

HADSTOCK PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 25 March 2021 at 7.30pm via ZOOM

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting via Zoom and informed all that proceedings were being recorded for the benefit of accurate minutes. **Present:** Parish Councillors Rick Albrow, Keith Nuttall, Jude Hannam, Sara Porter, Parish Clerk Sara Beckett & County Councillor Walsh. Three members of the public present.
2. Apologies for absence were received and approved Cllr Trevor Smith & District Councillor James DeVries.
RESOLVED 21/03/02
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 Parish Council meeting held on **Thursday 25 February 2021** were received and approved **RESOLVED 21/03/04** The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public Participation** A member of the public spoke to the following items:
 - [a] Lack of draft minutes on web site
 - [b] Really impressed by the work that is going on at the Recreation Ground by the Parish Council. Many people would be unaware of the work that has been carried out
 - [c] Wondered if there could be a wild flower meadow in the Recreation Ground
 - [d] Was pleased to see the trees had been planted and looked very good as did the fencing.
 - [e] Wild east had been investigated further but was concerned that there was no substance and felt that it was likely that no further investigation was needed
 - [f] The repair work to the steps was excellent and thanks were expressedThe Clerk referring to [a] apologised for the oversight
The Chair referring to [c] confirmed that this work was planned but had been deferred due to Covid-19 but hopefully will continue in the Autumn. With regard to [b] it was a point well-made and needs to be addressed by the Parish Council. Items do go into the Magazine but is limiting
A member of the public spoke to the following items:
 - [a] Agreed that the steps were a great improvement.
 - [b] Signage that might be on Arnold's Lane but having spoken to the Chair this item would be withdrawn from the Agenda and will be minuted appropriately
6. Report from District Councillor ~ Cllr Devries had sent his late apologies and would forward a report
7. Report from County Councillor ~ Cllr Walsh was present and reported that rates of Covid-19 were decreasing in Uttlesford. A number of Libraries were being used to provide lateral flow tests details on the County Council website.
Recycling continued to be very good and was recognised as being 6th in the appropriate league. Concerning the flooding along the Linton Road, Cllr Walsh proposed that a meeting be set up with the Cabinet member to discuss further. It was felt that it was a highways verses land owner issue. It was hoped that this would enable the Parish Council to express the concerns by landing in the right place and might move the issue forward. Cllr Walsh reported that the Local Highways Panel would be meeting and was asked that the issue of potholes /maintenance be addressed. Councillors felt that Essex Highways seemed to have disappeared. Cllr Walsh felt it was fair comment but Highways have had issues due to Covid and managing their work load but would action the concerns expressed. Councillor Walsh was asked if highways issues reported generally could be accessed by the Parish Council because it is impossible to track and monitor for the benefit of the Village. Cllr Walsh would discuss this with Rissa Long.

