

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 31st July, 2008 at Little Munden School starting at 8.04pm.

1. ATTENDANCE

Present were: David Metcalf (DM) Chairman, Anthony Brown (AB) Vice-Chairman, Brian Long (BL), Jonathan Pool (JP), Keith Williams (KW), Elizabeth Bacon (EB), Councillors.
Margaret Mitchell (MM), Clerk.

Apologies received from:

Jenny Macintosh (JM) Councillor

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES.

DM proposed that the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26th June 2008 be taken as read. The minutes were then proposed by JP and seconded by AB as a true and correct account of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING from those minutes.

i. Problem with Post

Ivan visited KW and advised Mrs Smith wants to bequeath a plot of land running below where the gate is now which would allow for more car parking spaces for cars which are currently parked on the road and also a space for coaches. Roughly what would happen is for the gates to be put to right angles to where they are now so that any tractors or combines coming down the hill can go straight into the field. The space on offer would form a horseshoe up to where the swimming pool was. However Ivan has to liaise with Lord Carter as he has signed a lease for the next fifteen years on the land, so it is early days as yet. After some discussion it was felt that DM should write a letter to Ivan Smith along the lines that it had been reported to us that his mother Joan will possibly wish to bequeath a plot of land to the school and if there is any way in which we can help in facilitating its progress.

ii. New Litter Bin.

East Herts have now agreed to supply us with a new litter bin at Horses Meadow as we previously requested. The bin should be installed within the next four weeks.

iii. Historical Archives.

MM still to pass the historical minutes to LB. LB to report later on her findings.

iv. Common Land

This item to be held over for a later date until the bequest of the land is verified. However John Grisbrooke advised that he has some spring bulbs which he has been holding for some time and wished to plant them at the edge of the telephone plot. It was agreed that he should go ahead with the planting.

v. Charity Commission.

DM had written to David Payne and had included in the box for everyone to read. DM had in fact today received a reply from David Payne which DM read out at the meeting. AB requested that MM should check the May Minutes of 2003 to find out the tenure of Barbara Springate. DM will then write to her thanking her for her services. It was then discussed that another member of the Council become a trustee and DM had already sounded out BL regarding this matter as he has a good knowledge of the village and its residents. Thus AB and BL will bring it back in house and the Charity can be re-established to what it was originally meant for and a meeting with David Payne to be arranged at a later date.

vi. Parish Plan - Draft Surveys.

Copies to be kept in box and held over for discussion at the next meeting.

vii. Benches Grant.

John Grisbrooke kindly attended our meeting to discuss and advise us on grants and where they can be obtained. He advised that the Countryside Management Services had been in the village this week and JG had mentioned to them that footpath 6 was in a very bad state. The Countryside Management Services is one avenue for obtaining grants. JG advised that there were environmental grants we could get and that he had made a brief list which he would let MM have in due course. The other organisation is the Parish Paths Partnership who normally has a meeting in September, and if there is anything we want to buy we can put in an application to them. There is also the District Council and JG advised that the contact there is Sarah Mellor. Another contact is Carol Skidmore of AGRE and is located in Standon. JG said with the Councils permission he will mention our concerns regarding the pathways when he attends the meeting in September of the Parish Paths Partnership and DM said he would like to attend also and JG will contact DM when the time arrives. The head of PPP is Colin Hambrook and he is based at County Hall. JG confirmed he would let MM have a list of the names and addresses of the relevant people to contact. Before JG left the meeting he mentioned the condition of the fence at the rear of Russell Parkin's land. It was therefore decided that MM should write a letter to Russell and ask him to repair the fence as soon as possible. Another point JG raised was regarding the War Memorial and how nice it was looking. JG also said he wondered if the Parish Council could give some thought to a Lay Memorial Service to be held this year. It was felt this would be a good idea and should be discussed in the September Meeting. JG then left the meeting. The Council then felt that a letter to Mark Wheeler should be sent on behalf of the Council to thank him for the work carried out on the War Memorial MM to prepare for DM to sign.

viii. Extending of fencing.

DM has now received a quotation from Ian Piggott for the fencing work as follows:

To erect a post and rail fence up the side of the car park where the fence abuts JP's land will be £545.00.

To erect a post and rail fence from the other side of the opening to the existing fence will be £415.00

If both jobs are carried out at the same time the cost would be £810.00

After discussion it was agreed to go ahead with the quotation as above DM asked JP if he would liaise with Ian Piggott on the work. JP kindly agreed to do so.

4. PLANNING.

i. New Applications

3/08/1158/FP/HS Single storey rear extension and new detached double garage. Potters Hall Barn, Potters Green, Dane End, Herts SG12 0JU

3/08/1169/FP/SD Amended Plans to rear extension previously granted on application number 3/04/2182/FP. Springfields, Munden Road, Dane End, Herts SG12 0LR

ii. EHDC Decisions

3/08/0590/FP Replace garage door with a bay window, 37 Kingsfield Road, Dane End, Herts SG12 0LZ. Permission granted subject to conditions.

