

HERTFORD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on
Monday 3rd November 2008
at the Mission Room, Vicarage Causeway, Hertford Heath

Present:

Bob Akers - Chairman
Andrew Crumpton
Jack Eames
Trevor Goodingham
Alison Scarll
Dawn Sleet
Carolyn Morgan (Clerk)

Nine members of the public were also present.

A. Public questions

The suggested donations from the Fete surplus were discussed as was the proposal to give a further donation to the Fireworks Group. It was felt that we should wait and see what the Fireworks needed. A further suggestion was made for more dog bins in the woods. The Clerk will contact East Herts.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were formally accepted from Lynn Bonner and Martin Nash. Apologies were also received from County Councillor Mike Tucker, District Councillor William Ashley and PC Neal Dyton.

1A Co-option to the Council

No applications having been made, one vacancy remains on the Parish Council.

2. Declaration of Members' Interests

None

3. Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on 6th October 2008

These were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

The Clerk reported that the setting up of the new account with the Co-operative Bank had still not yet been completed as the Bank had required a further signature from her.

5. Financial Matters

(A) The meeting formally agreed the amendments to Annual Return made by the Clerk and approved by the Chairman.

(B) The meeting noted that an interim National Pay Award had been agreed as 2.45%, back dated to 1st April.

(a) Accounts for payment

The meeting agreed the payment of the following accounts, the cheques being signed by the Chairman and Alison Scarll:

(i)	Mrs C Morgan	Net salary for October	£504.4	
		Arrears April – September (net)	£72.28	
		Printing November's newsletter	£60.00	
		Distribution November's newsletter	£42.30	
		Distribution price increase	£8.46	
		Postage September	£14.43	
		AOL subscription	£15.99	£717.86
(ii)	Mrs C Taylor	Net salary for October	£107.14	
		Arrears April - September (net)	£15.72	£125.48
(iii)	Mr P Webster	Net salary for October	£115.23	
		Arrears April - September (net)	£16.44	£131.67

(iv)	Basic Travel	Post Office runs in October	£225.00
(v)	DJH Garden Services	Playing Field cutting	£146.88
(vi)	Jeffrey Franklin	Cutting, rowing and clearing meadow	£352.50
(vii)	EHDC	Playground inspection	£56.39
(viii)	CPRE	Subscription	£28.00
(ix)	Trevor Goodingham	Reimbursement for graffiti remover	£17.98
(x)	Paul Walker	Fireworks from Firework Crazy	£508.80
		Fireworks from Newsbox	£425.00
		(nb Paul Walker will take extra £1.80 from fireworks cash)	
(xi)	Wicksteeds	Replacement handle for bike	£45.82
(xii)	BDO Stoy Hayward	External Audit fee	£370.13
(xiii)	CDA for Herts	Subscription	£30.00
(xiv)	Royal British Legion	Wreath and donation	£116.50

(bb) The meeting agreed to accept the recommendations of the Fete Group and made the following donations:

(1)	Carpet Bowls	A new Carpet	£200.00
(2)	Cubs & Beavers	Air Museum Visit for 42	£300.00
(3)	Rangers Netball Club	Training Bibs & Agility Ladders	£100.00
(4)	Firework Group	Donation	£150.00
(5)	Buggy Club	Outside Play Area Materials Only	£500.00
(6)	JMI School	Play Equipment	£200.00
(7)	Junior Football Club	Equipment	£100.00
(8)	Ladies Circle	Donation	£100.00
(9)	Ducklings Playgroup	Play dough	£50.00
(10)	Holy Trinity Church & Trinity Tots	Safety Play mats	£100.00
(11)	Art Group	Donation	£100.00

(c) The meeting noted the following balances (after the above):

(i)	Current Account	£7,823.50
(ii)	Deposit Account	£10,442.59

6. Police Matters

Alison Scarll reported that a number of youths were congregating around SZI Food and Wine, throwing cans into the road and making a lot of noise. PC Neal Dyton will be informed

7. District and County Council Matters

(a) The Clerk reported that she had received a letter from Hertfordshire County Council saying that some girls in the village were entitled to free transport to Presdales as it was their nearest school but the walk, although less than three miles, was not safe. A number of parents present asked for more details as no one had been contacted yet. The Clerk will endeavour to find out whether other girls attending Presdales might be able to use the bus. She will also continue to press for the risk assessment into the walk to Simon Balle.

