

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 28th October 2010 at Little Munden School at 8.00 pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Present were: David Metcalf (DM) Chairman, Anthony Brown (AB) Vice Chairman, Keith Williams (KW) Councillor, Jenny Macintosh, Lizzie Bacon.

Geraldine Ward (GW) Clerk.

Apologies: Jonathan Pool (JP), Brian Long (BL)

Members of the Public: 2

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES.

DM proposed that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 30th September 2010 be taken as read. The minutes were then proposed by AB and seconded by KW as a true and correct account of the meeting.

3. MATTERS ARISING from the Parish Council Meeting.

- i. Problem with Post**
Discussions are taking place between Herts County Council and the School to try and reach some agreement with the landowner.
- ii. Common Land**
DM is in contact with the HCC Department, County Hall regarding Common Land and expects a reply from his letter eventually.
- iii. Charity Commission**
AB had heard nothing further from the Vicar who is on a Sabbatical until December. AB to continue to try and contact him in the meantime so action can be taken.
- iv. Parish Maintenance**
Stuart Kirkham will be felling problem trees in Whiteley Close and Windy Rise once all the leaves have fallen.
- v. Bus Shelter/Youth Shelter**
To be covered by the results of VAQ.
- vi. Website**
To be covered by results of VAQ.

- vii. **Newsletter:** To be covered by the results of the VAQ.
- viii. **Dog Fouling – The Baulk**
Dog Bin post has been fixed. Dog warden had communicated that there is no legislation against dog fouling on agricultural land. GW to clarify that the footpaths are not included in this.
- ix. **Parking on Fouceley Avenue**
To be discussed later.

4. **PLANNING**

(i) **New Applications**

3/10/1734/FP

Conversion, Extension and Change of Use of the Forge to C3 (Private Dwelling). The Forge, Munden Road, Dane End SG12 0LP.

No objection.

(ii) **Decisions**

3/10/1440/LB

To regularise the erection of the rear Conservatory and Garage extension, Lordship Cottage, Green End Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0NS.
Grant Listed Buildings Consent.

3/10/1439/FP

Erection of Conservatory – retrospective/ Lordship Cottage, Green End Road, Dane End, SG12 0NS.

Grant Permission.

3/10/1324/LB

Single storey rear extension Dane Cottage, Munden Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0LH

Permission refused.

3/10/1538/FP

Change of use of meadowland to allotment. Land rear of Echo Cottage & Whitelea House, Dane End, Ware Herts, SG12 0JR.

Grant Permission.

5b. Financial Issues Arising

(i) Litterpicker

The Litterpicker's minimum wage had been increased so the Chairman asked the Council to approve this. It was proposed by DM and seconded by JM.

(ii) DM pointed out that Finances looked quite healthy at the moment and explained that this was due to the fact that we had the grant for the VAQ and that no capital project expenditure would occur until the Parish Plan had been formulated.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Correspondence Sent

1/10/10 Alex Bartels, re Appointment as Litterpicker.

20/10/10 Alliance and Leicester to set up Direct Debit to pay Litterpicker.

Oct 10 Letter from DM to Mr and Mrs Smith regarding Parking problems on Founceley Avenue.

Oct 10 Letter from DM to Mr P Gates regarding Parking problems on Founceley Avenue.

Discussion took place regarding this matter and it was agreed that nothing could be done regarding the number of cars parking along one side of the road. The council agreed that one or two dropped kerbs could be put in. AB to suggest where this should be exactly. DM to continue to communicate with Raj over this.

(ii) Correspondence Received

8/10/10 SLCC Information re Budgets and Training.

15/10/10 EHC Transport and Parking strategy

15/10/10 EHC Guide to Council Funding.

(iii) Circular Correspondence and Emails

8/10/10 Catherine Wyatt/Herts Biodiversity Officer, Community Greenspace Challenge Grant Programme.

DM pointed out that grants were available between £20,000 and £75,000 and that this could be used for utilising Common Land. DM has forwarded this to JP. GW to file copy and to follow-up when the VAQ was discussed.

8/10/10 EH Members Bulletin October 10. Gully Cleaning Schedule.

8/10/10 Herts Highways Eastern Herts Area Office/ Programme of Works.

