



Minutes of Hadstock Parish Council Meeting

Held on

Thursday 30 October 2025

at 7.45pm in the Village Hall Committee Room Hadstock.

Present: Parish Councillors: Denise Wells [Chair] Jude Hannam, John Lockton, Parish Clerk & District Councillor John Morran

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 were received and approved from Parish Councillors Johnson & Gosling
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. Cllr Wells gave advice on the requirement to declare interests of membership to committees or associations
4. The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on **Thursday 02 October 2025** were accepted and approved **RESOLVED 25/10ii/04**. The Chair signed them as a true record.
5. **Public participation-** none
6. **Report from County Councillor** – no report received but Cllr Foley has been available via email
7. **Report from District Councillor Moran** who reminded HPC of the Local Plan examination report which had been returned from the Inspectorate with little change apart from the removal of the link road at Thaxted Road and Newport Road, this was thought in the inspector's opinion not to be necessary as road management would be sufficient. The submission for Devolution from Uttlesford District Council is five unitary authorities and from Essex County Council three unitary authorities still yet to be decided. Solving the ownership and responsibility for the drainage issues in Bilberry End is proving troublesome and circular with no authority acknowledging ownership. Land registry may not be helpful but it was clear that services for the properties must be paid to an authority and Cllr Moran will continue to investigate
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 which are not on the agenda or just for notification
 - Drainage Issues **Walden Road:** Ongoing problems
 - **Bilberry End:** Drainage issue; Cllr Moran updated
 - **Bank Signatory:** Addition of Cllr Gosling. Forms resent 03/10/2025.
 - **Internet Banking:** Activation pending. Clerk awaiting confirmation from councillors.
 - Full access expected by November meeting all to bring details to trial access
 - Website costing of additional work is required. **Planning Tab** similar to agenda/minutes. Comments form is working
 - As above for communication.**gov.uk Domain & Emails:** £100 for domain £24 for each email required Awaiting response from NextNorth.
 - **AGAR 2026 Assertion 10:** requires www. and emails to be compliant with an IT Policy.
 - **Walden Road Hedging:** Overgrowth near Glebe House forcing HGVs into road.

Cllr Johnson to liaise for history. Clerk informed Highways (Ref: 2984528); action taken in July regarding ownership identification

- 9. Planning Application/s to consider a consultee comment – none although** UTT/25/2761/TCA was resubmitted due to the incorrect address which should have been related to Chantry House
- 10. To note decisions made by UDC on planning application/s – All applications approved**
 [a] UTT/25/2291/TCA
 [b] UTT/25/2241/TCA
 [c] UTT/25/1994/HHF
 [d] UTT/25/2762/TCA
 [e] UTT/25/2761/TCA
- 11. To receive an update on planning matters –** no new enforcement issues -previous case closed
- 12. Applications still awaiting determination** - none to note
- 13. Lens path ~** since the last meeting it has been the reported the path is partially blocked at the Zoo end and a tree has fallen resulting in it falling against the fence. The clerk has contacted the owner via email and awaits a response. Cllr Lockton to liaise by phone if necessary **RESOLVED 25/10ii/13**
- 14. Sustainable Hadstock ~** Cllr Lockton referred to his report attached as appendix which includes reference to items 15 & 16 which were all noted
- 15. Signage and Wayfinding Project-** Cllr Lockton/Cllr Wells ~noted
- 16. report on Hundred parishes funded project ~** noted
- 17. Recreation Ground Report ~**
 [a] HPC discussed the annual playground inspection work required to send to IB for a quote [suggestions sent by Clerk to all] The list as presented was approved **RESOLVED 25/10ii/17a**
 [b] Monkey Challenge [Finding Fitness] is to have work carried out on 31 October 2025 and Climbing Tower [Sovereign] was inspected by the company representative in discussion with Cllr Wells. A report is to follow. Noted
 [c] to receive report – no specific report
 i. on recreation ground,
 ii. to confirm all play equipment has been visually checked and useable Cllr Wells stated she would carry out a visual check the following day Noted
- 18. Governance –**
 [a] Cllr Wells informed HPC that the dried flower wreath had been ordered at a cost of £50.00 and will lay the wreath representing the parish council and the residents of Hadstock
 [b] The Clerk reported that following the discussion of the last meeting, further investigation had been undertaken with reference the NALC pay scale and a date has still to be arranged for the review
- 19. FINANCE**
 [a] HPC noted for 30 September 2025
- income – 2nd precept payment received
 - bank balance £30,695.34 followed by
 - reconciliation £28889.61
 - expenditure of green skip and grass cutting outstanding
 - tree survey to be included in budget 2026/27 ~ clerk to obtain quotes and recommended timings
 - expenditure will be required on play equipment maintenance in 2025/26
- [b] HPC reviewed, agreed and approved payments listed below. The clerk wished HPC to note that the wreath payment included an outstanding amount of £2.20 for key fobs Cllr Wells and £28.00 expenses Cllr Lockton which had not been paid previously

Cheque	Payee	Description	Net amount	V.A. T	Total	
	Ms S Beckett	Clerk Salary month 7	403.04		403.04	
	Mrs D Wells	Reimbursement Key fobs	2.20		52.20	
		Remembrance Day wreath	50.00			

	Mr J Lockton	SH hire of sickle mower	163.00	32.60	195.60	
	Mr J Lockton	Travel claim for RCCE	28.00		28.00	

[c] HPC noted precept the information from UDC and that the Clerk had sought authority to present the precept demand following the meeting on 29 January 2026.