6. Reports

(a) Chairman

The Chairman congratulated the Bonfire Group on a splendid evening, despite the appalling weather. The finale was absolutely perfect.

He informed the meeting of the fly tipping in the Townshend Arms carpark and the fact that the overhanging branches of the large willow had been removed but the main ones remained.

(b) Planning

(i) Applications

There were none.

(ii) EHDC decisions

The Council noted the following decisions:

- * 19 Mount Pleasant: Two storey rear extension – permission granted

(c) Playing Fields Committee

- (i) Trevor Goodingham reported that the graffiti remover needed rinsing off and he would speak to the Football Club.

He will ask Wicksteeds for a quotation for repairing the toucan and then call a Committee meeting to discuss whether to repair it or replace it.

- (ii) The meeting felt that barriers onto the Playing Field were very expensive and agreed to replace the bollards. The Chairman will speak to Roy Phypers.

(d) Highways and Byways Committee

- (i) The Clerk will contact Hertfordshire Highways regarding the bollards in Priors Wood Road.

- (ii) Hertfordshire Transport Facts 2007 and Annual Progress Report to August 2008 will be passed to Lynn Bonner.

- (iii) The Clerk will produce new “no parking” letters with the Chairman’s signature on.

- (iv) It was reported that the trailer in Woodland Road had finally be moved from there.

(e) Bonfire Night

Nothing further to report.

(f) Village Fete

It is planned to hold the 2009 Fete on Sunday 12th July. This is not a Farmer’s Market day and it may be that free stalls are again available from East Herts.

The Clerk will look into the possibility of providing a power point on the Green.

(g) Allotments

Bob Akers reported that the School had not taken over Mary’s plot but that it had been let to two tenants.

(h) Wildlife Meadow and Pond

Bob Akers reported that it was still mucky but it looked like the island may grow.

(i) School

Alison Scarll reported that she hoped to attend a course on learning for assessment.

(j) Clerk

- (i) The Clerk reported that proposals had been made to simplify the making of bylaws and that it would be possible for Parish Councils to keep any fine.

- (ii) The meeting considered using the Save Balls Wood appeal e-cards but decided to print its own and send out in the usual way.

(k) Village Greens

Trevor Goodingham and Ray Tisbury will move Trevor’s Christmas tree onto the village green in the near future.

Nick Sharp advised that the Carols on the Green will be on Friday 19th December with a collection for Khandel Light as before.

(I) Village Hall

Trevor Goodingham reported that the Committee would be meeting that Wednesday. He further advised that John Benson had left the Hall a legacy of over £23,000 which the Committee hoped to use to build the extra room and which would be known as the John Benson Room.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) Communities and Local Government: Consultation on codes of conduct for members and employees. It was agreed that members and Clerk would respond individually.
- (ii) CDA for Herts: Newsletter and Annual Review 2007/08 – noted.
- (iii) Open Spaces Society: Autumn 2008 newsletter – noted.

10. NEWSLETTER AND PARISH NEWS ITEMS

The following are to be included in the newsletter and/or the Parish magazine:

- (i) Bonfire
- (ii) Fete proceeds
- (iii) Bus to Presdales
- (iv) Everyclick.com
- (v) Carols on the Green
- (vi) Dog Mess
- (vii) Parking on grass verges
- (viii) Mercury reporter

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 8th December in the Mission Room at 7.30pm

Dawn Sleet gave her apologies

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY

None

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____