13/10/10 JP Core Strategy Consultation Leaflet from Jonathan Pool

13/10/10 Stuart Kirkham re fixing post on footpath.

14/10/10 EHDC Hertfordshire Sustainable Funding Fair.

18/10/10 Claire Pullen EHDC re Community Planning & Partnerships.

18/10/10 JP/Owl Messaging: Have a Safe and Enjoyable Halloween.

18/10/10 Emails from and to EHC re Dog Patrols on Footpath 1.

(iv) Late Post

Herts Highway resurfacing scheme – nothing relevant to the Mundens

20/10/10 Owl Messaging re Neighbourhood Watch Locality Meeting

20/10/10 Refined Web Development, a local web development company re Templates for Council Websites. No interest.

7. VILLAGE APPRAISAL OPEN MEETING

DM proposed that the Parish Council must be asked to adopt the actions arising from the VAQ. A Summary of Actions Proposed had been prepared from the Minutes of the Open meeting which are now being presented to the Parish Council. Upon approval of these, the Village Appraisal Committee can be dissolved and the Parish Plan produced by the Parish Council. The Council advised that they were happy to accept these proposals. AB proposed the approval and KW seconded. It was carried unanimously and the Village Appraisal Committee was dissolved.

KW thanked the Village Appraisal Committee for all their hard work on behalf of the Parish Council.

It was agreed that it was difficult to go through the Summary of Actions Proposed without JP. DM suggested that everyone should have read them in preparation for the meeting next month.

It was agreed that a plan would have to be published setting out the results of the VAQ and DM pointed out that some of these items would be on anything as much as a 10 year plan.

DM also reported that he and LB had inspected Horses Meadow with a view to putting in facilities for the youth of the village. It was agreed that the youth must get involved too. After some discussion it was agreed that the whole facility of Horses Meadow could be improved with picnic tables, and possibly a barbeque facility etc.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(a) The EHC Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation

JM reported on the meeting that she and JP had attended. She said it was rather difficult to understand the position of the other villages and the problems they have had with development in the past. She reported that they want people to respond to the consultation leaflet and that it was still very much in the proposal stages.

Discussion took place as to whether the Questionnaire should be filled in and where it could be found.

Discussion also took place as to how any such developments would affect Dane End and it was generally felt that there was a need for more social housing in the village as the property prices were so expensive now. However, AB pointed out that water pressure was bad enough now and that sewerage was at maximum capacity. DM pointed out the different types of development and that ribbon development was more suitable for this type of village. LB pointed out that there was not the infrastructure for any more development at all.

It was agreed that councillors should fill in the Questionnaire after reading the consultation document. GW to search for the Questionnaire online and pass on to AB and BL. The deadline for the form is 25/11/10.

In the meantime DM will contact JP and inform him that the Council was not informed enough to go further with this and that maybe there should be a special one hour meeting to discuss this issue. DM emphasised that it was critical to forward comments regarding future development **now** as this Consultation forms the core strategy of development over the next 20 years.

(ii) Jubilee Walk

The Council had been contacted by Adrian Worthington with a proposal to tidy up Jubilee Walk and the land from the walk to the Football pitch. He points out in his letter to the council that the saplings have now grown into semi-mature trees, some about 20 ft high which need reducing in size. He has already reduced the size of the hedge next to his allotment and suggests that he could restore Jubilee Walk free from brambles and back into grass for a fee of £6 per hour, which would take approximately 40 hours. He could also maintain the hedge in the future. Kirkhams could then mow the grass. Everyone agreed that they would like him to go ahead and that this could improve Jubilee Walk as a pleasant facility.

DM proposed that we go back to him and specify the number of hours he is to work. It was proposed by KW and seconded by AB.

GW to write to him to confirm that the council would like him to go ahead with this.

ii. Any Other Business from Parishioners

The meeting was attended by Mr Sugden who wanted to inform the Council that trees between Church Lane and Gladstone Road were overhanging by about four feet and the pavement was obstructed by them as well. This was proving a danger to pedestrians and car drivers.

It was agreed that GW would compose a letter to the owner of the property to ask him to trim back these trees.

DM brought the meeting to a close at 9.35 pm.

The next meeting of the LMPC will take place on Thursday 25th November 2010 at 8.00 pm.

Signed _____ **Date:** _____
Chairman