

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 20th January 2011 at Little Munden School at 8.00 pm

1. ATTENDANCE

Present were: David Metcalf (DM) Chairman, Jonathan Pool (JP), Keith Williams (KW), Jenny Macintosh (JM), Lizzie Bacon (LB), Councillors.

Geraldine Ward (GW) Clerk.

Apologies: Anthony Brown (AB), Brian Long (BL).

Members of the Public: 7

2. PREVIOUS MINUTES.

DM proposed that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 25th November 2010 be taken as read. The minutes were then proposed by JM and seconded by LB 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**
To be updated by AB.
- iv. Parish Maintenance**
Stuart Kirkham has cut down the problem trees in Windy Rise and Whiteley Close. The fence bordering the Christmas tree farm and Horses Meadow to be done at a later date. JP pointed out that there was now a lot of rubble on Russel's part of the fence and that steps be taken to have this removed.
- v. Results from the VAQ**
Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of 18/11/10 to be approved at the this meeting.

- vi. **Newsletter**
DM to submit a piece for the next Newsletter.
- vii. **Parking on Fouceley Avenue**
DM explained that very little could be done about this.
- viii. **Jubilee Walk**
Adrian had so far done a very good job and had submitted an invoice on work so far.
- ix. **Trees between Gladstone Road and Church Road**
The trees had been cut back but their tops are still overhanging the path.

4. **PLANNING**

(i) **New Applications**

3/10/1760/FB

Single storey side extension. 1 Hatchetts Cottages, Old Hall Green, Standon, Ware, Herts SG11 1HA. No objection.

3/10/2239/FP

Single storey rear extension. Doulton House, 1 Potters Wood Close, Potters Green, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0LH. No objection.

(ii) **Decisions**

3/10/1734/FP

Conversion, extension and change of use of forge (sui generis) to C3 (private dwelling). The Forge, Munden Road, Dane End, Herts SG12 0LP. **Permission Granted.**

3/10/1733/LB

Replacement of weatherboarding and windows, re-roofing with addition of 2 no. conservation roof lights, additional windows to front and rear elevations, rear extension and 1m close-boarded fence enclosing rear garden. The Forge, Munden Road, Dane End, Herts SG12 0LP. **Permission Granted.**

3/10/1935 FP

Demolition of existing stable and garage and erection of two single storey outbuildings. Existing crossover removed and new vehicular crossover added.

Amended drawings, description and/or additional plans had been submitted.

Permission Granted.

- (iii) **Appeals**
App/J1915/D/10/2139562
 3/10/1266/FP
 Erection of first floor rear extension, The Cottage, Green End, Dane End,
 Ware, Herts SG12 0NY. **Appeal dismissed.**

5. FINANCE

Current Account Balance B/F 21/12/10 £ 3638.22
Deposit Account Balance B/F 21/12/10 £ 8078.59

Receipts on Current Account Nil
 Receipts on Deposit Account Nil

Deduct Payments from Current Account

Date	Payment to	Ch/No	Amount £
21/12/10	G Ward/Clerks Fee	598	162.00
21/12/10	Carol Bartels	599	30.00
21/12/10	J Pool/VAQ Printing Costs	600	18.83*
11/01/11	EHDC Parish Election recharge 2007	601	120.62*

Total Payments £ 331.45

Total Payments £ 331.45

*Less Cheque Amounts to be cleared * £ 139.45

Total £ 192.00

Deduct Payments from Deposit Account Amount £ Nil

Balance on Current Account (on-line balance) 11/01/11 £ 926.09

Balance brought forward 21/12/10 £3638.22

Plus Receipt credited from December £ 236.25

Less cheque amounts debited from Dec 10 (596,597) £2756.38

Less payments £ 192.00

Balance as at 11/01/11 £ 926.09

Balance on Deposit account (on-line balance) as at 11/01/01 £ **8078.59**

(£2000 = Grant)

Balance brought forward 21/12/10 £ 8078.59

Plus Receipts Nil

Less Payments Nil

Balance as at 11/01/11 £ 8078.59

5a Financial Issues Arising

JP advised that the Invoice for £120 for the Election cost should be queried. Discussion took place on the estimate for this year's election which EHC suggests to be around £680, and that it should be budgets for as if the next election is contested.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

(i) Correspondence Received

29/11/10 EHC 2010 Budget Consultation Exercise.

To promote interactive budgets on website www.EastHerts. Opportunity to have your say as to where savings can be made next year and the next 4 years. DM to look at and advise Parishioners of this via the Newsletter. It appears to be an opportunity to say where you think savings could be made. JP suggested that information of this should also be put on the Website.

