



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 27 February 2025

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Hadstock.

Present: Parish Councillors: Keith Nuttall, Jude Hannam, John Lockton, Denise Wells, David Johnson, Simon Gosling, Parish Clerk, District Councillor John Moran & 3 members of the public.

1. The Chair welcomed all to the meeting, reminded Councillors of the fire safety procedure and announced that proceedings may be filmed or recorded.
2. No apologies from Parish Councillors required as all present.
Apologies had been received from County Councillor Martin Foley
3. Declaration of Members' Interests & to remind Councillors of the need to keep up to date their Register of Members' Interests and to receive any Members' Dispensations – none notified.
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 23 January 2025** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 25/02/04**. The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public participation-** A member of the public spoke referencing the road traffic accident which occurred in October 2024 and enquired as to whether HPC had received any positive actions from Essex County Council as to how they planned to address the safety issue at this the location.
[this was reported in agenda item 13a] A member of the public wished to confirm that any spoil from the installation of the new piece of play equipment would be disposed of appropriately. It was also reported that brambles and bushes had been cut back to aid visibility Bartlow Road/ Moules Lane junction as on exiting Moules Lane it was impossible to see approaching traffic. Thanks were expressed.
6. **County Councillor** report had been sent and circulated to all on 05 February 2025. Councillor Foley could be contacted if required.
7. **District Councillor Moran** gave an extensive report, noting that the 2025/26 budget had been approved. However, it was emphasised that there would be no funding for building council houses, but with the anticipated sale of Chesterford Research Park, it is expected that an additional £2 million in funding will become available going forward for this budget line.
Norse, which has been responsible for delivering a range of frontline services in Essex, including council house maintenance, repairs, and cleaning services, will not have its contract renewed. Devolution and local government reorganisation are separate issues. Firstly, in 2026, there will be the election of a Mayor, followed by the formation of a cabinet with leaders from Essex County Council and the Borough Councils. In 2027, unitary authorities will be established, and by 2028, District and County Councils will cease to exist.
The Local Plan is currently with the Planning Inspectorate, and early indications suggest that the housing numbers and allocations will remain unchanged.
8. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:** would be addressed within meeting.
9. Planning Application/s none to consider
10. To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s – UTT/24/3190/HHF Symantha Cottage
Bartlow Road Hadstock Essex CB21 4PF APPROVED
11. To receive an update on planning matters – none to report
12. Applications still awaiting determination - 2 Yew Tree Place is still undetermined

13. Highways ~ to receive an update on highways issues, discuss and resolve actions

[a] Highways ~ The Clerk gave an update on the LHP meeting that was attended virtually, where the Clerk was able to enquire about the issues that were still outstanding and relevant to Hadstock and in particular the measures that might be taken following the October 2024 RTA.

i. Bartlow Road - remedial work undertaken. Measures to protect the verges from overrun is at validation

ii. Moules Lane - Drainage leading to the recreation ground and measures to protect the verge. This scheme has been validated as being feasible and is available for Panel consideration.

Validation recommends a Feasibility Study is undertaken - which may require additional funding for a CCTV survey if required at a later date. In addition, Cllr Johnson was able to report that whilst ECC Highways have not attended to this work, with the assistance of a resident he had been able to undertake some clearing of the drainage to try and resolve the issue of retention of water on the highway.

iii. Walden Road / Linton Road - Speed Control measures for Walden Road / Linton Road – in Validation.

In addition to [iii] which was work identified before the RTA in October 2024 Cllr Nuttall reported that following the receipt of his email to a number of recipients The Highways Liaison

officer responded [abbreviated] as follows *Potential LHP scheme LUTT242006 is currently still awaiting scheme validation which requires a site visit from a Design Engineer. It is important that any change to the public highway is properly assessed in terms of our own policy, DfT guidance as well as and most importantly safety. At present the Design Team are fully occupied with finishing scheme work for funded schemes which need to be completed by the end of the financial year and unfortunately this will inevitably impact the speed at which scheme validations can be done. I will continue to chase the Design Team for the scheme validation for this site and will advise as soon as I receive the completed scheme validation.*

The Clerk asked why it was thought that safety posts may be too wide in comparison with planters as LHP suggested planters may be a solution but a feasibility study would be needed and if approved a license would be required at HPC expense. Cllr Moran advised there is a specialist safety unit attached to Highways which it was felt had been informed of the statistics from recent correspondence. **ACTION** Cllr Nuttall to correspond again with all recipients previously involved.

[b] Update on overgrown vegetation on Bartlow Road – Cllr Johnson had hand delivered the letters previously approved by HPC. It was noted that cables were at near ground level some supported by a random pole near a residents drive way. Whilst some vegetation had been cut back by a resident, it was felt that it needed to be cut back further **ACTION** Cllr Lockton would speak to resident about both matters. The Clerk reported that a resident had expressed concerns about contact with the grown vegetation on Bartlow Road with overhead cables – **ACTION** to advise to contact UK Power networks. [post meeting Clerk had contacted UKP who will liaise with resident]

As previously discussed, the work required to the overgrown vegetation in a specific area on Bartlow due to identified safety issues relevant to all road users, should be carried out due to these exceptional circumstances noting that ECC have been advised numerous times without action.

