

HERTFORD HEATH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on
Monday 6th April 2009
at the Mission Room, Vicarage Causeway, Hertford Heath

Present:

Bob Akers - Chairman
Trevor Goodingham
Martin Nash
Alison Scarll
Dawn Sleet

Carolyn Morgan (Clerk)

District Councillor William Ashley, District Councillor Rosemary Cheswright (prospective County Councillor) and six members of the public were also present

A. Public questions

Roger Slater raised the issue of the fence at Vicarage Causeway and a member of the public expressed her objection to the proposed development at 15 Church Hill, a matter considered at the March meeting.

1. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were formally accepted from Andrew Crumpton, Lynn Bonner and Jack Eames. Apologies were also received from Nick Sharp, PC Neal Dyton and PCSO Neil Major.

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 2nd March 2009

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

4. Matters arising

Dawn Sleet reported that she had found the Councillor training session very informative and recommended it to all members.

5. Financial Matters

(a) Accounts for payment

Cheques for the following were signed by the Chairman and Alison Scarll:

(i)	Mrs C Morgan	Net salary for March	£505.67	
		Net Arrears	£16.27	
		Printing April's newsletter	£60.00	
		Distribution April's newsletter	£50.76	
		AOL subscription	£15.99	
		Postage	£21.05	£669.74
(ii)	Mrs C Taylor	Net salary for March	£110.09	
		Net Arrears	£3.59	£113.68
(iii)	Mr P Webster	Net salary for March	£115.03	
		Net Arrears	£16.64	£131.67
(iv)	HAPTC	Councillor training	£50.00	
		Annual subscription	£763.91	£813.91
(v)	Mr R Akers	Chairman's allowance		£50.00
(vi)	EHDC	Lottery licence fee		£20.00
(vii)	EHDC	Mt Pleasant play area licence		£5.00

(viii)	Roy Phypers	Allotment clearance	£140.00	
		Playing field barrier	£75.00	£215.00

(b) Income

The meeting noted the following income:

(i)	HCC	P3 grant for walks booklet	£1,000.00	
(ii)	Co-op Bank	Interest on current account	£0.04	
		Interest on deposit account	£3.18	

(c) Balances

The meeting noted the following balances:

(i)	Current Account after above	£1,619.17
(ii)	Deposit Account	£10,000.00

6. Police Matters

Trevor Goodingham reported on the launch of the Policing Plan and, in particular, pledges 3, 7 and 8.

It was reported that the car in Downfield Road had been clamped and removed.

The Clerk was asked to express to the police the Council's concerns at cars blocking the road at the Balls Park exit.

7. District and County Council Matters

(a) Rose Cheswright, District Councillor for Braughing, explained that she has put her name into the hat for the forthcoming County Council elections. She knows the village quite well and is on the Development Control Committee of the District Council.

(b) William Ashley urged as many member as possible attend the East Herts Rural Parish Conference to be held on 27th May 2009 at Standon and Puckeridge Community Centre.

He advised the meeting that from November, the brown bins could be used for food waste and cardboard. They and black bins would be emptied in alternate weeks.

(c) Trevor Goodingham had done a survey of the location of salt bins in the village and the Clerk will write to the County Council to ask for further bins to be provided.

(d) The meeting noted that the East Herts Fund for the Future Quiz was to be held on Friday 1st May at Wodson Sports Centre but did not wish to enter a team.

6. Reports

(a) Chairman

(i) The meeting considered the further response to Mark Prisk's efforts to get an Outreach service into the village. The Clerk will write to Alan Cook and will ask for details of problems caused to residents by the lack of Post Office facilities in the Parish News and the newsletter. She will also put the correspondence onto the website.

(ii) The Balls Wood Appeal has been successful and a party is planned for 29th April in the Village Hall

(b) Planning Committee

(i) Applications received

The meeting noted the following applications to which it had no objections:

(i) The Hedgerows, Rush Green: Erection of two 1.8m high fences with entrance gate

- (ii) The Grange, The Roundings: Proposed stables to east boundary

The meeting objected to the following two applications on the grounds that they were out of keeping with the surrounding area:

- (iii) 11 Vicarage Causeway: Erection of 2.1m fence - retrospective
- (iv) 155 London Road: Erection of detached dwelling and garage

The Chairman and Alison Scarll will visit the following application and let the Clerk know if they have any concerns:

- (v) Land to rear of 2-8 The Roundings: Two 5-bed dwellings with detached garages

(c) Playing Fields Committee

- (i) Trevor Goodingham reported that he will remove the graffiti now that it is warmer and will sort out the fence.

(d) Highways and Byways Committee

The meeting considered a request that a path be provided along Vicarage Causeway. Mr Stopps advised that the "verge" did not belong to the Highways Authority and the lamp posts had been moved without permission when the road humps were installed. Members also felt that a path would narrow the road too much and that vehicles would then have to drive on the path to pass.

William Ashley agreed to check on replacing the posts in Priors Wood Road.

Members noted the new signs on the B1502 and also thought the placement of signs saying "Slow down it's our village" might help slow the traffic in London Road.

(e) Bonfire Night

The Clerk reported that she had received no further correspondence on the promised £1,000 donation.

(f) Village Fete

Trevor Goodingham advised that the Group would be on 15th April.

(g) Allotments

Bob Akers reported that the allotments were coming to life. He had a waiting list of five which he hoped to reduce to three as one plot had been given up and one taken back.

(h) Wildlife Meadow and Pond

The meeting agreed that the Clerk should contact James Bourke regarding the liner of the pond as well as Bob Lowe for advice.

(i) School

Alison Scarll reported that the school had tried to contact the police on parking issues but had had no response. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the new landlords of the Townshend Arms to see if they were agreeable to parents continuing to park there.

(j) Clerk

None

(k) Village Greens

- (i) The meeting accepted Grassroots' quotation of £100 to fill in the holes in the War Memorial Green. All agreed that the daffodils looked splendid this year.

(ii) It was suggested that the Council consider floodlighting the memorial as the power is there.

(l) Village Hall

Trevor Goodingham reported that the work to the ladies' toilets would be finished soon. The Committee is hoping its application for planning permission is successful as a store room is needed for better tables.

(m) Youth Club

Alison Scarll reported that this is progressing well with another meeting to be held shortly. The Group is hoping to run two sessions a week and will have stall at Village Fete. Many thanks to Emma Cowley for all the work she is doing to get this going.

9. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- (i) HAPTC: March newsletter advising of AGM on 17th June and of increase in statutory minimum leave entitlement - noted.
- (ii) CPRE: Houses and Gardens 2009 (but with Hertfordshire muddled up with Herefordshire!) and Countryside Voice - noted.
- (iii) University of Hertfordshire: *Hertfordshire Guide to Growth* - the document that emerged from the public urban design workshop held in June 2008 - noted.

10. NEWSLETTER AND PARISH NEWS ITEMS

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

- (i) Post Office
- (ii) Annual Parish Meeting
- (iii) New recycling arrangements
- (iv) Horticultural Society plant sale
- (v) Village Hall appeal for books, etc
- (vi) Allotment rents
- (vii) Neighbourhood Watch - secure garden sheds.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Monday 11th May 2009 in the Mission Room after the Annual Parish Meeting
Apologies from Martin Nash.

12. MATTERS OF URGENCY

None

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.

Chairman: _____

Date: _____