

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held on 21st January 2016 at Little Munden Memorial Hall at 8.00 pm.

1. ATTENDANCE

Present were: Lizzie Bacon (LB) Chairman; Keith Williams (KW); Darren Jones (DJ); David Hart (DH) (Councillors)

Members of the Public: Russell Parkins

APOLOGIES: Jonathan Pool (JP) Jenny Macintosh (JM) Hannah Charvill (HC)

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

None.

3. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 19TH November 2015 and 17th September 2015. Approval of September Minutes to be held over until the next meeting.

KW proposed the November Minutes and DJ seconded them. KW commented that draft minutes were not sent out early enough and queried whether minutes could be posted on the website as draft minutes. The Clerk to get the draft minutes out quicker.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

4.1 Little Munden Memorial Hall Trustees

Derek Wheeler (DW) (Treasurer to Little Munden Memorial Hall) was present at the meeting and reported on the changes to the constitution. He explained that the land and building had been a gift from a group of people, including the Sapsed family, and the hall became set up as a charity for the benefit of the village in 1924. In 1941 the constitution was changed by deed poll and holding trustees were set up, underneath which were the people who ran the Hall. The holding trustees had two sets of powers: Firstly they held the title to the land. Secondly they could hire or fire the committee. He went on to say that there were until recently only two holding trustees (there should have been four) and every time changes to the Trustees were made, legal fees were incurred.

Bob Kirkby (the Chairman) had met with Sue Shepherd who is consultant on village halls within the area and explained this predicament. She felt that this constitution was outmoded in this day and age and suggested consulting with a specialist solicitor called Jonathan Dawson to bring the constitution up to date. A meeting was arranged on the 9th June 2015 with the existing Trustees Ivan Smith and Keith Williams to explain what Mr Dawson proposed. Mr Dawson explained that the need to have holding trustees would be superseded by investing their powers under the official custodian, the Charities Commission, who would own title to the building. He proposed to put in place a different constitution by Deed of Amendment whereby daily affairs would be run by the Village Hall Committee and the land and building would be owned by the Charity Commission. The

issue around Title only comes into being if the Hall ceases to operate and becomes derelict in which case the Charity Commission would have power to sell the land, the proceeds of which would be ring fenced and the money could only be used for the same charitable purposes as set up in 1924. DW had been categorically assured that the money could not be siphoned off to the Government, but would have to be used for other charitable purposes or used to buy another piece of land in, for example, a more suitable location.

DW originally thought that the new constitution needed 10 committee members which is why he approached the Parish Council to make the committee quorate. Bob Kirkby however queried this and the Solicitor backed down and was happy with four, so now the process is underway to register the title with the Charities Commission. DW explained that management of the hall would be the responsibility of the four Committee Members: Bob Kirkby (Chairman), Derek Wheeler (Treasurer), Johanna Wheeler (Bookings Secretary) and Geraldine Ward (Secretary). He pointed out that this arrangement takes away the overall responsibility of holding trustees and costs of finding replacements when needed. DW reported that the Hall still have a good amount of money in the Bank and should break even this year with increased party bookings and Church bookings, as well as Yoga and Badminton. However it would be a potential disaster if something happened, such as the roof disintegrating. KW queried if the Charity Commission would intervene if something disastrous happened to the Hall and also queried whether the PC could potentially be a trustee along with the Village Hall Committee, although generally the PC felt this would not be necessary.

DW thanked the PC for their support.

4.2 Noticeboard

LB reported that David Metcalf had emailed to say he would get the board done in the next two months once he had found a decent bit of hardwood to engrave the name into.

4.3 Newsletter

KW asked whether we had had any feedback from the Church regarding their part in the Newsletter. LB responded that JM needed to ask what their thoughts were. KW pointed out that any changes have to be with the approval of the Church. DJ suggested that it could go bimonthly or quarterly to bulk out the contents and went on to say that it is all down to who wants to contribute to it.

4.4 Fencing Horses' Meadow

JP had reported that Stuart Kirkham had carried out work on trees in Horses' Meadow.

4.5 Basketball Hoop Base

DJ - No news to report and felt it would be worth waiting to see what the outcome was of the proposed skateboard ramp.

4.6 Lovely Day Productions Car Parking

Clerk to chase up by email outstanding fee for car parking.

4.7 Old Documents

Old documents pertaining to Mill Farm and Cowley Hall passed on by Mr Haywood. JP had emailed to say that Barbara Springate had passed onto Colin Jenkinson.

4.8 Group Photograph for Website

To be taken at March meeting.

4.9 Rest and Welcome

Darren Jones to chase up and suggest to the owners that they go back to the original ethos to allow someone else to restore the building.

5. CO-OPTION OF NEW PARISH COUNCILLOR

LB reported that all had voted and unanimously agreed to co-opt David Hart. KW proposed and LB seconded. David was welcomed onto the Parish Council.