Through Sustainable Hadstock a professional service has quoted as per minutes 28/11/24 to carry out the necessary work and have advised a road closure would not be required and would need to carry out the required work within approximately 2 weeks being time sensitive. It was confirmed that the required work was too 'big' to be undertaken by the 'Green Team' and confirmed with resident present that it would not be possible to be undertaken **ACTION** As specific residents had been notified, Cllr Lockton to confirm with contractor to undertake work required as per quote and further inform residents through Hadstock Info via the clerk. **RESOLVED 25/02/13b**

[c] Speed watch~ Cllr Nuttall reported a recent watch had taken place

[d] Pothole reporting- it was noted that Linton Road [ditch] is still unresolved **ACTION** Cllr Nuttall to take photos and send a note to appropriate bodies

14. FINANCE 2024/2025

[a] HPC noted the bank balance of £ 21,957.01 reconciliation of bank at £21,29.23 and budget monitor of accounts as at January 2024/25. **Noted 25/01/14a**

[b] It was noted that there will be an increase in fee payable to the Information Commissioners Office [ICO] from £40.00 to £52.00

[c] it was agreed to meet the payment terms associated with the new piece of play equipment ordered from Sovereign. This is required to [a] meet the terms of the contract and [b] meet the terms of the grant funding from UDC and [c] to manage internal financial controls. **RESOLVED 25/02/14c**

[d] the clerk presented the detail of payments as per schedule. HPC agreed and approved payments listed below **RESOLVED 25/02/14d**

Cheque	Payee	Description	Net amount	VAT	Total	
101541	Sovereign	DEPOSIT play equipment	1152.40	230.48	1382.88	
101542	Sovereign	BALANCE play equipment	3457.20	619.44	4148.64	
101543	ROW	SH Energy assessments	240.00		240.00	
101544	Ms S A Beckett	Salary month 11	398.79	-	398.79	
101545	Uttlesford District Council	Green Skip 2024	1539.00		1539.00	
101546	Ms S A Beckett	Clerks expenses [travel /ink]	134.46	8.00	142.46	

[e] to agree and approve appropriate invoices received after Agenda issued - not required

[f] the clerk gave an update on request for funding from District Councillor Moran and as in his report he will confirm by email the following week.

15. Governance

[a] it was noted that the Clerk had received notification from Barclays Bank that Cllr Lockton was now a signatory for Hadstock Parish Council.

[b] Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator update - no further action and to remove from future agendas.

[c] Hadstock Parish Council reviewed and approved the HPC Financial regulations [2024 NALC edition with relevant amendments relevant to HPC] as presented by the clerk **RESOLVED 25/02/15c**

[d] Hadstock Parish Council reviewed and approved Management of Risk document updated and presented by the Clerk **RESOLVED 25/02/15d**

[e] Hadstock Parish Council reviewed and approved the Publication Scheme document updated 2025 as presented by the clerk **RESOLVED 25/02/15e**

The Clerk was thanked for all the work on these documents

[d] Hadstock Parish Council discussed the proposed meeting dates from April 2025 as presented by the Clerk and to continue to meet on the last Thursday of each month apart from August [no meeting scheduled] and December/January adjusted according to budget and precept requirements.

RESOLVED 25/02/15d

[e] following discussion of the date for the Hadstock Annual Parish Meeting [This meeting must be held **between 1st March and 1st June**] it was decided to collaborate with Sustainable Hadstock and pub night [28 April 2025] TBC **RESOLVED 25/02/15e** [post meeting this has been confirmed]

16. The Sustainable Hadstock Working Group [SHWG] - Cllr Lockton gave an update to the report already distributed.

- Progressing against plan
- 36 House energy reviews undertaken - have now stopped.
- use of thermal imaging camera is still available
- events are planned and well attended
- May should see the commencement of the rewilding part of the project
- Sustainable Uttlesford has been set up
- Further funding of £6563.00 has been granted and it was noted that the committee responsible highly commended the project

The Village Hall have also been awarded £17500 through the same scheme for solar panels and battery system installation.

Cllr Lockton was thanked in recognition for all his work and commitment to the project.

HPC **RESOLVED 25/02/16** to accept to the grant funding for Sustainable Hadstock

- 17. To confirm a date for the spring litter pick** Sunday 16 March 2025 from the Village Green at 10.00.

RESOLVED 25/02/17

ACTION Clerk to arrange for litter bags and for the collection by UDC following the event.

ACTION Cllr Nuttall to notify through village email

- 18. Recreation Ground Report ~**

[a] the installation of play equipment in the recreation ground has been arranged for 30 April 2025 confirmed for water supply with resident. HPC will confirm the placement of spoil with the contractors on the day.

[b] HPC received a brief report on recreation ground and it was noted that SH hope to start some clearing in March. **ACTION** Cllr Johnson Picnic table seat repair is outstanding. Step repair needs attention.

[c] Cllr Johnson confirmed recreation ground is in good order **RESOLVED 25/02/18c**

[d] HPC confirmed all play equipment has been visually checked and useable **RESOLVED 25/02/18d**

- 19. Defibrillator** Cllr Wells reported all in order. The cut out and keep detail as discussed at the last meeting had been sent to the magazine and one would be laminated and placed in the box. **NB**

ACTION to put in the notice board. **ACTION** Cllr Wells will circulate details of the RCCE membership event

- 20. Parish Land Report & PRow's ~** Cllr Johnson had carried out a repair to the Linton Road fence near the horse field. Signage on the bend at Bartlow Road has again been reported with a photo.

- 21. Village Hall Report ~** Cllr Hannam reported the secondary double glazing had been installed to the windows in the hall and kitchen. One of the committee chairs has stepped down and the committee will be seeking a replacement. The extent of the hall bookings meant that individually each committee member was very busy and seeking new members

- 22. To note items for next agenda-** consider membership to RCCE other items noted by the clerk

- 23. To note the next Meeting** will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 27 March 2025 at 7.45pm

- 24. A public exempt not required**

- 25. Chairman closed the meeting at 21.40 pm**

..... **Chairman.**

Signed as a true record and **RESOLVED** to approve on 27 March 2025.