

LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of the Parish Council (PC) held on 16th May 2019 at Little Munden Memorial Hall at 8.00 pm.

1. ATTENDANCE: Tracey Harding (TH) Chairman; Lizzie Bacon (LB) Vice Chairman; David Hart (DH); Claire Monk (CM); Julie Hursey (JH); Billy Summerson (BS) – Councillors; Geraldine Ward – Clerk.

IN ATTENDANCE: Ken Crofton (KC) Vice Chairman to the County Council; Andrew Huggins, Mundens and Cottered, District Councillor; Andrew Springett (AS)

APOLOGIES: Jenny Macintosh (JM)

Lizzie Bacon welcomed the new Parish Councillors onto the Council and Tracey Harding was duly elected as Chairman

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES

4.1 Home Farm Farmyard – proposed development

TH commented that the Council was not opposed to some development on this site but should be mindful of the businesses which are there and which are important for employment within the village. She went on to say that in principal the Parish Council does not object to the agricultural barns being converted to dwellings but 30 plus houses are too many and would add a quarter to the size of the village. Such a development would also come with all sorts of problems regarding the infra-structure of the village.

TH commented that a major concern would be that this proposed size of development could lead to a snowball effect where villages such as High Cross, Puckeridge and Watton had seen a large increase in size.

KC remarked that Dane End is a Category 3 village and as such, large scale development should not be allowed. He asked TH for a copy of correspondence from Jonathan Pool to EHC. He added that any development should just be small scale/infilling.

From the floor a Parishioner commented that there are two separate applications now in the pipeline and felt this recent application was the developer trying to establish the principal of development within the farmyard and that we need to look at the two applications together. TH commented that there was a need to speak to Planning about the bigger picture and the consequences of getting the go ahead on this development i.e. is this included in 2nd phase with King & Co. TH felt that a new meeting with Planning should now be arranged.

CM commented that the entrance to the site on Whempstead Road is a single traffic road and if that entrance is to be used it would be a problem for this amount of housing/traffic. TH felt that points such as these need to be communicated to Planning.

Sewerage was discussed and whether or not the present system could cope. TH said that she didn't think that King & Co knew about the well on site which has to be pumped out when water table gets too high and it was unknown whether the development company would invest in upgrading the sewerage system to cope with the extra demand. TH felt that this was just one point of many that needs to be considered in response to the Planning Application.

ACTION: TH

4.2 Horses Meadow Play Equipment

TH commented that we should hold fire on this until we know what is happening with Home Farm and that if permission is granted the PC can ask them to give something to the wider community, i.e. funds towards

new play equipment. However, she went on to say that we need a clearer picture as to what is happening with the development before proceeding any further with this.

4.3 Newsletter Advertising Manager

TH commented that the new Vicar was now installed and that she had mentioned the above to him. She went on to say that a meeting should now be arranged with him to understand his views on the Newsletter and see where we want to go with this. From the floor a Parishioner felt that this should be looked at from a teenage perspective as well and look into digital options. TH stated that she would definitely take this into consideration as things progress. **ACTION: TH**

4.4 Traffic Calming

DH reported that he had now got hold of the police regarding this matter. TH also reported that she had spoken to the Safe Neighbourhood Team who would be getting back shortly. KC offered help with this if the PC drew a blank with the Police Team. **ACTION: DH**

4.5 Repair of tarmac footpath at the back of Fouceley Avenue and concrete path up to Gladstone Road

The Clerk reported that she had still not established who owned the path from the steps. TH said that Clarion own the Service Road round the back of the houses on Fouceley Avenue and that the garages are rented out by Clarion. Therefore there is an assumption that Clarion are responsible for the path. The Clerk reported that she does have a direct contact now with someone at the Company and will contact him to try and establish responsibility. **ACTION: GW**

4.6 Website

To be discussed after the meeting – Richard Barron to showcase the website changes and explain the setting up of new email addresses.

4.7 Playground Inspection Report

Now that the new equipment was put on hold, TH commented that this item had now changed slightly. The last report had a number of items that were low risk and didn't need immediate attention. The Clerk reported that she had had notice of the next Inspection which would be in June and agreed to send the last report to TH to have a look at anything that needs actioning. **ACTION: GW/TH**

4.8 Overgrown Trees throughout Dane End

JH commented that someone had bought the land in Whiteley Close on which the large oak tree is cited and reported that it had now been fenced off. KC seemed to think that the oak tree had a preservation order on it although the Clerk had checked the last time this tree was an issue and thought that it didn't have one. The PC voted to put a TPO on the oak tree. **ACTION: CM**

The trees along Munden Road were mentioned as being too tall and were obscuring light from residents' homes along the road. It was agreed that the Clerk would make initial contact with the owner of Dane End House to express peoples' concern. **ACTION: GW**

4.9 Village Signage

With regards to moving speed signs further out of the village, DH commented that there should be a 20 mph zone throughout the Estate especially when the buses are using these roads. All felt that 20 mph should be the norm throughout the whole village and BS commented that it was 20 mph around the school already.

