

# HATFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at URC Hall, Hatfield Heath at 19:30 on Wednesday 05 June 2024

### Present:

Cllr M Bissell (MB)

Cllr P Brown (PB)

Cllr H Allen (HA)

2 members of the public

Cllr N Champion (NC)

Cllr M Lemon (ML)

Cllr N Champion (NC)

Cllr N Robley (NR)

Cllr S Saban (SS)

Cllr S King (SK)

In attendance: R Bowran – Parish Clerk

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24/26 | <b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b><br>There were no apologies for absence                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 24/27 | <b>DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST</b><br>There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 24/28 | <b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b><br>To receive and respond to questions from members of the public on matters within the remit of the Parish Council<br><br><b>A member of the public</b> expressed disgust with the outcome of the Planning Inspector's hearing relating to Land West of Mill Lane.<br><br><b>A member of the public</b> said he was meeting with the LoM and asked if there were any outstanding matters.<br><i>Clerk updated him on the issue of tree works on the village green.</i><br><br><b>A member of the public</b> expressed the view that the planning inspector's hearing could have gone either way. There was criticism of the planning officer who didn't appear to understand his role. Conditions 1, 17, 41 and 43 seemed illogical. Appendix 2 documents had been submitted after the date of the hearing.<br><i>Clerk was asked to obtain the Appendix 2 documents from the planning inspectorate.</i> |
| 24/29 | <b>MINUTES OF MEETING</b><br><b>Resolved:</b> To approve the minutes of the meeting of 15 May 2024 (M01)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 24/30 | <b>PLANNING COMMITTEE</b><br>The outcome of the planning inspector's hearing on 09 May 2024 of application S62A/2024/0032 - Land to the West of Mill Lane. The application was approved with a number of conditions.<br>Suggestion that the council should engage the transport consultant who made representations at the hearing to pursue the traffic issues existing in Mill Lane.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| 24/31 | <b>REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS</b><br>To receive and note reports from County and District Councillors. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>County Cllr Susan Barker reported (<i>in absentia</i>) that the new Highways joint panel of cabinet members had rejected the bid for highways modifications and had declined to fund a feasibility study.</li><li>District Cllr Lemon had nothing to report.</li></ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

|       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|-------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 24/32 | <p><b>FINANCIAL REPORT</b></p> <p>Approval of Expenditure.<br/> <b>Noted:</b> Items of expenditure in May 2024 as approved by the Finance committee</p> <p>Management Accounts<br/> <b>Noted:</b> Management accounts for the month of May 2024</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| 24/33 | <p><b>CLERK'S REPORT &amp; CORRESPONDENCE</b></p> <p><b>Received and Noted:</b> Clerk's report and correspondence received.<br/> In addition, Sheering PC and Sawbridgeworth TC have proposed a liaison group to discuss items of mutual interest and have invited members from Hatfield Heath PC to attend. Decision was deferred.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| 24/34 | <p><b>KEY TASK MONITOR</b></p> <p>To review and update the Key Task Monitor. From the Annual Village Meeting / Forum meeting on 11 May 2024. This had been reported at the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| 24/35 | <p><b>HIGHWAYS MATTERS</b></p> <p>To consider any matters relating to Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• There has been no response from Essex Highways to the meeting held on Monday 12 February with Cllr Tom Cunningham. Cllr Barker has suggested asking one specific question to which there must be an answer. NR to action.</li> <li>• SK is dealing with the current issue with discharged water on Stortford Road</li> <li>• Installation of VAR cameras has been completed. There is a noticeable reduction in speeding vehicles.</li> </ul>     |
| 24/36 | <p><b>PARKING MANAGEMENT AND CAR PARKS</b></p> <p>To consider matters relating to parking management and village car parks.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No results yet received from the recent survey of usage.</li> <li>• Need to obtain a quote for expanding parking area in church car park, even though there's no budget for it. Are Highways going to maintain it?</li> <li>• SK has repaired the damaged manhole cover at the entrance to the village car park.</li> <li>• Need to move litter bin from flooded area at church car park.</li> </ul> |
| 24/37 | <p><b>ALLOTMENT REPORT</b></p> <p>To receive and note a report on the Allotments.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Noted that dogs are being allowed to run loose. Clerk to write to chair of the association.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| 24/38 | <p><b>PLAYGROUND</b></p> <p>To consider any matters relating to maintenance and risk management of the playground.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Report on RoSPA annual inspection carried out 13 May 2024 circulated to Members</li> <li>• Specification for quotation for repairs, upgrade and brightening up of the area.</li> <li>• ML suggested to start making provision in next year's budget for replacing the playground. Conduct a consultation with members of the public.</li> </ul>                                                               |

|              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>24/39</b> | <p><b>VILLAGE GREEN</b></p> <p>To consider any matters relating to maintenance and risk management of the village green</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lord of the Manor contacted by the Clerk about tree maintenance but no response received.</li> <li>• Clerk to arrange a meeting with the nominated contractor for a quotation for a maintenance regime at the Wildlife Area and a new price for pond maintenance.</li> <li>• Troughs have been replanted by ML and PB</li> <li>• ML mentioned grass had not been cut on lead in to Matching Road. Review with contractor needed.</li> <li>• Posting round Heath need repair or replacement.</li> <li>• Damage to War memorial plinth needs attention.</li> </ul> |
| <b>24/40</b> | <p><b>NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN</b></p> <p>To consider any matters relating to the Neighbourhood Plan and to receive a report of the meeting on 30 May of the Steering Group</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distribution and collection of Questionnaire is under way, deadline extended to end of June.</li> <li>• Collation of data will be started in June.</li> <li>• Quotation from DAC Planning for assistance was rejected in favour of working with RCCE.</li> <li>• RCCE visit and progress on independent Housing Needs Survey, paused so as not to conflict with own questionnaire.</li> <li>• Progress on reimbursement from UDC for costs is slow. ML will progress with UDC head of finance.</li> </ul>          |
| <b>24/41</b> | <p><b>STANSTED AIRPORT WATCH</b></p> <p>To receive any updates from Stansted Airport Watch</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Confirmed that response had been made by the parish council to the consultation on aircraft flight frequency.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>24/42</b> | <p><b>NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH</b></p> <p>To receive any updates from Neighbourhood Watch.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Spate of Range Rover thefts from the Hallingburys.</li> <li>• However, they are not proceeding with employing private security contractors.</li> <li>• HA met with two police officers at Tea on the Heath.</li> <li>• Incidents outside White Horse including a stabbing and a vehicle fire.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>24/43</b> | <p><b>REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED</b></p> <p>To receive and note any additional reports from members.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ML had met at the URC church and approved recruiting for a family liaison officer to look after families and to consider setting up a youth club. Funding has been obtained for three years.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>24/44</b> | <p><b>AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING</b></p> <p>There were no items requested for the agenda of the next meeting.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>24/45</b> | <p><b>DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next scheduled meeting of the Council will be at 7.30 pm on Wednesday 03 July 2024</li> <li>• The next meeting of the Planning Committee will be at 3 pm on Monday 24 June 2024</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Meeting ended at 20:45.