

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 20th April 2017 at Dane End Memorial Hall.

Present were Jonathan Pool (JP), Chairman; Lizzie Bacon (LB), Vice Chairman; Keith Williams (KW); Jenny Macintosh (JM); Darren Jones (DJ); David Hart (DH) – Councillors.

Geraldine Ward (GW) Clerk

In Attendance: Brian Jackson (BJ); John Grisbrooke (JG); Paul Kenealy (East Herts District Councillor); Ken Crofton (Hertfordshire County Councillor)

Apologies for absence: Bob Kirkby (Chairman Little Munden Memorial Hall); Rose Cheswright (HCC), Chris Jones (Little Munden Cricket Club), Lisa Stalley (FoLM), Reverend Alan Comfort

1. WELCOME

Copies of the Agenda and End of Year Accounts were circulated.
JP welcomed everyone to the Meeting and thanked all for attending.

2. TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE APM OF 21st April 2016

The Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Council meeting held on 21st April 2016 were confirmed as a true record of that meeting. The minutes were proposed by DH and seconded by DJ as a true and correct account of the meeting.

3. TO DEAL WITH MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

- New Committee for Little Munden Memorial Hall – to be covered in the Chairman of the Hall's Report.
- JG had recommend fixing post and rail fence at top of Horses' Meadow which JP confirmed had been done.
- JG also advised doing something about the metal gate on the Car Park of Horses' Meadow. The PC had now locked the inner gate.
- JG had also pointed out that the basketball surface needs redoing. JP reported that this was something that the PC were aware of and currently working on.

4. TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEAR 2016/17

JP presented the Chairman's report (a copy of which will be published in the May Newsletter), the principal matters covered being the resignation of LP as Chairman of the Parish Council in May 2016, the proposed storage lagoon at Home Farm (refused) and the East Herts District Plan (pre-submission

version) with the possible consequences of a new Village Appraisal / Parish Plan and/or Neighbourhood Plan.

JP read out the report from Bob Kirkby, Chairman of Little Munden Memorial Hall. The new Chairman and Secretary appointed in 2016 regrettably found that other commitments meant that they were unable to perform their duties and the previous team took over again temporarily. Current income is sufficient to cover normal expenditure, but two exceptional large expenditures in the year (legal fees in passing the Residual Trusteeship to the Charity Commission and the new ceiling in the small hall) resulted in a reported loss of £1,000 for the year ended 31 March 2017.

The Hall Chairman thanked all those who gave of their time to run and maintain the Hall and JP in turn proposed a vote of thanks to Bob Kirkby and rest of the Committee.

JP read the report from Little Munden Cricket Club. He also suggested that the Cricket Club report fixtures in the Village Newsletter, which might help to raise support locally.

JP also thanked JM and all those involved in the Village Lunch.

5. TO RECEIVE AND IF FELT FIT TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2016/17

Copies of the Financial Statement had earlier been circulated, including the budget for the forthcoming year.

Income: the New Homes Bonus Award received for the year to March 2017 amounted to £2,822, compared to £1,126 for the previous year. It is our intention to retain this money for special projects rather than general Parish expenditure; the money will be spent when we have concrete proposals. We also received a grant from the Transparency Fund of £720 helping towards staff costs incurred to comply with the Transparency Code over past two years.

Expenditure: Over £1,000 more was spent on Parish Maintenance - replacing the seats to the cradle swings on Horses' Meadow, fencing repairs between Horses' Meadow and Easington Road and some exceptional tree surgery. Expenditure on the website was less than the previous year when money had been spent revamping the website and our miscellaneous expenses were up due to a £200 contribution to the Village Lunch Club.

The net outcome is that we had a surplus of income over expenditure of £3,700 for the year and we now have cash in the bank of just over £15,000; so we are in a healthy situation.

Approval of the Report was proposed by JM and seconded by KW.

6. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM ANY OTHER ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE PARISH

Verbal reports were given by JM (Church), Badminton Club (BJ), Horses Meadow/Allotments (JG), copies of which are to be posted on the Mundens Website.

6.1 CONSOLIDATED CHARITIES

JM reported that no funds have been used. JM to ask Tony Brown whether he wants to continue as a Trustee of the Charities. KW suggested that perhaps some of the money could help fund the Village Lunch, although JM stated that this was more or less self funding now.

A copy of the Financial Statement for the year ended 31 December 2016 discloses income of £295.69 (expenditure: £NIL).

6.2 COUNCILLOR KEN CROFTON

Ken Crofton thanked the Parish Council for inviting him to the APM. He introduced himself as the present Hertfordshire County Councillor for Hertford Rural Division and chairman of East Herts District Council. He would be standing again at the forthcoming local elections as County Councillor for Hertfordshire Rural, which, following new division arrangements, would include Little Munden.

He gave background information on the composition of the Hertford Rural Division, HCC and its budget (£1.8 billion) and reminded the meeting that, despite budgets constrictions, there is grant funding available for a certain projects, including £10,000 over which he had personal discretion.

7. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS

None

8. TO DEAL WITH ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

JP then brought the meeting to a close at 9.10 pm and thanked all those who had attended and those who presented their reports.

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____
Chairman