

HATFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at URC Hall, Hatfield Heath at 19:30 on Wednesday 06 December 2023

Present:

Cllr M Bissell (MB)

Cllr P Brown (PB)

Cllr C Overton (CO)

3 members of the public

Cllr N Champion (NC)

Cllr M Lemon (ML)

Cllr H Allen (HA)

Cllr N Robley (NR)

Cllr S Saban (SS)

In attendance: R Bowran – Parish Clerk

Welcome by the Chairman who opened the meeting with season's greetings to all those present and to all in the village.

23/140	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Received and accepted from Cllr King - unwell
23/141	DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST Cllr Bissell declared an interest in item 23/148.1. Cllr Overton declared an interest in item 23/148.3.
23/142	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION To receive and respond to questions from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Parish Council A member of the public again raised a number of issues relating to highways in the parish, especially relating footways and speeding on Sheering Road. <i>MB responded that the invitation to meet with Cllr Cunningham still stood. NR responded on the visit by the Essex Highways "buddy" who noted points of concern throughout the village. ML said that work required is not in budget. Clerk was asked to write to Chair and Leader of Essex CC.</i> Another member of the public also expressed concerns about obstructed footways on Sheering Road and pavement parking. <i>Clerk to contact owner of Hunters Meet to suggest a remedy</i>
23/143	MINUTES OF MEETING Resolved: To approve the minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 01 November 2023 (M07)
23/144	PLANNING COMMITTEE Noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 01 Nov 2023. (P07). Noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 08 Nov 2023. (P08). Noted: The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 15 Nov 2023. (P09). Noted: The draft minutes of the Planning Committee held on 27 November 2023. (P10). Noted: The draft minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29 November 2023. (P11). Noted: That we are advised that the planning applications for the development in Mill Lane, UTT'22/1261/FUL (Land West of Mill Lane) will be heard at the UDC Planning Committee on Wednesday 13 December 2023.

23/145	BUDGET 2024-25 Noted: Receiving further budget briefing notes from the Clerk Resolved: To adopt a revised budget for 2024-25, with a Precept Demand of £46,750. [prop Cllr Bissell; secd Cllr Saban; Pro 6:Con 0 Abs 2]
23/146	REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS To receive and note reports from County and District Councillors. • Cty Cllr Susan Barker had presented her apologies • Dist Cllr Mark Lemon
23/147	FINANCIAL REPORT 1. Approval of Expenditure. Noted: Items of expenditure in November 2023 as approved by the Finance committee 2. Management Accounts Noted: Management accounts for the eight months to November 2023.
23/148	GRANT REQUESTS To consider further grant requests from: 1. Heath Festival – Resolved: To make a grant of £800 towards purchase of new PA equipment. [<i>prop Cllr Lemon; secd Cllr Robley, pro 6, con 0, abs 2</i>] In addition the potential to make a repayable loan for provision of portable toilets. 2. Heath Players - Resolved: To make a grant of £400 towards purchase of new flooring [<i>prop Cllr Saban; secd Cllr Robley, all in favour</i>] 3. The Close Christmas Lunches – Resolved: to make a grant of £200 towards funding Christmas and Boxing Day lunches. [<i>prop Cllr Lemon; secd Cllr Bissell, all in favour</i>]
23/149	CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE Noted: The Clerk's report and correspondence received. • Thanks received from Holy Trinity church and United Reform church for grants received.
23/150	COMMUNITY TRANSPORT Noted: A report by the Clerk on an inter parish meeting to consider future Community Bus services. A preliminary meeting and is a work in progress. Suggestion of a wider project linking to Stortford. Project to be led by CO.
23/151	KEY TASK MONITOR The Key Task Monitor has been revised and simplified to create a better working document. • Noted: Report from Forum held on 11 November. Main points: ○ Bus service 305. ○ Manhole cover on Sawbridgeworth Road ○ Meeting with Highways "buddy" ○ Allotments visit. ○ State of salt bins ○ Commissioning of Defibrillator

23/152	HIGHWAYS MATTERS To consider any matters relating to Highways • Noted: Meeting with Highways “Buddy” 16 November ○ Review of outstanding items ○ Highlight pavement parking issues, clerk to write to police commissioner and the chief constable
23/153	PARKING MANAGEMENT AND CAR PARKS To consider matters relating to parking management. Errant parking is reoccurring. Clerk to commission CCTV supplier to identify serial long-term parkers. Essex Parking Partnership to be asked how many tickets they have issued.
23/154	PLAYGROUND Resolved: To approve Terms of Reference for the Playground Committee <i>[prop Cllr Champion; secd Cllr Robley]</i> Agreed to invite two parents to join the committee. To receive a report from the Playground Committee.
23/155	VILLAGE GREEN To consider any matters relating to the village green • Tree survey by Lord of the Manor awaited. ML advised speaking, tree surgeons will visit shortly and agree on work be done. • Footpaths survey. Comprehensive report prepared by HA. Action plan to be determined after establishing UDC and ECC responsibility. • NR and Clerk to review Tenders for grass cutting 2024-26. Three potential contractors identified including current suppliers.
23/156	ALLOTMENT To consider any matters relating to Allotments, including a report on the inspection visit undertaken on Sunday 05 November.
23/157	STANSTED AIRPORT WATCH To receive a report on current activities of Stansted Airport Watch, who are becoming a Trust. HA had prepared a response to be submitted by the Clerk to the Local Plan consultation.
23/158	WILDLIFE AREA To receive a report from the Wildlife Area working party and agree an action plan. A grant application to UDC under the Zero Carbon Communities scheme will be made in the 2024 round.
23/159	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN To receive a report on the latest meeting of the Steering Committee. Progress towards completing the public questionnaire is slow.
23/160	REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED To receive and note any additional reports from members • ML and HA attended the surgery patients’ participation group.
23/161	AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING To note items for the agenda of the next meeting. • Festival Committee to be asked to arrange a meeting with councillors to discuss future finances of event.

	• Consideration to formalise the Highways and Speeding committee.
23/162	DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS Resolved: That the next meeting of the Council will now be on Wednesday 10 January 2024 <i>[prop Cllr Robley; secd Cllr Allen]</i>

Meeting ended at 21:40