

## LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council (PC), held on 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at Little Munden Memorial Hall at 8.00 pm.**

### 1. ATTENDANCE

**Present were:** Jonathan Pool (JP) Chairman; Jenny Macintosh (JM); Hannah Charvill (HC); Darren Jones (DJ); (Councillors)

**In Attendance:** Rosemary Cheswright (County Councillor).  
Geraldine Ward (Clerk).

**Members of the Public:** 6 Parishioners.

**APOLOGIES:** Lizzie Bacon (LB); Keith Williams (KW)

### 2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

### 3. CO-OPTION OF DARREN JONES AS PARISH COUNCILLOR

JP proposed the co-option of Darren Jones as Councillor which was seconded by JM.

### 4. PLANNING – Brought forward item

**3/15/1080 Construction of an agricultural lagoon (amended siting and access and submission of Transport Statement).**

JP explained that due to the County Councillor being present and members of the public who were particularly interested in this item the normal construction of the Agenda had been changed to deal with the above application.

JP confirmed to the meeting that, since the previous meeting, there have been submitted:

**Transport Statement**, concluding that “In terms of operational impact on the highway, these (traffic movements) will be negligible”, with which conclusion the PC disagrees.

**Highway Authority response**, concluding “With a robust Traffic management Plan and the appropriate management of the lagoon, the Highway authority considers that an objection on highways grounds would not be justified”, which conclusion the PC does not accept - and it is understood that a Traffic Management Plan is being prepared by the applicant.

The draft of the new PC representation to be submitted to East Herts Planning includes concerns that/about:-

- No odour impact assessment
- No environment & accident emergency plan
- Location
- Community mistrust of applicant’s ulterior motives
- Financial viability
- Management

- Hours of operation
- Sacombe
- Home Farm Cottage

Councillors approved the draft representation letter for submission.

## **5. DISCUSSION OF REQUEST FROM SLADE TO HELP FUND THE CONSULTANCY FEES TO FIGHT THE LAGOON PLANNING APPLICATION**

JP reported that at the last meeting this request would be considered at the November meeting when the precept is to be considered. All Councillors agreed that this should be the case.

## **6. CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM PARISHIONERS**

There was a question from the floor for further clarification about any one-off precept. JP explained that as the Council have now subscribed to the HAPTC and were already members of SLCC, three important questions would be put to these bodies concerning the possible raising of a one-off precept. These were as follows:

- Is it legal?
- If legal, how can LMPC be assured that such a fund-raising would be in the interests of the community as a whole?
- How can LMPC be satisfied that it would be providing value for money?

The Precept letter normally comes in before the November meeting and usually the reply is needed by January as to whether or not the Precept amount is changed.

Rosemary Cheswright asked whether the Campaign Group (SLADE) had the support of Paul Kenealy (District Councillor). In Cottered there were plans for an anaerobic digester which was eventually turned down by County unanimously – due to a very substantial and hard working campaign supported by Councillor Kenealy. JP confirmed that Paul Kenealy is fully supportive and that SLADE were enlisting professional support to fight the application. HC confirmed that there was contact between the Cottered group and SLADE.

There was a question from the floor as to whether permission had been sort for the cutting down of a tree at the proposed entrance of the site. Discussion ensued as to whether permission should have been sort. JP commented that it's possible that they were probably cut down before the proposed new siting had been submitted. DJ queried what kind of trees they were and it was suggested that Google Street View could possibly show this. JP commented that this should be looked at separately.

Normal Parish Council business then resumed.

**7. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2015**

DJ proposed that the minutes of the previous Parish Council Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> July 2015 be taken as read and JP seconded them.

**8. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**

**8.1 Common Land**

JP spoken to David Metcalf who was still happy to work on this issue.

**8.2 Little Munden Memorial Hall Trustees**

In the absence of KW it was difficult to report on this issue but the PC would hopefully be updated at the next meeting.

**8.3 Noticeboard**

JP had spoken to David Metcalf about the noticeboard and he confirmed that he was still prepared to make a new one for the Council. There was some discussion as to whether this was now going on for too long.

**8.4 Extra Bin for Horses' Meadow**

JP confirmed that the new bin was there but not greatly used.

**8.6 Letter from WSP re Flooding**

JP had also spoken to David Metcalf about this who had replied to the letter although the company had not got back to him despite phoning them on three occasions. JP passed the letter on to the Clerk.

**8.7 Playground Inspection/Horses' Meadow**

The Clerk confirmed that the playground inspection had been completed and circulated the report to the Councillors. The igloo had a number problems flagged up in the report and JP felt that it may be better to start thinking about replacing it. He did comment that it is used so he felt it would be a good idea to replace it. JP agreed to take the report to look at it in more detail and then report back to the Council as to what needed doing.