- 8. Clerks Report** ~ Playground Inspection required now fencing is complete. Agreed to proceed
 PRoW will be organised
 Community Initiative funding is still available to Parish Council
 Stansted Funding is still available to Parish Council
 Invoices for District Councillor Ward Initiative forwarded
 Lens path repairs at Zoo end outstanding
 Kings Head Planning application comments submitted to UDC
 Insurance for Parish Council is to be reviewed ~ to meet with Chair to discuss and present to Council in the future.
 Tree delivery for recreation ground immanent
 Highway Defects data report still awaited
 Green Skip ~ service commenced
- 9. Councillors Report** ~ Cllr Albrow will provide a written report on tree work on Recreation Ground
 Other items are on the Agenda
- 10. To consider and resolve a decision on Planning Application/s**
 UTT/21/0385/FUL | Alterations to and extension of proposed barn conversion to 1 no. dwelling (approved under UTT/20/1165/PAQ3) including change to boundaries. | Building at Little Bowsers Farm Bowsers Lane Hadstock. The Chair explained the application. This was permitted development but due to slight increase in footprint planning permission needed ~ no comment necessary **RESOLVED 21/03/10**
- 11. Decisions made by UDC on planning application/s** ~none
- 12. Uttlesford District Council Local Plan preparation** ~ a further Theme 8 Homes was noted.
- 13. Lens Path** ~
 [a] Cllr Nuttall reported that the lease is being informally assessed with a view to acquiring an official legal opinion.
 [b] The work at the Village end of Len's path has been completed and many positive comments have been received by Councillors. The surface is working very well. The work has been carried out to a high standard even though it's not the most attractive surface and does not blend in that well, all were very happy with the result.
 [c] The work required at the Zoo end was discussed. To seek further advice as to the cause of the excess and standing water. Clerk to enquire of the availability of road planings.
- 14. Highways/Speed watch report** ~
Highways ~as per Councillor Walsh's report (meeting to be arranged)
Speed watch ~ This is to be resumed in the next few days. (29 March 2021) New volunteers have undertaken training which is welcomed. It was requested that additional locations might be incorporated within the scheme and to seek approval for Linton Road and Bartlow Road.
 [d] No other highways issues were reported, apart from the usual abundance of potholes
- 15. Recreation Ground Report** ~
 [a] i. The fencing has been completed and many positive comments received. There are a few teething problems so a snag list will be compiled to address these with the contractor, but overall, very happy with the work undertaken **RESOLVED 21/03/15ai**
 ii. Gate & post work had been completed but requires some adjustment due to height and weight of gate
 iii. To purchase, in the future, a 6ft oak bench at (replacement) approximately £450 **RESOLVED 21/03/15aiii**
 [b] Play equipment report & specifically review
 Two quotes had been received for work to be carried out on the Recreation ground. It was felt that it was appropriate accept quote (IB) as described to include removal of bench base **RESOLVED 21/03/15b Clerk to ACTION**. It was also discussed that the contractor being local would be available to carry out minor repairs and be on hand should an emergency arise.

[c] Cllr Albrow had investigated signage within the recreation ground in accordance with Playground reports in previous years.

2 x A3 signs for rec fencing (Suitable wording previously circulated) approx. £25 for 2. +p&p. In aluminium dibond

2 x 'no dogs' signs for Rec fencing. Stock design in rigid plastic. £1 - £4 each. + p&p. Cllr Albrow to purchase and will be reimbursed **RESOLVED 21/03/15c**

[d] Cllr. Albrow has prepared a report following completion of work carried out related to the tree survey and will email to all.

16. Parish Land Project (Design and management of all land owned by the Parish Council in addition to the Recreation Ground) ~ to discuss and resolve as necessary.

[a] Update and general discussion

[b] The 8 trees gifted by UDC from the East of England Apples and Orchards project have been planted with the help of volunteers. Cllr Albrow will circulate a map showing situation. It is hoped that if the trees develop successfully, further trees with an Essex heritage could be added in the future.

[c] Councillors considered a proposal that the underspend £600 currently in reserves for tree planting, be carried over to next financial year. (2021/22) To be used for further tree planting or wild flower seed. As the recent planting was at no cost. It is hoped that volunteers may lead this project. **RESOLVED 21/03/16c**

17. FINANCE REPORT 2020/21

[a]The Clerk reported that the current account spreadsheet had been sent to all. The predicted and known expenses have been updated. The bank reconciliation was complete ready for signature. Because the income and expenditure of the Council is below £25000 Council will need to resolve to submit the exemption certificate for completion of Part 2 of the AGAR form. Clerk and Chair to meet to finalise accounts to be signed off by Council. Clerk to confirm arrangements for Internal Audit.

The Clerk advised that it is necessary to purchase a replacement Parish Council printer with an expected expenditure of £112.00 **RESOLVED 21/03/17a** for the Clerk to purchase and claim re-imburement using delegated powers

[b]The Clerk advised that relevant invoices were sent to UDC with reference the District Councillors Ward Initiative funding, which were £345.00 for repairs to gate on recreation ground and £140.00 Hadstock books for welcome bags, a total of £485.00 has been received and accounted for.

