



## Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 24 April 2025

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Hadstock.

**Present:** Parish Councillors: Keith Nuttall [Chair], Jude Hannam, Denise Wells, John Lockton, David Johnson, Simon Gosling, Parish Clerk, District Councillor John Moran & 2 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 were required.  
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 27 March 2025** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 25/04/04**. The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public participation-** No members of the public wished to speak.
6. **County Councillor** A recent report had been sent and circulated to all in relation to the discontinuation of the Local Highways Panel [LHP] whilst under review. Councillor Foley has sent an email to the portfolio holder Cllr Tom Cunningham at Essex County Council with a variety of points, comments and questions. Councillor Foley could be contacted if required and will attend the Annual Parish Meeting on 25 April 2025.
7. **District Councillor Moran** – the problems of the drainage at Bilberry End were ongoing with UDC conceding that it is under their jurisdiction. This issue of ownership has brought to light that it would be beneficial to Parish Councils to have an audit of land within their Parishes to clarify ownership.  
Cllr Moran has concerns about a recent submission of a planning application for Hadstock and will be 'calling it in' meaning that it will be decided by a planning committee rather than a delegated officer decision.  
District Councillor ward funding will no longer be available but Cllr Moran suggested that there will be funding through a Rural funding pot. **ACTION** Clerk to investigate for the future.  
Cllr Moran left the meeting having been thanked for his £600 ward funding allocation which had allowed the Parish Council to purchase a replacement bench on the recreation ground for which HPC are extremely grateful.
8. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:** Updates for information only.  
**Clerks report**
  - The previously reported dog incident was resolved by the Police
  - Arrangements for the Annual Parish Meeting the following night are in hand
  - A payroll issue was noted to be discussed under public exempt**Councillors report**
  - Cllr Hannam reported that she now has 30 mobile phone holders for the welcome bags
  - Cllr Nuttall reported that there had been no further communication ref Linton Road 'hole in the wall' and would chase all stake holders further. **ACTION**
  - Cllr Lockton reported that the drainage issue on Walden Road has still not been resolved

9. Planning Application/s none to consider
10. To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s –
11. To receive an update on planning matters – none to report
12. Applications still awaiting determination - none
13. **Highways ~ to receive an update on highways issues, discuss and resolve actions**

[a] Highways ~ Cllr Nuttall reported

[i] no further news re the safety measures that might be adopted for the problems at the bottom of the hill [Walden Road/Linton Road junction]

[ii] Linton Road –the ‘hole in the bank’ area remains despite identification by what3words and as above **ACTION** Cllr Nuttall to chase

[iii] as per Councillor Foleys information about the LHP which included Moules Lane curbing, this will need to be monitored and a further way of resolving the issue may be needed.

[b] Speed watch~ Cllr Nuttall reported 12 car drivers have been reported at the last session

[g] Pothole reporting update – very much improved in that most had been dealt with. **ACTION** Clerk to report Walden Road [near spring] as this is again causing concern.

#### **FINANCE 2024/2025**

[a] to note the bank balance, income, reconciliation and budget monitor of accounts as at March 2025

#### **FINANCE 2025/2026**

[a] £20,955.46 bank statement balance, £20,017.75 as adjusted bank balance as at 31 March 2025 by Scribe, income as minuted, £7163.00 reconciliation and budget monitor of accounts as at March 2025 noted.

[b] to agree and approve payments listed below **RESOLVED 25/04/13b**

[c] no invoices received after Agenda issued

[d] the approval to purchase of new parish council laptop and associated requirements was not discussed

Cheque	Payee	Description	Net amount	VAT	Total	APPROVED
101561	ROW SOLUTIONS	SH ENERGY ASS. AND SUPPORT	485.00		485.00	✓
101562	MR J LOCKTON	SH THE HAWKE AND OWL TRUST	66.67	13.33	80.00	✓
101563	COMMUNITY HEARTBEAT TRUST	DEFIBRILLATOR ANNUAL FEE	126.00	25.2	151.20	✓
101564	EALC	AFFLIATION FEES	127.16		127.16	✓
101565	SLCC	MEMBERSHIP FEES	150.00		150.00	✓
101566	EALC	IA/EA AUDIT COURSE	125.00	25.00	150.00	✓
101567	MR D JOHNSON	ONLINE PLAYGROUNDS			43.40	✓
101568	MR D JOHNSON	HUW AND GRAY MATERIALS FOR REPAIRS	60.27	12.06	72.33	✓
101569	MS S BECKETT	MONTH 1 SALARY	390.99		390.99	✓
101570	NO BUTTS BIN CO LTD	BENCH AND FIXINGS [CLLR MORAN]	370.5	74.1	444.6	✓

#### **14. Governance**

[a] the election of a Chairman and the role for the future was discussed, with the Clerk explaining the distinct role responsibilities. It was recognised that the Council is a corporate body but other aspects should be considered in relation to tasks that members of HPC undertake within the village. A previous list as discussed in 2024 will be circulated **ACTION** Clerk to circulate