However KC was completely opposed to this idea and felt that such speed limits were completely ineffective. He went on to say that it would make no difference whether they were 20 or 30 mph. TH still felt that options should be looked at and KC agreed that Highways could come and have meeting to discuss what options were available. He went on to say that the moving of the speed limit signs could be also be discussed at the same time.

TH pointed out that we still had grant money available to help meet the cost of such schemes. TH and DH agreed to attend the proposed Highways meeting.

CM pointed out that Munden Road should have a 20 mph speed limit particularly as there is no footpath alongside the road and it's extremely unsafe for pedestrians. KC commented that Highways will ask the questions such as how many accidents, fatalities etc have occurred along the road and will not be interested in reducing the speed limit. From the floor a Parishioner felt that a low bench mark would help to reduce the overall speed and that London has a 20 mph speed limit everywhere.

ACTION: TH/DH

6. PLANNING

6.1 New Applications

3/19/0049/CLXU

Home Farm, Munden Road, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0LL

Lawful use of land and buildings as a mixed-use planning unit including employment uses and use in association with agricultural contracting and music studio: Units A, B, C and F as active B1/B2/B8 use; Unit D as active B1 use; Units E, N, O, J and Container as vacant units in previous agricultural use; Units G, H and I as active, B8 use; Units K, L and M as established Agricultural use. Awaiting decision.

3/19/0992/ARPN

PROPOSAL: Conversion of two-storey agricultural barn (Building E) to residential use (class C3) for 4 proposed dwellings.

AT: Unit E Home Farm Land At Munden Road and Whempstead Road, Dane End, Ware Hertfordshire SG12 0LL

Deadline: comments by: 3rd June

There were no objections to this application although traffic could be a problem with pinch points along Munden Road and the entrance. TH urged people to make concerns/comments to EHC individually.

6.2 Decisions

3/18/2594/FUL: 8 to 10 Fouceley Avenue, Dane End, Ware, Herts SG12 0NE

Planning Permission refused.

3/18/2447/FUL

Part demolition of public house, erection of single storey extension with canopy, alterations to roof, alterations to fenestration, alterations to materials and parking provision. The Rest and Welcome, Haultwick, Ware SG11 1JF. Planning Permission refused.

TH felt that the Parish Council should check to see what was happening and that we should support any future application made by the owners of the pub.

3/19/0413/LBC PROPOSAL: Exterior works - replacement and alterations of steps and patio area AT: Green End Park Green End Dane End Ware Hertfordshire SG12 0NU FOR: Mr McGill. Permission granted.

7. FINANCE

7.1 Receipts and Payments 15/3/19 to 5/5/19

	£
Online Current Account Balance BF 9/1/19	£18557.02
Receipt 29/3/19 EHC	£ 595.15
Receipt 26/4/19 EHC Precept	£ 4715.00

Deduct Payments from Current Account

Date	Payment to	Cheque No	Amount £
1/4/19	H Coles Litterpicker	S/O	43.42
1/4/19	Richard Barron Website	S/O	35.00
21/3/19	Jonathan Pool Keys for HM	1169	10.00
	VOID	1170	VOID
21/3/19	Herts Display (Feb N/L)	1171	100.44
21/3/19	Community Heartbeat	1172	75.00
21/3/19	HM R&C	1173	37.38
21/3/19	G Ward Clerks Fee	1174	204.75
4/4/19	Herts Display	1175	133.92
4/4/19	HMRC	1176	37.38
4/4/19	G Ward Clerks Fee	1177	189.68
4/4/19	E Bacon (PC Leaving Pres)	1178	110.88
27/4/19	Zurich Insurance Renewal	1179	488.99
30/4/19	Litter Picker payment	S/O	43.42*
30/4/19	Richard Barron Website	S/O	35.00

Total Payments **1545.26**

Online balance on Current Account 4/5/19	£22321.91
Balance Brought forward 14/3/19	£18557.02
Less Payments	£1545.26
Plus receipts	£4715.00

Balance as at 4/5/19 **£22321.91**

*A comment was made as to whether the Litter Picker had been doing his job as there had been a complaint about litter on Easington Road. The Clerk to check whether he was still keen to do it.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

8.1 Correspondence Received

27/3/19 PKF Littlejohn Audit Instructions 2018/19

28/3/19 Letter from Joshua Carson King & Co re Public Exhibition

April 2019 Request from John Grisbrooke for Parish Council Representation on Remembrance

Sunday. LB to ask Derek Wheeler or Jonathan Pool but she would if no one else available she would be happy to do a reading.