[c] The Clerk advised of the payments for approval as listed below Councillors considered these which were approved to pay **RESOLVED 21/03/17c**

[d] The Clerk advised with detail of Invoices received since the publication of the Agenda which are now included in the list below Councillors considered these which were approved to pay **RESOLVED 21/03/17d** It was noted that the total for this month was £7000. The Current account was currently just over £17000 but did include grant funding already received.

Cheq #	Payee	Description	Net amount	VAT	Total
101300	Ms S A Beckett	Clerks Salary ~ March	278.45		278.45
101301	Mr T Boyden	Reimbursement for materials to repair Bowers Bridge	128.00		128.00
101302	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	Len's Path Village end repairs	375.00	75.00	450.00
101303	Greenscroft Fencing	Fencing of recreation ground play equipment	5372.00		5372.00
101304	Uttlesford District Council	Village Green Waste Skip	1050.00		1050.00
101305	HMRC	PAYE Q4 Jan-March 2021	225.6		225.6
101306	EALC	Councillor Training Planning	70.00	14.00	84.00
101307	Ms S A Beckett	Re-imburement for Printer	103.94	16.67	103.94

TOTAL 7691.99

- 18. Community development** ~ Cllr Hannam gave an update on a course she is attending, aimed at how to strengthen and rebuild communities. It is an 8-week programme identifying people within the community who have skills, passions, interests and how to involve those with ideas, but may not be comfortable with attending meetings and getting involved particularly within the Parish Council. It's a matter of encouraging people to participate who have a lot to offer in other ways but don't necessarily come forward. Cllr Hannam was encouraged to report when the course has concluded as it would seem to be an excellent way of learning and disseminating how to empower people to use their own initiative which would be very valuable to the village. Councillors all made positive comments and noted that the Recreation Ground would be ideal for a community party. It was also discussed that some form of Parish news should be given some thought and an Agenda item for the next meeting.
- 19. Bilberry End Lighting** Both Cllr Porter and the Clerk gave an update. Cllr Porter reported that a resident had stated the new light was too bright conversely the Clerk reported that a resident had concerns that the light did not illuminate sufficiently within the close as the previous one had. The Clerk had spoken to Norse who are the contractors responsible, it had been necessary to replace the unit which was now compliant with the current legislation. It was suggested that more lights might be provided but this was not within their remit and might require planning permission or that residents might fit their own lighting to their homes.
- 20. Future projects** ~ This was discussed briefly Councillors to prepare a brief of their suggestions for discussion and resolution at the next meeting
- 21. Village Hall Report.** The Village Hall will be opening again in May with limited numbers as per legislation.
- 22. Parish Land Report & PRow's** ~
 [a] general update & discussion
 [b] The voluntary repair work carried out on the steps between Bantons and Arnold's Lane was noted. This was at a cost of £128.00 for materials only and would be re-imbursed. The work has been really well received and very much appreciated. The Parish Council wished to express their thanks for excellent work carried out. Clerk to acknowledge this to the resident.
 [c] The agenda item to approve expenditure for signage 2 x 'no horses' signs for Arnolds Lane was withdrawn by the Chairman having been further informed by a member of the public.
 [d] The subject of repairs to Moules Lane was discussed, this is the area that has been of concern previously and had received remedial attention by the Rangers. It was felt that local builders might be able to assist. It was noted that traffic to the house was the likely cause of most of the problems. The Chair would action. Clerk to action for quotes.
- 23. Future meetings** ~ legislation still means that remote meetings have to cease on May 7th. This will be monitored.
- 24. Update re Annual Meeting of the Parish** ~ this remains as above and from previous minutes
- 25. Correspondence** ~ None other than routine circulated to all.
- 26. Items to be considered for next Agenda** ~ update on Welcome Bags
- 27. To confirm the date of the next meeting** ~ **Thursday 29 April 2021 via Zoom.**

The Chair thanked all for attending and the meeting closed at 9:32pm

..... Chairman.

Signed as a true record and RESOLVED to approve on 29 April 2021