

HATFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at URC Hall, Hatfield Heath at 19:30 on Wednesday 07 December 2022

Present:

Cllr M Bissell (MB) (chair)
Cllr N Champion (NC)
Cllr S King (SK)

Cllr P Brown (PB)
Cllr N Robley (NR)

Cllr M Lemon (ML)
Cllr S Saban (SS)

Peter Eldon
(Practice Manager Eden Surgery)

In attendance:

R Bowran – Parish Clerk

Welcome by the Chairman

22/143	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Received from Cllr Breavington.
22/144	DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members.
22/145	EDEN SURGERY Practice Manager, Peter Eldon, gave an update on recent changes and developments at the Hatfield Heath Surgery. He reported on: • Appointments. Still struggle to meet demand for appointments. Need to triage requests. "Strep A" is causing extra demand at the moment, inflated by media comment. • Telephone System. Still have same supplier but glitches are being removed. Change of supplier being considered in new year. • Receptionists. New reception manager, Kate, who is running a committed team. • Dispensary Manager. New manager, Abbie, appointed from within, root and branch review of all aspects. EPS, Electronic Prescribing System, initiated in July, opens up access to other dispensaries. • Patient Participation Group. Now restarted with 20 members. Next meeting will be in January. Gives good communications. • Website. Needs improvement. Will be relaunched in January. Peter was thanked for his feed back and congratulated on improvements which have been well received.
22/146	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION There were no questions from members of the public.
22/147	MINUTES OF MEETING Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting of 02 November 2022 (M07) There were no matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on the agenda.
22/148	PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING Noted: The draft minutes of the Planning Committee which took place on 28 November 2022 (P07). ML has been in contact with planning officer for the Mill Lane applications. It had been hoped that these would be considered in January but that now looks unlikely as both ML, as the local Member, and the chair of the Planning Committee would both be absent.
22/149	FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING Noted: The draft minutes of the Finance Committee which took place on 14 November 2022 (F07).

22/150	REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS To receive and note reports from County and District Councillors. ML said grant from the NHB for a defibrillator has been agreed. Also grants made to URC for a mower and White Roding for an old people's annual dinner. No prospects for NHB sums next year. UDC has much home working, 49 vacancies in planning and environment. Finances look bleak but new officers are in post for the Local Plan which is unlikely to emerge before late 2024 or 2025.
22/151	FINANCIAL REPORT 1.Approval of Expenditure. Noted: Items of expenditure in November 2022 as approved by the Finance committee 2. Management Accounts. Noted: Management Accounts for the eight months to 30 November 2022.
22/152	BUDGET 2023-24 Members considered a budget for 2023-24 Resolved: To adopt the budget recommended by the Finance Committee. <i>[prop Cllr Lemon; secd Cllr Robley; all in favour]</i>
22/153	CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE To receive and note Clerk's report and correspondence received. • Letters of thanks from grant recipients • Letter from CEO of UDC asking that following withdrawal of financial support for Highways Rangers whether parish council would make a contribution to maintain the service. Members agreed that they would not. Clerk to advise CEO accordingly. • Letter from UDC solicitor asking parish council to acknowledge to the resolution made to adopt the provisions of S45 Local Government(Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976. Clerk to do so.
22/154	KEY TASK MONITOR & PARISH FORUM The Key Task Monitor was reviewed in summary and NR undertook to update the published monitor. Main action points covered elsewhere in these minutes.
22/155	HIGHWAYS MATTERS To consider matters relating to Highways. • Maintenance of hedges. Especially on Sheering Road. ML to approach Michael Hackley about help in this area. • VAR signs. Support from Cty Cllr obtained. Essex CC will only approve 4 contractors (who are national contractors) Clerk has asked for interested companies to confirm they are on the CC list) • Pedestrian crossing at school. Request made to Cllr Scott of Essex CC, progress meeting to be arranged for January. • Dunmow Road and Sawbridgeworth Road roundabouts. Progress needed from Essex CC,
22/156	PARKING MANAGEMENT AND CAR PARKS To consider matters relating to parking management. • Installation of CCTV. Agreed to investigate proposals for the supply and installation of CCTV cameras in the village. • Installation of height barrier lock. SK said he could up with a solution.
22/157	ALLOTMENT REPORT To receive and note a report on the Allotments. • New lock has been fitted to entrance gate. • Water has been turned off for the winter season • Should the Allotments pay for themselves? Discuss principles for the future with RB on behalf of the allotments society.

22/158	PLAYGROUND To consider any matters relating to the playground. • New fencing. Bow top designs too expensive, wooden fencing to be repaired and reinforced. Gates need attention, SK to obtain a quote for a new gate.
22/159	VILLAGE GREEN To consider any matters relating to the village green • Christmas Tree. SS has been to 5 suppliers. Best advice is to plant a 5–6 foot trees for best chance of survival. This year a temporary tree. SS will progress. • Pond clearance. Alternative quotes needed and proposed. • Quotes needed for on-going maintenance of village green, verges etc. • Footway parking. Clerk to write to Hunters Meet and 2 Rosemary Cottages about obstructions. • Clerk to chase up Bidwells for their report on trees.
22/160	VILLAGE AMENITIES To consider other village matters • Defibrillator. ML has approved a grant in support. • New web-site is active and clerk beginning to populate it. Still running in parallel with existing site. • Policy for A Boards now revised SS will laminate and they will be distributed. • Two new dog bins installed. • Village sign repair. MB to recall who was contacted last time. • Liaison with Hastoe over planning conditions are still dormant
22/161	WILDLIFE AREA The future of the wildlife area. NR has obtained the original consultation report. Agreed to contact the author and ask for a quote to update their recommendations.
22/162	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN Progress on the pathway to producing the proposed Neighbourhood Plan. Questionnaire now on the existing website. Clerk to post this on new website. NR to publicise in village magazine.
22/163	REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED To receive and note any additional reports from members • Cllr Robley and the Clerk attended a liaison meeting of parish councils with the CEO of UDC on 07 November. Nothing of value to report. • Cllr Champion and the Clerk attended a meeting hosted by Essex CC Highways on 10 November on the subject of Speeding and Safety in the villages. Nothing of value to report.
22/164	AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING To note items for the agenda of the next meeting. • Neighbourhood Watch • Action on Pond clearance • Tender for Green cutting
22/165	DATE OF NEXT MEETING The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be at 19:30 on Wednesday 04 Jan 2023

Meeting ended at 21:30