[d]- error

[e] no invoices received after Agenda issued

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

[a] Highways ~ specifically

i. Walden Road [2984528] vegetation [2968495] drainage **ACTION** Clerk to contact County Councillor Foley

[b] Speed watch~ no further report

[c] reminder of road closure Bartlow Road 12 & 13 November 2025 **ACTION** resend to Hadstock Info.

21. Defibrillator report from Cllr Wells and a discussion referencing advice to leave cabinet open **ACTION** Clerk to confirm with insurance

22. Listed Telephone Box Maintenance – UCAN can provide volunteers to undertake painting **ACTION** Cllr Wells will request 2 volunteers **RESOLVED** 25/10ii/22

23. Uttlesford Association of Local Councils AGM Wednesday 29th October 2025 attended by Chair and Clerk No AGM as not quorate. Talk from Uttlesford Food Bank and a lot about Stansted airport from participants.

24. Parish Land Report & PRow's ~ a field near Bowers has been ploughed over the Pathway 21[Bowers footpath] to try and contact farmer via a Hadstock resident. SH are also reviewing all the footpaths. An email from Cllr Johnson had alerted that footpath steps have been placed next to the halfway house on Linton Road. **ACTION** Cllr Hannam to confirm exact location and relationship to a footpath

25. To discuss management of privately owned vegetation within village [draft previously sent 13 October to all which was approved with a closing date of 30th November **ACTION** to post to Hadstock info and for **ACTION** Cllr Johnson to hand deliver Bartlow Road/Moules Lane

26. Village Hall Report ~ Cllr Hannam reported that the hall is well used particularly currently by the Panto rehearsal and performances.

27. To note items for next agenda taken throughout meeting

28. To note the next Meeting will take place in the Village Hall on **Thursday 27 November 2025 at 19.45pm. This is primarily a budget meeting so other items may be limited**

29. A public exempt if required. VOTE REQUIRED

30. Chairman to close the meeting

..... Chairman of meeting

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

Sustainable Hadstock

Report: October 25

30/10/25

Overall progress: started on actions for 2025/26; planning for 2026/27

Issues: none

Requirement: We will need volunteers for planting trees on the Rec on the 15 November

Quarterly Review Session: Thursday 6 November; 7.45pm

Our quarterly meeting is planned for the 6 November. As well as a review, the focus will be on what we should plan to do in the next year and whether we should apply for the next UDC Zero Carbon Grant initiative by the 4 December.

All welcome.

Guest speakers, tree planting, Village Hall solar panels, Hadstock Wood...

Community Pub Night Speakers

Over the Winter months we are inviting guest speakers to join us at our monthly Community Pub

Nights in the 6.30 – 7.30pm slot.

This Winter the topics will focus on Nature and Recycling:

- this October on household recycling with the UDC team (Ben Brown) and for Hadstock, Lynne Smith
- on February 26 a Guest Speaker on Climate Change Gardening
- March and April are being organised.

Village Hall – solar panels and battery installed!

With the grant from UDC:

- a solar panels and battery system has been installed and is now in a test phase.
- an electrical-based water heating system will be installed in November/December
- we are also improving the overall Hall insulation and installing better doors in January.

Thanks, in particular to Ian Jennings and Peter Jarritt who have masterminded this activity.

Biodiversity on The Recreation Ground

Wildflowers: we have left a wide band around the Rec un-mowed to promote wildflowers and plants over the summer. This has now been cut down (Alan, Brendan, John) and then the grass cleared by volunteers from across the Village (a group of around 10 people; see Hadstock Mag.).

Tree planting: we have around 60 saplings from the Woodland Trust which have been nurtured during the dry summer. These will be planted on the 15 November to start a new copse near the Coronation Oak. Volunteers will be requested – and people will be able to ‘name’ the trees they plant!

Hadstock Wood – ancient wood survey

With support from the Uttlesford EWT Volunteer group we have carried out a full survey of Hadstock Wood in the field behind the Village Hall using processes from the Wildlife Trust.

Our report has been reviewed at the recent Board meeting of the Charity that owns the Wood. It has prompted them into a review of all their woods portfolio and we are waiting for their comments/plans.

Other activities

- Support is being provided on whether the Church could actively look at ‘green technology’ and possibly apply for a UDC grant to support this process
- Review with a Felsted group on Sustainable Hadstock to help them with their considerations on setting up a similar initiative
- The Green Team has set-up an email address (“Greenteam@hadstockvh.org”) for people to notify the team of issues and ideas, including pathway blockages and problems
- The pathways team are supporting an update of the Hadstock Parish Pathways map,

which will then feed into the Parish Council initiative to produce a Village Highlights Map. The plan is also to put up more signs for the key pathways in the Parish. A grant from UDC is being applied for to support this initiative.

Cllr. John Lockton (30/10/25) for the Sustainable Hadstock working group.

DRAFT