[b] Reference handling of issues that may require action/enforcement of correspondence to HPC was **RESOLVED 25/04/14b to be discussed** under public exempt

[c] Cllr Drop-in sessions at Uttlesford District Council and the nature of such was discussed- It was **RESOLVED 25/04/14c to approve attendance by Councillor Wells.**

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

- Transition between financial years
- Finance has a good budget for 2025/26
- All house surveys to be analysed
- Work on recreation has started lots of brambles removed
- Tree saplings have been collected to be planted in the autumn
- Blue print for VH is being prepared
- Annual review tomorrow evening as part of the Annual Parish Meeting
- Future speakers being sought
- No talks over the summer
- Stand at Village Fete
- Future presentations being undertaken to outside bodies in May
- No more thermal imaging until Autumn
- Ancient wood assessment of Hadstock wood
- 1<sup>st</sup> Wild life survey on Nature reserve
- Survey of wild flowers in the wood May 21<sup>st</sup>
- First bird survey 13<sup>th</sup> May

**16.** The supply and placement of a memorial bench was discussed following an enquiry from a resident of the memorial bench for a long time resident and past councillor of Hadstock. It was noted that this had recently been installed **ACTION** Clerk to inform resident

**17. Recreation Ground Report ~**

[a] arrangements for the installation of play equipment in the recreation ground 30 April 2025 was discussed **ACTION** Clerk to confirm water requirements and time of arrival of installers

[b] HPC received the report from Cllr Johnson

i. recreation ground -

ii. recreation ground is in good order – confirmed. Old bin with very heavy concrete base has been removed – thanks to Cllr Lockton

iii. round picnic bench was reported to now be beyond repair and it was proposed that the remaining money from Cllr Moran's funding minus the 72.33 spent on materials for repairing should be put towards a new recycled picnic bench from the same supplier as the recently purchased bench with SH paying for the difference. **ACTION** Cllr Wells to enquire and to tie up both orders for a discount if possible. **RESOLVED 25/04/17iii.** The new bench recently purchased through Cllr Moran's funding will be installed by Cllr Johnson and it was also **RESOLVED 25/04** that the Memorial plaque from the old bench should be re-instated

iv. confirmed all play equipment has been visually checked and useable. Step at foot of slide needs attention. **RESOLVED 25/03/18bi, ii and iv**

**18. Defibrillator** - Cllr Wells confirmed all in order

**19. Listed Telephone Box Maintenance** – whilst costs had been approved the Clerk had been notified that on meeting certain conditions, paint could be supplied free of charge by the British Coating Federation [BCF] <https://coatings.org.uk/> which was gratefully accepted. Repairs and painting date to be arranged **ACTION** Clerk to confirm procedure with BCF [post meeting confirmed and sent to all]

**20. Parish Land Report & PRow's ~** finger post on village green needs further repair and bench under Village sign needs weather proofing. [Last done by Rangers] An audit of land and footpaths will be undertaken. Cllr Lockton to discuss with resident who raised concerns **RESOLVED 25/03/20** so that a more formal approach can be undertaken. It was noted that the white 'gates' on Walden Road might need repainting **ACTION** Cllr Nuttall to check

**21. Village Hall Report ~** Cllr Hannam reported that the Hall has a number of regular bookings. Panto rehearsal will be commencing shortly. May, August and September are quieter months and all were

encouraged to advertise the wonderful facilities. Thanks were expressed to the work of the VH Committee. Cllr Wells reported that an event recently took place and had reported to her that they had been so impressed with the facilities offered at the VH

22. **To note items for next agenda-** noted throughout meeting.
23. **To note the next Meeting** will take place in the Village Hall on **Thursday 29 May 2025 at 19.45pm.**
24. **To note the Annual Parish Meeting** will take place in the Village Hall on **Friday 25 April 2025 at 18.30pm.**
25. HPC had noted items that by virtue of confidentiality would require the public to be exempt from further discussions and **RESOLVED 25/04/25** that under The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted that the public should be asked to leave. Members of the public left the meeting and a discussion took place related to an item noted by the Clerk ref payroll and National Insurance where it was agreed that due to recent lowering of employers National Insurance contributions HPC would now be liable and Item 14b recognising that correspondence is most often sent to the Clerk inevitably sometimes Councillors are contacted individually. Any action should be confirmed by a resolution of the council and councillors need to be aware of GDPR responsibilities. Rather exceptional events had occurred recently and had been dealt with appropriately in the view of the Council. **RESOLVED EXEMPT 25/04/25** Matters always vary and will be dealt with on an individual basis being mindful of the discussions held.
26. **Chairman closed the meeting at 21.39pm**

..... Chairman.

**Signed as a true record and RESOLVED to approve on 29 May 2025.**