30/11/10 East Herts Green Infrastructure Plan Stakeholder Workshop Invite
Dec 2010 Letter from lady in Whiteley Close re replacing trees. DM queried whether anyone had any suggestions. Planting bulbs was suggested and it was agreed that the residents should decide what they would like as long as they weren't trees.

2/12/10 Bin-it Dog Waste Solutions. GW to contact them for a quote.

3/12/10 Owl Messaging/Neighbourhood Watch: "Keep your car locked to thieves on frosty days".

3/12/10 Network News from East Herts Council.

6/12/10 Stuart Kirkham, re fence bordering Christmas Tree Farm.

10/12/10 EHC Council Tax Precept 2011/12/ Estimate of Costs Town/Parish Council Elections – 5 May 2011. A recommendation that estimates of costs for 2011 election should be based on increase in retail price index and a presumption that election will be contested.

16/12/10 North East Herts Area Office. Re Salting.

20/12/10 EHDC Claire Pullen, re Community Green Space Challenge Grant Fund.

23/12/10 Hertfordshire Highways Member Update January 2011.

3/1/11 Carol Bartels, re Litterpicker.

6/1/11 Owl Messaging: "An even safer East Herts".

6/1/11 OWL Messaging: "Criminal Damage – Cottered".

(ii) Correspondence Sent

31/12/10 Jonathan Pool to Jill Dockley, Hertfordshire Police. Re Neighbourhood Watch.

31/12/10 Jonathan Pool to Watton-at-Stone Tennis Club.

31/12/10 Jonathan Pool to Datchworth Sports Club – Tennis Section.

(iii) Late Post

18/1/11 CPRE Hertfordshire Village of the Year 2011 (Campaign to Protect Rural England). DM would be happy to give this consideration.

13/1/11 Spinal Injuries Association: Publicity for Fund Raiser by inviting groups to hold Fish and Chip suppers. Request to publicise the event. To be

forwarded to Jackie Morris for the Newsletter and to be circulated on Notice Boards.

17/1/11 OWL Messaging/Neighbourhood Watch: Regarding burglary in Little Hadham.

13/1/11 SLCC Re CPD Courses.

17/1/11 Hertfordshire Police/Update regarding funding challenges: Information regarding Police Station closures.

19/1/11 DCK Beavers re Accounting Solutions

19/1/11 East Herts Fund for the Future: Re Annual Quiz.

20/1/11 Derek Wheeler: Re Parish Plan.

7. LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH ACTION PLAN

It had been agreed at the November 2010 meeting that the Council would run through each Action Point that had been generated from the VAQ and a progress report would be given by whoever had responsibility for an individual action point, on a monthly basis. The Action Plan has been split into three sections, short, medium and long term plans.

A. Short Term (6 - 18 Months)

(i) Communication with Parishioners: *LB, JMc and Jackie Morris*
Newsletter: A suggestion had been made at the last meeting for LB, JMc and JM to form a subcommittee to bring forward the wish for greater communication within the parish through the Newsletter.

There was representation at the meeting from Jackie Morris in her capacity as Editor of the Newsletter who felt that both the Church and she should have been consulted at an earlier stage about any changes to the publication. The Church Council also had representation at the meeting and Anthony Taylor the Church Warden entered into the discussion, first by thanking Jackie for all her hard work with the Newsletter and by pointing out how hard the job was to keep it full on a monthly basis. He went on to say that he felt that the Parish Council should have notified the Church Council formally as to any changes being made and not to assume that they knew what was going on. He also pointed out that he welcomed the opportunity to improve the Newsletter and looked forward to working with the Council to this end.

A question from the floor queried where the majority view to change the Newsletter had come from and the Chairman clarified that it had come about as a result of Parishioners wanting better communication about Village matters and the Committee of the VAQ had suggested that the best way to do this was through the Newsletter and Website. This was as a direct result of the Open Meeting to discuss the results of the VAQ. He also pointed out and JP concurred and that this was very much in planning stages and the Council had only decided at this stage, who was going to bring the Action Point forward. Jackie Morris also pointed out that the Publisher of the Newsletter,

(Herts Display) should have been thanked for printing the Christmas issue in colour. DM to write a letter of thanks.

JP questioned whether at this stage more people should be involved with taking the Newsletter forward but DM felt that the sub-committee should remain as it is with equal representation from the Editor/Church Council and Parish Council.

