting may be filmed or recorded.
2. **Apologies for absence were received from** District Councillor De Vries & County Councillor Walsh
3. **Declaration of Members' Interests and requests for dispensation.** None received. Councillors were reminded of the need to keep up to date their Register of Members' Interests.
4. The minutes of the last meeting held on **Thursday 12 September 2019** were received and approved **RESOLVED 19/10/04**
5. **Public participation**~ A member of the public reported on the Village meeting on 15 October 2019 which was held to discuss the future of the Kings Head and the possibility of being a potential bidder of the Asset of Community Value. Approximately 25 people attended the meeting but there was no appetite to resurrect attempts to purchase the premises or to evoke the moratorium. It was unanimously agreed that the Friends of The Kings Head should write to Uttlesford District Council as it was strongly felt that the sales particulars were a misrepresentation of the site, in an attempt to show that it would be unviable as a business. In portraying it in this manner it was felt there will be an attempt to apply for residential planning permission in the future. The group requested that the Parish Council should also write to Uttlesford District Council to express similar sentiments. The overall feeling was that the premises should remain a Public House and not have a change of use in the shape of residential development and would be seeking the support of Parish Councillors and the District Councillor in the future. On a happier note it was reported that The Millennium Group are seeking to paint a mural on the hoardings of the Kings Head to commemorate the Millennium of the Parish Church of St Botolph and will be seeking planning permission. **ACTION** Clerk to write a draft letter to UDC as requested.
6. **The Parish Council welcomed Mr Mike Young from the Hundred Parishes Society.** Mike Young spoke of how the Society has evolved since 2014 and the work that it does, which is all on a voluntary basis. The aim of the Society is to promote the understanding of the area we live in, to appreciate it and enjoy it. Membership has increased and the Society would welcome new members at an annual subscription of £10.00. Mr Young was thanked for the very interesting talk and invited to leave some further information leaflets in the Village Hall. Mr Young finished

with a quote from a little boys' letter sent home whilst evacuated during WWII "There's something lovely out in the countryside, it's called Spring"

7. **District Councillor Report** ~ the Clerk reported that whilst there was no written report from Cllr De Vries a phone call from Cllr De Vries provided updates that would be reported as Agenda items during the meeting
8. **County Councillor Report** ~the emailed report from County Councillor Walsh was received and noted.
9. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:** Updates for information only.
 - [a] The Clerk reported
 - i. review of policies continues in conjunction with CiLCA
 - ii. Cllr De Vries will be submitting a formal application to Highways for the Rangers to carry out work on Len's Path.
 - iii. Kings Head as reported in public participation. Clerk had forwarded the estate agent details to all previously
 - iv. Speed data had been forwarded to Councillors
 - v. Masterplan will be discussed as an Agenda item but the Clerk had prepared a draft document in preparation for more detailed work in the future.
 - vi. Email from Highways re Moules Lane drainage they will see if it is on the works schedule. **ACTION** To monitor response. **ACTION** Cllr Smith will monitor for flooding.
 - vii. Curbing on Bilberry End and light have been reported and will be reported again as situation appears to be the same. **ACTION**
 - [b] Councillors report would be considered within agenda items
 - [c] no further information for Councillors to update.
10. **To consider roles of Councillors** ~ All Councillors undertake work as and when required depending on who is available and who has particular expertise. This works well, but in relation to the Masterplan more specific roles are required.
11. **Planning Application/s:** UTT/19/2543/TCA | Prune no.1 Cherry (T1) by up to 1m. Remove deadwood. Prune no.1 Quince (T2), no.2 Plum, no.2 Apple, no.1 Pear, no.2 Prunus (G3). Clean, thin and reduce. Wychelm Walden Road Hadstock CB21 4NX. The Council recognised this as good tree management.
12. **Decision made by UDC on planning application** UTT/19/2380/TCA | Reduce no.1 Willow to approximately 8 metres. Clear windblown branches at Hawthorns Bartlow Road Hadstock CB21 4PF. **ACTION** Clerk has confirmed this is not on Parish land.
13. **Kings Head** ~as per public participation. The Council noted the owner's intention to sell and receipt of notice from District Council as an asset of community value.
14. **Lens Path update** ~ Cllr Albrow will mark posts that need replacing. The surface is walkable.
15. **Highways report** ~ not many speed watches due to weather and road works. Nothing further to report. Data is complicated but hopefully will be disseminated for simple publication.
16. **Public Rights of Way** ~ some minimal maintenance has been carried out but nothing outstanding or reported.
17. **Recreation Ground Report** ~
 - [a] Recreation ground report ~ Bird spikes to be re-instated and 2 dead trees **ACTION** Cllr Smith to deal.
 - [b] Play equipment report ~ repair carried out to 'rope play'. Some painting to be carried out in the future. To maintain during period of future planning and review any major repairs that might be carried out. **ACTION** Cllr Albrow will get a gate key for Cllr Smith to gain access.