3/08/0975/FP Erection of new entrance gates, Potters Wood Close, Dane End. Ware, SG12 0LD. Refused Permission.

iii. Naming and Numbering

None.

5. **FINANCE.**

Balance as at 17.06.08 Current Account £1014.00

Deposit Account £5424.23

Receipts on Current Account:

07.07.08	Transfer from Deposit Account	£2000.00
09.07.08	Grant for Litter Picker EHDC	£438.89
14.07.08	LMPCC June Newsletter	£47.25

Deduct Payments

26.06.08	J. Morris Newsletter Annual Payment	c/no 404	£130.00
26.06.08	Void (reissued) *	c/no 405	
26.06.08	G.B. Long/ Repair water leak	c/no 406	£193.87
26.06.08	M. Mitchell/Clerk Fee	c/no 407	£152.40
26.06.08	Void (chq stopped)**	c/no 408	
26.06.08	Void (chq stopped)**	c/no 409	
29.06.08	M. Ovens Litter Pick May	c/no 410	£32.10
01.07.08	M. Ovens Litter Pick June	c/no 411	£32.10

*Chq 405 was replaced with chq 410 as the words and figures differed.

** Chqs 408 and 409 were issued to Kirkham Contracting but he lost them. Both cheques were stopped. They have now been reissued as at 21.07.08 but not included in this month's figures. For information the values of the cheques reissued are Chq 412 General Contract £1280.75 and chq 413 Extra work over contract £334.88. These will be included in the September Bank Reconciliation.

Therefore based on the above figures as at 21.07.08

Current Account Balance	£2949.67
Deposit Account Balance	£3424.23
Total Cash at Bank	£6373.90

Audit

Letter received from BDO Stoy Hayward requesting further clarification on our submission. It was agreed at the meeting that the council authorised MM to give appropriate clarifications to BDO Stoy Hayward in connection with the 2008 Annual Return, including confirmation that the 2007 figures have been restated in accordance with the accounts presented to the Annual Parish Meeting on 24th April 2008.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

i. Correspondence Out.

Various correspondence both in and out in respect of the Benington Wind Farm is collated in the Benington Wind Farm Folder.

01.07.08 Ltr to John Grisbrooke – Inviting him to Attend July Meeting

(JG has advised MM he will be attending)

04.07.08 Ltr to Ivan Smith sent by DM.

06.07.08 Ltr to David Payne re Charities sent by DM

21.07.08 e-Mail to Richard Kellett EHC re Litter Bin to be installed at Horses Meadow at their cost.

07.07.08 BDO Stoy Hayward – re the Annual Return Audit.

ii. Letters received.

30.06.08 e-mail Parish Council websites.

30.06.08 East Herts Council – litter picking payments 08/09

02.07.08 e-mail Hertfordshire Highways.

02.07.08 BAA Stansted Airport – Generation 2 Project.

08.07.08 Oliver Heald – re CCTV

10.07.08 EHC Summer Activities

14.07.08 EHC Open Spaces Community Facilities Audit.

16.07.08 Oliver Heald re 3 Valleys Water

18.07.08 E-mail – re Post Office Network Changes.

Undated Ltr from Richard Roberts County Councillor Herts. Re Post office closures in Hertfordshire.

7. LATE POST/POST RECEIVED.

i. Discussion took place over a copy of a letter Paul Clark had sent to Oliver Heald regarding school transport for his children. After much discussion it was felt that it was his personal choice and other families in the community who send their children to the schools in Puckeridge and Buntingford have to pay for transport. It was therefore decided to offer our sympathy but we were not in a position to help but to suggest he takes it up with East Herts school transport direct. MM to prepare letter for DM to sign.

ii. JP raised the point that perhaps next year we could make mention of the Free summer activities in the News Letter. MM had placed leaflets in the Shop and one was placed on the Notice Board.

- iii. Open Space and Community Facilities Audit. JP and MM to look at the survey but if unable to complete will pass to DM for his opinion.

- iv. Late Notice of Planning The Cottage Green End. It was discussed again regarding the over development of this site and it was agreed that a letter of objection should once again be submitted on behalf of the Parish Council. MM to prepare and send.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS.

- a. AB raised again the overgrown path between Founceley Avenue. MM said she had contacted Anglia through her contact Sade and will do so again to see if the problem can be resolved.

- b. LB raised the point about the damage to the bridge at the bottom of Whitehill. The bridge wall is damaged at both ends MM to contact Highways to report the damage and also the signs that are missing or hidden by overgrown trees and shrubs. Particularly signs going up to Haultwick which are broken. There are still very bad potholes outside of JM's house in Whitehill (Shelleys Cottage), MM will report these also.

- c. Martin Scales brought up the problem of the brambles overgrown on the pathway up to the school. KW had already mentioned these as well. MM to report to Highways but it is not certain whether it is their responsibility.

**The next meeting of the LMPC will be held at Little Munden School at 8.00pm on Thursday 25th September, 2008.
The meeting closed at 9.40pm**

Signed: _____ Date: _____
David Metcalf: Chairman