

## **Draft Minutes of the HEMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday February 17, 2018 in the Village Hall at 8pm**

**Present:** Mr Sean McCarthy (Chairman), Mr Alan Weedon, Mrs Nicola McNeill, Mr David Drane, Mr John Sladen, Mrs Sara Scott, Mr Mark Welbourn and the Clerk. Hazel Weedon a member of the public also attended.

The meeting started at 8.03 pm

**87. Apologies for absence:** There were none.

**88. Reports or contributions from District and County Councillors.**

County Councillor Walsh's report had been circulated prior to the meeting. There were no matters arising.

**89. Minutes of Previous Meeting held January 17, 2018:** These were agreed as a correct record.

**90. Matters arising** not covered elsewhere. There were none.

**91. Defibrillator** The defibrillator had now been installed on the outside wall of the Village Hall.

The training session had been quite well attended. There were now some issues to address concerning the use and organisation. The advantage of having a local first responder had become apparent and volunteers would be sought. Community Heartbeat Trust can also help in setting up a ring round support system of volunteers to help those who may need assistance in accessing the defibrillator. This option would be explored. The Chairman would write an article for the next newsletter.

The weekly checking of the equipment is not onerous and although the clerk can do it initially, it would be good to have several volunteers as back up.

**92. Planning**

The only new application for consideration was some internal work at Ruses farmhouse which is a listed building. No comments were deemed necessary.

All the other applications recently discussed Anso Farm, Land on the Village triangle, Newlands and Lakehouse Farm were all awaiting decisions.

Leaflets had been circulating concerning a proposed new nursery at Boytons. The Chairman had contacted the residents concerned and they had only so far put in a pre-application enquiry into Uttlesford Planning Department. It would need full planning permission for the nursery and after school club envisaged.

As it would be sited down a narrow single-track road and with restricted parking facilities the Parish Council will have to consider the plans carefully when they become public.

It was not yet clear whether a tattoo parlour had been opened at the Bullsbridge Farm site but this would also need some planning permission.

**93 . Correspondence** A survey from Essex Police was discussed and the Clerk would send in the responses.

## **94. Highways and Rights of Way**

David Drane has been promised that the chevron sign at the triangle in the middle of the village would be repaired soon. He was still chasing potholes in various locations and was also trying to get footbridge repairs done.

### **Rights of Way**

The Clerk had asked our original contractor about cutting the footpaths, but he said that it was too far to come. Julian Basham, who does the Village Greens, Glebe and Churchyard had also been approached but no reply had yet been received. An enquiry had been put out via EALC for information from other parishes and he had contacted Cathryn Carlise, the Radwinter Clerk, who had given him a contact who may be willing to do the work.

Mr Drane would work on prioritising the paths needed to be cut.

**95. Environment** Flooding Mr Sladen had contacted Chris Stoneham who had unfortunately been made redundant and moved to another position. He had however passed on the query to another engineer who hopefully would deal with the situation.

Trees at The Old Bakery had been cleared for the work on trimming them and this was being organised by the residents who would also clear the stream.

**96. Finance** Final budget was signed, as was an invoice for the yearly management of the defibrillator

**97. Elections:** The Clerk would attend the meeting 27/2/19 at UDC 7.30pm after which arrangements would be clearer and the nomination packs would be available.

**98. Communications** Mrs McNeill had taken some pictures of the Play Area and Brian Kitchen would be preparing a page featuring it. John Sladen and Diana Frost were also working on updating the Village Hall section. The new Hall rental information had also been added.

### **99. Village Hall:**

Mr Long reported that he still awaited the invoice to send off and claim the cost of installation from Community Initiatives Fund grant.

**100. Annual Parish Meeting.** It was decided that this would take place earlier this year on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April the day after the Parish Council meeting on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> April. The Clerk pointed out that with the annual report to prepare, end of year finances to be worked on and the elections this would mean a concentration in his work load. It was agreed if necessary, he could charge for over time. Additionally, the Chairman offered to help in any way he could, for which the Clerk thanked him.

**Future Meetings: Thursdays 14th March and 25<sup>th</sup> April both at 8pm in the Village hall. The Annual Parish Assembly will be on Friday 26<sup>th</sup> April at 8pm in the Village Hall.**

**The meeting ended at 8.55 pm.**