

HATFIELD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held at 19:30 on Wednesday 02 February 2022 in the URC Hall

Present:

Cllr M Bissell (MB)
Cllr P Brown (PB)
Cllr R Breavington (RB)

Cllr N Champion (NC)
Cllr M Lemon (ML)
Cllr S King (SK)

Cllr S Saban (SS)
Cllr N Robley (NR)

In attendance:

1 member of the public

R Bowran – Parish Clerk

Welcome by the Chairman

3115	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Received and accepted from Cllr Overton – contact with Covid
3116	DECLARATIONS OF PECUNIARY INTEREST There were no Declarations of Pecuniary Interest by Members
3117	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 asked for financial assistance towards the running of the Community Hub similar to the assistance given to Leisure Hour. The assistance was needed because the Village Hall Trust had charged the Holy Trinity church. This was declined. The distinction between grants to the church and the Community Hub were explained and also pointed out that the VHT does not make any charge to the Community Hub. A member of the public commented about many overgrown footpaths. The distinction between responsibility for footpaths and footways was explained, <i>Clerk to take action with Essex CC on footways and with UDC on footpaths and overhanging conifers.</i> A member of the public thanked the parish council for the grant to provide a mower for the Holy Trinity church and said it has already been in use.
3118	REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS To receive and note reports from County and District Councillors. Dist Cllr Lemon had investigated the legality of removing an abandoned van in the village car park. He advised that external auditors had not signed off UDC accounts for two years, shortly to be three years. He also noted comments from the new CEO, Peter Holt, that the council is in a dire financial position due to the change in rules about accounting for income from its investments. Cty Cllr Barker reported that the Stortford Road flooding issue was receiving attention from the Surface Water Alienation Team in February. Highways panel • Chelmsford Road signs to be installed in Q4. • B1060 feasibility study will take place in Q4 • 20 mph signs in validation, to be considered in April. • Zebra crossing, impractical because of lack of pavements. • VAS signs are on request list and in validation. Need contact with Lord of the Manor to deal with ditches. ML to talk with him.

	Dunmow Road carriageway surface highlighted. TruCam is a new speed watch camera, Hatfield Heath can be part of the pilot scheme. March Highways panel priorities to be reviewed.
3119	MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting of 01 December 2021. <i>[all in favour]</i> There were no other matters arising from the minutes not included elsewhere on the agenda.
3120	MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE Received and noted: The draft minutes of the Planning Cttee held on 24 January 2022.
3121	REPORT FROM OPEN MEETING Received and noted: A report on the Open Meeting which was held on Saturday 15 January 2022. Action items placed on KTM. KEY TASK MONITOR Noted: The updated Key Task Monitor.
3122	FINANCE MATTERS Received and noted: The budget report to 28 January 2022 Received and noted: Items of expenditure in January 2022 as approved by the Finance Committee
3123	BUDGET 2022/23 Resolved: To note and adopt the recommendation of the Finance Committee as to a budget for the civic year 2022/23 <i>[prop Cllr Bissell; secd Cllr Robley; all in favour]</i> Resolved: To resolve to set a Precept demand in the sum of £42,245 on Uttlesford District Council for the civic year 2022/23 <i>[prop Cllr Bissell; secd Cllr Saban; all in favour]</i>
3124	CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE Received and noted: The Clerk's report and correspondence.
3125	UDC CALL FOR SITES NR outlined the activities of the parish council, including a report of the activities of USAG (Unsustainable Sites Action Group), the withdrawal of Hatfield Broad Oak PC from the working party and on the transition of activities to The Three Parishes Local Planning Group (TPLPG). Resolved: That this council delegates the responsibility for responding to the consultations relating to Site Reference HatfieldBO 005 MIX to the councillors appointed to represent the council on the Working Group known as the Three Parishes Local Planning Group. But that all matters relating to financial commitments proposed to be made by the group must be referred to the council for resolution. Not in contravention of any superior legislation in S101A of the LGA 1972. <i>[prop Cllr Bissell; secd Cllr Robley; all in favour]</i>
3126	HIGHWAYS MATTERS To consider any matters relating to Highways. Mainly concerned with blocked footway on Sheering Road. Action as described in the public forum.
3127	VILLAGE GREEN To establish ownership and an action plan for the care and maintenance of certain trees on and around the village green. Clerk to contact UDC Ben Smeeden, ML to contact Lord of the manor.

	To discuss actions relating to signage on Pond Lane. MB to advise by-law for advertising signs, ML to contact Lord of the Manor about land ownership.
3128	PARKING MANAGEMENT AND CAR PARKS To consider any matters relating to village car parks, including: - Abandoned van in village car park. UDC Enforcement contacted to issue legal notices prior to removal. - Broken manhole cover noted and SK commissioned to source and provide replacement. - Noted incursion of parked cars on the pedestrian walkways and suggested the installation of bollards to inhibit this. - Safer passage from enlarged church car park discussed and request for an pedestrian crossing noted. Cost implication could be as much as £25k.
3129	ALLOTMENT REPORT To receive and note a report on the Allotments. Little activity at the moment, there is still a waiting list for plots.
3130	PLAYGROUND To consider any matters relating to maintenance and risk management of the playground. There were no active items for discussion, next health and safety inspection is now due.
3131	JUBILEE FESTIVAL To consider arrangements for the holding of a Festival in June 2022 to mark the Platinum Jubilee of HM The Queen. Programme being arranged, details will be published in due course. To consider the provision of a souvenir of the occasion to be presented to the children on the roll of the school. Agreed to obtain 400 celebration mugs for the children at the Primary School and Preschool and participants in the Fun Run. Clerk to liaise with ML. <i>[prop Cllr Lemon; secd Cllr Robley; all in favour]</i>
3132	FAMILY FUN FAIR To consider a request from Joshua Meakin to hold a “small family fun fair” on the Heath in May 2022. After due consideration, including the proximity to the June Fair, the request was denied.
3133	NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN To report on the briefing from RCCE and UDC on 17 January and the meeting of the Planning Committee on 24 January 2022. NR outlined the pros and cons of producing a Neighbourhood Plan, the costs and time commitment involved over an estimated three years. Agreed: To proceed with the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan for the Civil parish of Hatfield Heath. Public meeting to be arranged within the next two months. Rachel Hoggar, UDC NP consultant, to be invited to address the meeting.
3134	REPORTS FROM MEMBERS ON MEETINGS ATTENDED To receive and note any additional reports from members. Cllr Lemon said that his membership of the planning committee was in conflict with his role as deputy chair of the UDC planning committee and consequently he wished to resign from this position on the parish council committee. Cllr King was elected to fill the vacant position on the planning committee. MB reported that he and the clerk has attended a Zoom meeting with Peter Holt, the new CEO of UDC, who opined that UDC had vigorously fought the Stansted Airport planning applications – this was not the general perception.
3135	AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING There were no additional items for the agenda of the next meeting.
3136	DATE OF NEXT MEETING

	The next scheduled meeting of the council is on Wednesday 02 March 2022. The next meeting of the Planning committee is on Monday 21 February 2022.
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Meeting ended at 21:35