6. PLANNING

6.1 New Applications

3/15/2304/HH

Proposed two storey side extension. **6 Easington Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0LT.**

3/15/2296/LBC

Demolition of existing conservatory, erection of single storey extension incorporating a pitched roof dormer window, removal of ground floor internal walls to dining room, creation of enlarged en-suite, creation of vaulted ceiling to master bedroom, positioning of oil tank in front garden and replacement external doors and windows. **Orchard Cottage, Green end, Dane End, Herts.**

3/15/2376/HH

Alterations, extensions and raising the roof height to create first floor accommodation and single storey rear extension. Alterations to scheme previously allowed on appeal, ref 3/14/2014/FP.

Cherrymead, Frogs Hall Lane, Haultwick, Herts.

3/16/0029/HH

Single storey rear extension, replacement door/window and blocking up of window in south west elevation, removal of ground floor internal walls to create enlarged kitchen and erection of new partition wall to creat first floor w.c. Insertion of 2 roof lights in existing ground floor roof. **Burnside Cottage, Munden Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts.**

3/15/2384/LBC

Whempstead Barn, Whempstead Lane, Whempstead, Ware Herts. Amendments to windows and external doors following approval under ref 3/14/1475/LB. New lantern roof light on approved extension. New/enlarged windows to main hall, Bedrooms 4, 5 & 6.

6.2 Decisions

3/15/2064/HH

31 Kingsfield Road, Dane End, Ware SG12 0LY. Change of flat roof to pitched at front – retrospective. Planning Permission granted subject to conditions.

3/15/2005/CLP

Fellowsfield, Mill Lane, Dane End, Ware. Re-open an old disused entrance from Mill Lane at the extreme east corner of the plot. Excavation to form a porous driveway and erection of a gate.

Certificate of proposed lawful use/development refused.

3/15/2264/HH

10 Kingsfield Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts. Pitch roof to existing front single storey to replace flat roof. Permission granted.

3/15/2304/HH

6 Easington Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts. Proposed two storey side extension. Permission granted.

7. FINANCE

Current Account Balance BF 12/11/15 15962.64

Receipts:

Overdraft interest refund 0.01

Deduct Payments from Current Account

Date	Payment to	Cheque No	Amount £
19/11/15	Adrian Worthington	916	98.00
19/11/15	G Ward (Clerks Fee)	917	205.50
19/11/15	Post Office Ltd (PAYE)	918	33.38
19/11/15	R Barron Website	919	70.00
30/11/15	L Bartlett/Litterpicker	S/O	41.92
30/12/15	Post Office Ltd (PAYE)	920	33.38
30/12/15	Herts Display	921	96.72
30/12/15	Clerks Fee	922	168.52

31/12/15	L Bartlett/Litterpicker	S/O	41.92
Total Payments			789.34

		£
Online balance on Current Account 14/1/16	15173.31	
Balance Brought forward 12/11/15	15962.64	
Less Payments	789.34	
Plus Receipts	0.01	
Balance as at 14/1/16	15173.31	

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Correspondence Received

20/11/15 Public Spaces Protection Order consultation. DJ explained that this applied to designated areas and are rules for that area with powers of legal enforcement. Council felt that this applied mainly to town areas.

Dec 2015 Consultation on the draft East Herts Environmental Crime Enforcement Policy 2015. Neighbourhood management and environmental crime. No comments.

22/12/15 Consultation on passenger assistants on buses. 2nd-31st Jan 2016, excluding Reception and Year One.

23/12/15 Notification of the adoption of the Herts Waste Local Plan Employment Land Areas of Search Supplementary Planning Document. No comments.

12/1/16 Council Tax 2016/17 re confirmation of tax base for East Herts and for each Parish and Town.

8.2 Correspondence Sent

10/12/15 Email to Stuart Kirkham re outstanding jobs.

8.3 Late Post

14/1/16 Email from Groundwork, Herts re Parish Paths Partnership Scheme (P3) – now open for applications for 2016 interest to be expressed by 29/1/16.

LB felt there was nothing currently in the Parish that could benefit from this. LB would apply for it if anything came up that needed such funding.

9. TO CONSIDER CHANGES TO NEWSLETTER

See above.

10. RECEIVE NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS AND TO DEAL WITH THOSE MATTERS IF APPROPRIATE

10.1 KW reiterated that he would like to see draft minutes circulated sooner so they can be placed on the website.

10.2 David Hart reported that the top rail on the timber fencing alongside Munden Road (opposite the Forge) was broken. All to report on Highways website.

11. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM PARISHIONERS

None.

The meeting was brought to a close at 8.55 pm.

The next meeting will be held on
Thursday 17th March 2016 at Little Munden Village Hall, at 8.00 pm.

Signed _____ Date _____
Chairman