2/5/19 Email from Ben Golding re posts on verge outside 2 Easington Road. The posts had already gone up.

7.2 Correspondence Sent

27/3/19 JP letter to residents at Lime Acre re parking school bus in HM

25/4/19 Allotment Letters requesting annual fee. TH asked what the status was of the allotments and felt it was overgrown in places and a lot of junk lying around. She also felt that the allotments were maybe too big and that the allotments could be halved. **ACTION: GW**

5/5/19 Email from Philip Golding re grass area, Whiteley Close. The Clerk reported that she had had three complaints regarding children playing football and annoying neighbours whose properties back onto this area. TH felt that the Neighbourhood Police should be contacted to intervene in this matter as the Parish Council did not own the land and therefore did not have any responsibility over it. There had been established trees on the grass that prohibited football games but these had gone and the grass was short. It was agreed to perhaps stop cutting the grass to make the playing of football more difficult. **ACTION:**

GW

13/5/19 Email from Debra Pettit re grass area as above.

7.3 Late Post

None.

9. DECLARATION AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFER FOR NEW COUNCILLORS

Forms to be collected and checked by the Clerk after the meeting.

10. COUNCILLORS' OBLIGATIONS:

Obligations were agreed as follows:-

CHURCH	Jenny Macintosh
PLANNING:	Tracey Harding/Julie Hursey
FINANCE/AUDIT	The Clerk
HIGHWAYS/PARISH PATHS	Lizzie Bacon
ALLOTMENTS	The Clerk
ENVIRONMENT	David Hart/Claire Monk
COMMON LAND	Claire Monk
NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH	David Hart
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING	All
TRANSPORT	David Hart
RISK ASSESSMENT	Julie Hursey
MAJOR INCIDENT/EMERGENCY PLAN	Claire Monk

11. TO APPROVE THE ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2018/19 (AGAR)

The Parish Council approved the Annual Governance Statement and Accountability Return 2018/19.

12. REVIEW RISK ASSESSMENT SCHEDULE

The Parish Council approved the above and felt no changes to it were necessary.

13. HOME FARMYARD DEVELOPMENT (4.1)

14. RECEIVE NOTICE OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS FROM PARISH COUNCILLORS AND TO DEAL WITH THOSE MATTERS IF APPROPRIATE

- TH raised concern about who should park on Horses' Meadow and queried why the School Bus had rights to parking there. The Clerk confirmed that Allotment Holders now had keys as the gate was still being locked whilst anti-social behaviour at night persisted. TH queried as to how JP feels about carrying on with the locking of the gate as it was no longer his responsibility and would ask him whether or not he still wished to do it. BS queried whether the police could be called in to Horses' Meadow to monitor anti-social activity there. A Parishioner however did inform the PC that the Police had not been of much use in coming out when called recently. She reported that there had been dangerous speeding along the lane to Green End and possibly drug dealing in the layby up there. KC suggested writing to David Lloyd, the Crime Commissioner if the PC felt that the area was not getting the support they are entitled to. **ACTION: TH**
- CM suggested planting daffodils to link hedgerows and entrances and generally making the village more attractive and helping traffic calming measures. Claire said she would try and get a deal through Top Pots and then advertise for a working party in the Newsletter in Autumn. The Clerk suggested that this could also tie up with the new signage. **ACTION: CM**

- LB had spoken to Jenny Macintosh who confirmed that the large and small trust of the Consolidated Charities are now under one banner. She also confirmed that she was not a Trustee of the Consolidated Charities.

15. TO CONSIDER MATTERS ARISING FROM PARISHIONERS

AS commented on the new signage for the village and explained that he wanted to get something out to the village for comment. He circulated a powerpoint design to show the type of signage proposed, but stated that he was not happy with the forms which needed to be filled out for Highways. KC remarked that Highways support was necessary and said that he would talk to them about the scheme and see if it was possible to bypass the forms. AS had also contacted Highways re the SLOW sign outside the Thatched Cottage to get it repainted. CM queried whether signage would need painting and was a point worth considering.

16. The meeting was called to an end at 9.10 pm and it was confirmed that the date of the next meeting will be 18th July 2019

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CHAIRMAN

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DATE