



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 31 July 2025

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Hadstock.

Present: Parish Councillors: Denise Wells [Chair] David Johnson, Simon Gosling, Parish Clerk & 1 member of the public.

1. The Chair Councillor Wells, welcomed all to the meeting, reminded Councillors of the fire safety procedure and announced that proceedings may be filmed or recorded.
2. Apologies from Parish Councillors Hannam and Lockton were received and approved **RESOLVED 25/07/02**
Apologies had been received from County Councillor Martin Foley. District Councillor Moran had informed that he hoped to attend but apologies were noted in his absence
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 26 June 2025** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 25/07/04**. The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public participation-** a member of the public enquired if there was an update to the drain issue in Bilberry End and had hoped to have an update from D.C Moran. The Clerk explained that 2 emails had been sent and apologised that there was no update **ACTION** Clerk to email Cllr Moran. Concerns were raised about a car parked in Bilberry End which had not been moved for a considerable time possibly not taxed and without an MOT. The Clerk was able to check online with the details given and confirmed no MOT and SORN advised resident to contact Essex Constabulary and to also inform of the concerns raised of a car parked at Cobbler's Corners which had caused an obstruction and questioned if yellow lines should be applied.
6. **Report from County Councillor** – email report circulated previously
7. **Report from District Councillor Moran** – brief email report District councillors have a Local Government Reform briefing scheduled for the 11th of August, I will update you with what comes out from that meeting. Local Highways Panel has resumed, but many schemes have been removed and further funding is unclear. I am speaking to ECC to understand what will happen with local highways schemes over the next 3 years.
8. **Action points and matters arising from previous meetings:** Updates for information only.
The Clerk reported a list of councillor actions had been sent to all and gave an update on the actions completed by the Clerk since the last meeting most of which would be on the agenda
Councillors report items were on the agenda
9. **Planning Application/s UTT/25/1720/FUL** | Conversion and extension of the existing building to form 1 no. self-build dwelling | Building At The Control Tower Bowers Lane Hadstock. HPC discussed the application and **RESOLVED 25/07/09** to support this application provided the historical and heritage asset is preserved for the future.
10. **To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s - UTT/25/0871/FUL** | Demolition of buildings and structures associated to car repair business (Class B2) and erection of 3 no. residential dwellings (Class C3) and associated works **APPROVED** with conditions by UDC Planning Committee.

- 11. To receive an update on planning matters** – Councillor Wells reported on the site meeting of the Coal Shed application and the Clerk reported on the committee meeting at which the application was approved details available within UDC committee minutes

<https://uttlesford.moderngov.co.uk/documents/g6534/Printed%20minutes%2002nd-Jul-2025%2010.00%20Planning%20Committee.pdf?T=1>

The Clerk reported on a planning application **UTT/25/1994/HHF** | Demolition of existing detached single garage and erection of replacement detached single garage. Fairhill Moules Lane Hadstock Essex CB21 4PD received after publication of the agenda for this meeting HPC had reviewed the application and as a replacement structure did not feel that a further meeting should be 'called' to resolve a comment

- 12. Applications still awaiting determination** - none to note

13. Governance ~

[a] External auditor [EA] communication – the Clerk reported that an email had been received from the EA requesting further detail

Box 6 (of explanations of variances) mentions a £10894.22 increase in expenditure on the 'Play Equipment'. But Box 9 has not increased at all, is any of the Box 6 expenditure capital in nature that should have been included in Box 9?

Section 2, Box 2: the unexplained variance from the prior year for this box is -£2272 which is above 15% - please provide an explanation for this significant variance

The Clerk as RFO had responded immediately with the relevant detail which was ready to hand by the date requested of 5 working days

[b] HPC Considered the Expression of Interest [EOI] for New Signage and Wayfinding Project [*This project is funded by the UK government through the Rural England Prosperity Fund.*] and **RESOLVED 25/07/13b** that the EOI as prepared and presented, with delegation to the Clerk to amend as required and submit.