**8.8 Website**

Richard Barron had sent through breakdowns of statistics as to who was using it. There did not appear to have been any comments from Parishioners as to the design of the website.

**8.9 Newsletter**

JP felt that this should not be dealt with at the moment.

**8.10 Skateboard Ramp Interest**

The Parishioner who was interested in pursuing this had agreed to delay speaking to the Parish Council about this until the November meeting.

**8.11 Defibrillator**

JP expressed uncertainty as to when the electricity would be installed. The Clerk suggested she would email Oliver Copsey for an update.

**9. PLANNING**

**9.1 New Application**

3/15/1819/LBC Proposed double and single storey rear extension incorporating rear dormer. Lordship Cottage, Little Munden. Comments by 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015. **No Comments.**

**9.2 Decision**

**3/15/1367/ARPN:** Change of use of existing agricultural store/livestock pens into three residential dwellings. Prior approval. Whitehill Farm, Dane End, Ware Herts SG12 0JS. The Council decided on 18<sup>th</sup> August 2015 to refuse the application.

JP had tried to get hold of Lord Carter or his representative to see what the proposal was regarding the other existing buildings on the site. There could be potential for further applications. JM commented that neighbours were actually supportive of development as opposed to the old buildings that were there. He had eventually got hold of the applicant who reported that he wanted to use the buildings for agricultural storage.

**10. FINANCE**

Current Account Balance BF 17/8/15 £12654.38

**Deduct Payments from Current Account**

Date	Payment to	Cheque No	Amount £
17/8/15	Post Office Ltd	899	33.38
17/8/15	Herts Display	900	96.72
17/8/15	Affinity Water	901	82.60
17/8/15	R Barron Website	902	35.00
17/8/15	G Ward/Clerks Fee	903	171.00
1/9/15	L Bartlett/Litterpicker	S/O	41.92

**Total Payments 460.62**

£

**Online balance on Current Account 9/9/15 12193.76**

Balance Brought forward 17/8/15 12654.38

Less Payments 460.62

**Balance as at 9/9/15 12193.76**

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE**

### **11.1 Correspondence Received**

- 18<sup>th</sup> July 2015 EHC re Litter Picking Payments 2015/16. Request to confirm area of litterpicking.
- Email from Oliver Sowerby to Planning (sent via SLADE) Reponse to Planning Application from Herts County Council re Agricultural Storage Lagoon, Highways response to development.
- 21/8/15 The Play Inspection Company/Annual Report.
- 1/9/15 Email from Jeff Hughes EHC re Notice of Casual Vacancy – copy to distribute on notice boards. JP commented that the resignation of Keith Boulton had been received. The vacancy had been advertised and one response had been received so far with the possibility of another in the pipeline.
- 7/9/15 Email from David Hart interest in being considered Councillor.
- 8/9/15 Letter from SLADE requesting financial support for professional consultancy funding via Parish Council's Precept to fight Planning Application 3/15/1080/FUL.
- 8/9/15 Email from Russell Parkins, Thundridge Parish Council, suggesting that LMPC should request Lisa Page to provide Viability and Business Plan for Planning Application 3/15/1080/FUL.
- 10/9/15 Email from HAPTC re Membership.
- 14/9/15 BDO Conclusion of the Audit and Fee Note. Including issues arising from the audit and date selection form 2015/16.
- August 2015 Resignation letter Councillor Keith Boulton (by email).

### **11.2 Correspondence Sent**

1/9/15 Letter and Invoice to Great Munden Parish Council.

## **12. RECEIVE NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCILLORS AND TO DEAL WITH THOSE MATTERS IF APPROPRIATE**

### **JP raised the following outstanding issues:**

- New Cheque Signatory – Clerk to remind LB.
- Fencing between Easington Road and Horses' Meadow. Clerk to action.
- Basketball Hoop Base. Resurfacing should be tarmac. DJ to look at.
- Event for the elderly of the village. JP commented that this had been considered when grant money was available last year. The District Councillor often has money available for such projects.
- Bus Service cuts – nothing had been announced about this since the report had been circulated.
- Dog poo bin at Haultwick. This had been made previously. DJ did not think that the expenditure warranted this in such a rural area.

- Dog fouling: Footpaths are still being fouled by dogs. Clerk to put something in Newsletter again.
- Car Park money from Lovely Day productions: Clerk to action.
- Litterpicker – The Clerk reported that all was well and the litterpicker was doing a good job.
- Website – JP did not think it was right for the Benington Nursery to be advertised (on the front page) when Little Munden School was so short of numbers themselves.

**13. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM PARISHIONERS**

The meeting was brought to a close at 8.40 pm. The next meeting will be held on **Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015** at Little Munden Village Hall, at 8.00 pm.

**Signed** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Chairman**