(ii) Parish Council Minutes:

GW

JP reminded that an Agenda of the next meeting and a Précis of the Minutes of the last meeting, should go in the Newsletter as well as going on the Website.

(iii) Neighbourhood Watch:

JP

JP has contacted Jill Dockley of Herfordshire Police who has list of the 17 Neighbourhood Watch coordinators but has had replies from only 8. He felt that it will be difficult to relaunch the Scheme, as he does not have access to her list, due to the Data Protection Act. He reported that no one had responded to the request in the Newsletter for information as to who past Neighbourhood Watch coordinators were. JP to keep trying to gather the information.

(iv) Horses' Meadow Detritus:

BL

(v) Tennis:

JP

JP had written to Watton and Datchworth Clubs and will report more fully at the next meeting when he has replies to his emails. Still to write to Heath Mount and St Edmunds schools about use of their facilities.

(vi) Community Policing:

LB/JMc/Jackie Morris

Beat Surgeries still to be published in the Newsletter.

(vii) Dog Fouling:

Council

No improvement. DM to continue mention of this in the Newsletter.

(viii) Footpath FP1/Little Munden School:

KW

To be updated by KW when progress has been made.

(ix) Mundens.Net 'Traders' Page

DM

To communicate via the Newsletter to encourage people to advertise on the Website.

(x) Free Summer Activities for Youth

Council

To keep village informed of any free activities during the summer months as and when EHC publish them.

B. Medium Term (1-3 Years)

(i) Traffic Calming

Council

DM to inform Hertfordshire Highways that traffic calming measures were wanted by Parishioners as a result of a public referendum.

DM reported that he had notified them of several potholes around the Parish.

(ii) Bus Shelter **DM (Herts Highways)**
KW (residents)

Still to hear back from Hertfordshire Highways.

(iii) Youth Informal Meeting Place **DM/LB**
See C (ii).

(iv) Disability Drop Curbs **DM**
Founceley Avenue – there are already drop kerbs, either end of the road and there is little the Parish Council can do at this stage.

(v) Mobile Phone Reception **KW**
To contact other Mobile Operators to see if they had plans to operate in area. It was agreed that it is very difficult to get in touch with these companies and find out who would deal with this. DM to follow-up with KW.

(vi) Allotments **DM**
Provision of new allotments ties in with whether or not the Common Land can be repatriated. DM to follow-up.

C. LONG TERM (3 – 5 Years)

(i) Planning **Council**

(ii) Youth Meeting Place **DM/LB**
Volunteers have come forward and DM to organise meeting mid February. DM pointed out that a number of people were interested in getting involved. He asked the Parish Council for permission to book the Village Hall to hold the meeting.

There was a question from the floor querying where a youth club might be, DM pointed out that we were still unsure whether they wanted a youth club or somewhere less formal. LB pointed out that we need to get the young people involved and ask them directly.

(iii) Skateboarding **DM/LB**
As above.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

(i) Exchange Plot
Posts had been broken off. GW to ask Stuart for a quote to give his opinion as to whether they should be repaired or replaced.

(ii) Councillors Remuneration Panel for East Herts

JP announced that he was on the Panel of Remuneration for East Herts.

(iii) Car Park

LB reported that a member of the Parish had reported to her that cars are being parked in front of dropped Kerbs and that cars are also parking in blue badge bays preventing her access to them as the blue badges were no longer visible. DM mentioned that this would be a Housing Association matter and the dropped kerbs a Hertfordshire Highways matter. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to the Housing Association about the blue badges. GW to find address of Housing Association and DM to write letter to Hertfordshire Highways. LB to clarify exactly where the dropped kerbs are and report to DM.

(iv) Oak Tree on corner of Gladstone Road/Church Lane

Martin Scales reported that this tree was shedding twigs and leaves on to path. DM to follow-up.

(v) Stealing from Gardens

A member of the public had had items stolen from his garden and wondered if there had been reports of any other thefts. Nothing had been reported.

Contributions to Newsletter

Jackie Morris thanked DM for providing Parish Council news to the Newsletter and went on to suggest that there must be some other contributors out there who could produce interesting articles for the publication whether about a specific hobby or occupation. DM suggested that a small piece on farming matters would be beneficial and informative. It was suggested that a call for contributors could be advertised in the next Newsletter.

DM thanked Jackie Morris for all her hard work as Editor of the Newsletter.

DM brought the meeting to a close at 9.55 pm.

The next meeting of the LMPC will take place on Thursday 17th February 2011 at 8.00 pm.

Signed _____ **Date:** _____
Chairman