14. FINANCE

[a] HPC noted the following- bank balance and reconciliation at end June 2025 of £22,405.49 no income. A VAT reclaim has been made of £3002.13. The reconciliation and bank statement were duly signed

[b] HPC reviewed, agreed and approved payments listed below **RESOLVED 25/07/14b** to be paid by cheque.

A trial payment had been submitted by the Clerk for online authorisation but had not been completed as membership number for Cllr Wells had not been received so Cllr Johnson declined the payment

[c] to agree and approve appropriate invoices received after Agenda issued if necessary- none

[d] to discuss internet banking – this can now be accessed by the Clerk and Cllr Johnson but not completely operational. All signatories should have a membership number, a card reader and card to access the accounts.

[e] to discuss an additional signatory – Clerk to resend forms to Cllr Gosling for completion

[g] to discuss a savings account – a savings account with Barclays is operational but without funds whilst alternatives/additional rates are considered

Cheque	Payee	Description	Net amount	VAT	Total	
101584	ICO	Data Protection Fee	52.00	-	52.00	
101585	Mr J. Lockton	SH expenses		NC	64.06	
101586	Ms S Beckett	Clerk Salary month 4	390.79	-	390.79	
101587	Mr R Dolby	SH expenses			282.85	

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

[a] Highways ~ specifically

i. Walden Road - the Clerk first reported to ECC Highways the problem of water exuding from road in March 2025. In April the site reported '*An inspector will carry out an initial assessment to determine the*

next appropriate action, which may include a site visit. This could take up to 5 days. Please continue to check for updates' There would appear to be 2 separate water problems and one concerning ownership of vegetation which is extending onto the highways. Clerk will contact Councillor Foley for further assistance Report 2984528 relates to the vegetation issue notes that this will be monitored.

ii Bilberry End – Cllr Moran has been contacted for an update but will chase further

[b] Speed watch~ the speed watch coordinator reported that 2 sessions have taken place since HPC's last meeting with 9 reports being made on both occasions

[c] Bartlow Road v BT cables – no further report Cllr Lockton to liaise

16. The Sustainable Hadstock Working Group [SHWG] - deferred

17. Village communication particularly related to planning applications -Cllr Gosling gave an update on progress

- Link to planning applications on website possibly as a separate page and some narrative to advise. Update with relevant information. Requires a structure to consult with NextNorth for an additional tab **ACTION** Cllr Lockton/Clerk
- Planning applications have been posted via Hadstock Info
- Future agenda item to proceed further

18. Update on information board deferred, but the Clerk was able to report that HPC had been successful in the funding application to the Hundred Parishes Society being awarded £3000.00 which has been acknowledged as gratefully received

19. Recreation Ground Report ~

[a] to receive report from Cllr Johnson

i. on recreation ground – nothing to report specifically apart from dog bag gloves need Clerk to **ACTION**

ii. confirmed recreation ground is in good order and

iii. play equipment plan and the asset register will need to be updated **ACTION** Clerk/ Cllr Johnson

iv. confirmed all play equipment has been visually checked and useable

RESOLVED 25/06/2020ai-iv

[b] playground inspection report yet to be received **ACTION** Clerk to check this has been undertaken as company had not received confirmation of requirements so had been resent.

20. Defibrillator - Cllr Wells confirmed all in order

21. Listed Telephone Box Maintenance – it was thought that the UCAN volunteers might be able to assist with repainting ACTION to find further information and Cllr Wells to retrieve paint ACTION for agenda next meeting

22. Parish Land Report & PRow's ~ The PRow officer had made contact and was speaking to the land owner. Cllr Johnson reported that the wasp nest at ground level seems to have disappeared. The bee's nest within the fallen tree still remains without problems

23. Village Hall Report ~ deferred

24. HPC discussed UCNA volunteers as per email sent previously this was of interest to HPC and ACTION Clerk to find further details

25. To note items for next agenda- noted throughout meeting.

26. To note the next Meeting will take place in the Village Hall on Thursday 25 September 2025 at 19.45pm.

27. A public exempt not required

28. Chairman closed the meeting at 21.15 pm

..... Chairman.

Signed as a true record and **RESOLVED** to approve on 25 September 2025.