18. Parish Land Project ~

Fencing report from Cllr Nuttall~ Cllr Nuttall had received **an estimate** of £3795 exc. VAT (verbally) for wooden fencing 1 x 8' field gate and 3' gate. The Clerk had met with a representative of Playquip and received a quote for metal fencing at £15, 000 plus.

ACTION Draw a specification with a plan to include: recommended height of fencing + field gate + 2 x access gate + type of fencing (wood or metal). Treatment of wood for longevity and safety. Location of fencing. Plan to be shown to person responsible for mowing so as to consider maintenance strimming or mowing. Gang mower or Council to purchase hand mower but where would it be stored?

To consider long term upkeep of grass area. There is clearly an appetite to encourage a more 'wild' appearance.

Funding was discussed and to be further sought but we need a specification to commence process.

The Clerk reported that Cllr De Vries had promised £500 from his locality funding. **ACTION** Clerk to complete request form.

Cllr Nuttall to forward quote and funding details to Clerk

19. Parish Land Report ~ Motts Hill Pond requires attention as overtaken with nettles ~ to be included in project as at Item 18

20. Councillors considered the purchase a dog bag dispenser ~ Councillors had seen a bag dispenser which had been priced against similar products. **RESOLVED 19/10/20** The Clerk was given delegated powers to purchase a dog bag dispense and bags up to £200.00 Cllr Smith has a post and will install.

Another dog waste bin had been requested near the Village Hall but the problem of emptying would have to be considered and investigated. This was noted

21. Councillors considered the purchase of additional signage re dog fouling ~ Cllr Albrow has a sign reserved previously so this will be installed on the recreation ground. **ACTION** Cllr Smith to install

22. Village Hall Report ~ Repairs have been carried out to the stage flooring. New chairs will be purchased to use specifically on the stage area to try and prevent further damage. The issue of providing heating to the Hall when required is being investigated.

23. Councillors discussed the co-option of an ordinary vacancy ~ a number of people are still showing some interest and these conversations are ongoing.

24. To receive an update on the provision of a web site for the Parish Council ~ Cllr Nuttall reported that he had attended a meeting with a local web site designer and presented some details to consider. Councillor Nuttall had also discussed basic detail of a new web site with other organisations within the Village who are keen to collaborate with a Hadstock web site. The web designer is local and has worked with other Parish Councils. The initial cost is approximately £750.00 with additional annual costings to host the web site. The company would be able to provide training at extra cost. Interested parties would be responsible for their own page set up, content and administration. They would also need to discuss their individual needs with the designer. The Clerk has received an alternative proposal (quote) which was considered but found not to be favourable taking into account the expense and the preferred provider is local to the Village which would be much more convenient. It was agreed to investigate further the preferred designer.

ACTION Councillor Nuttall will obtain a complete proposal from the preferred designer.

The exact apportionment of costs will need to be discussed with others who will collaborate when full costs are known.

A meeting of members of the Parish Council may be necessary with the provider to discuss in more detail the Parish Council requirements and to finalise details. The Parish Council is keen to finalise all details and costs in good time before the closure of the current provider in March 2020.

It was **RESOLVED 19/10/24** that Hadstock.org to be registered in the name of Hadstock Parish Council at a cost of £10.00

25. FINANCE REPORT

[a] Finance Report ~ there has minimal expenditure this month. The accounts predict an over spend due to the receipt of 2 invoices for the Green Skip in one financial year (one being received and therefore paid after the close of previous year). Reserves are approximately £16, 500 to the year end which gives a good amount of money to spend on unbudgeted items such as the Recreation Ground and web site.

The Precept of £5, 014.00 was received in September and included in October bank reconciliation.

[b] Councillors considered a donation to the Royal British Legion for a Remembrance Day Wreath. It was **RESOLVED 19/10/25b** that the Council in accordance with its powers under section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure: £17.00 to the Royal British Legion for a Remembrance Day Wreath. The Chair, Cllr Albrow, will lay the wreath at the War Memorial on behalf of the Village.

[c] To agree and approve payments as presented at the meeting listed below. RESOLVED 19/10/25c

CHEQUE NO.	INVOICE NO.	PAYEE	DESCRIPTION	COST	V.A.T	TOTAL
101238		Ms S A Beckett	October 2019 Salary	271.07		271.07

An invoice from Uttlesford Association of Local Councils £5.00 had been received Clerk to provide more information at the next meeting.

[d] As part of the Finance report the Clerk informed Councillors of communication from the Pensions Regulator which requires confirmation of employees Pension Status. The Clerk confirmed that status and it was RESOLVED 19/10/25d for the Clerk to complete and return before June 2020

26. Correspondence Any appropriate correspondence has been forwarded to Councillors.

Late correspondence re Cambridgeshire Highway repairs close to Linton Zoo ~ that this is being chased by Linton Parish Council and will be monitored by Hadstock Parish Council ~ due to take place in November 2019.

27. Items to be considered for the next agenda: Membership of the Hundred Parishes Society £10.00

28. Date of next Parish Council Meeting: 14 November 2019 at 7.30pm

Meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed as a true record **with amendment** and **RESOLVED** to approve

Councillor R Albrow (Chair) 14 November 2019