LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON
22nd September 2022,
At 8.00 pm

AT LITTLE MUNDEN VILLAGE HALL

1. **PRESENT:** Tracey Harding (TH), Chair; Paul Armstrong (PA) Vice Chairman; Claire Monk (CM); Billy Summerson (BS); Julie Hursey (JH)
   In Attendance: Geraldine Ward, Clerk; (GW); Andrew Huggins, District Councillor; Members of the Public x 5
2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
3. **TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 21st July 2022**
4. **PLANNING**

4.1 New Applications
None
4.2 Decisions:
3/22/1135/PNHH
Peony Meadow Giffords Lane Haultwick Hertfordshire SG11 1JE
Single storey side extension: Depth 6.92 metres, Maximum heigh 4 metres, Eaves height 2.58 metres. Prior approval is not required.

3/21/0812/HH PROPOSAL: Conversion of outbuilding and listed granary for incidental residential purposes; creation of link between the two buildings; erection of a rear extension to the outbuilding; addition of new windows/doors and internal alterations to the outbuilding. AT: Fallowfield Whempstead Lane Whempstead Ware Hertfordshire SG12 0P. Permission granted.

4.3. Appeal
Planning Appeal: 7 Church Lane Dane End Ware Hertfordshire LPA Appeal Reference: 22/00076/REFUSE

5. FINANCE
Receipts

5/8/22	Ishana/Small Allotment Plot	15.00
15/7/22	Robert Carter/Large Allotment Plot	30.00
18/7/22	HCC/K Crofton Locality Budget	250.00
12/9/22	HCC/K Crofton locality budget	1350.00
12/9/22	LMCC/Annual Contribution for Newsletter (Church)	919.10
	Total	2564.10

Payments

Date	**For**	**Cheque No**	**£**
11/7/22	Herts Display July N/L	BACS	129.40
18/7/22	HMRC Paye	1275	110.00
18/7/22	Jackie Morris Annual Edit Fee	BACS	420.00

DRAFT

29/7/22	Agland/Litter Picker	S/O	48.55
8/8/22	Zurich Inurance/Jub Event	BACS	56.00
9/8/22	G Ward Clerks Fee Aug	BACS	281.00
10/8/22	Herts Display Aug N/L	BACS	173.00
15/8/22	Castle Water	BACS	4108.83
16/8/22	HMRS Aug PAYE	1276	55,00
26/8/22	BWP Creative/Annual Web Fee	BACS	273.60
30/8/22	Agland/Littlr Picker	S/O	48.55
1/9/22	G Ward/Clerk Fee September	BACS	276.37
8/9/22	Castle Water Disconnect Fee	BACS	276.15
12/9/22	LMMH / Hall meetings x 3	BACS	72.00
		Total	**6328.45**

Deduct Payments from Current Account	
Online balance on Current Account 20/09/22	**6782.19**
Balance Brought forward 20/7/22	10546.54
Less Payments	6328.45
Plus Receipts	2564.10
Balance as at 20/9/22	**6782.19**

6. CORRESPONDENCE

28/7/22 Email from Francesca Lee/Registering development on land at Home Farm

04/8/22 Email from Michael Poole Projects Officer/Countryside and Rights of Way: Re tree planting visit 18/8/22:- CM remarked that the Green Canopy project was being extended to March 2023. More could be planted. TH had spoken to someone organising this initiation who said that hedges would be obtained rather than trees. All agreed that this could be looked at in greater detail as to different planting around the Parish. There was also the possibility of planning more trees in Queens Wood. Many of the trees had not survived the drought so all thought it would be a good idea to replace these.

22/8/22 Email from Keith Awberry EPGL re site visit Home Farm 5/9/22 TH reported on this meeting and said they had made acquaintance with the developers and had had some useful discussion. The informed her that generally they don't work at the weekends but weekdays with an 8 am start and finish 3-4 pm. They reported to TH that Planning have been holding up progress as there have been three difference planning officers involved in it so far! However they did have a meeting coming up with Planning but are also are waiting to hear news about the A602 situation.

TH discussed the resin path situation with them although they informed her that the implementation of this is not down to them as it was a stipulation within the original planning consent i.e. Highways and Planning. LGS felt that this was potentially dangerous if it went ahead, particularly with the narrowing of the road. The present barrier was also extremely dangerous and with winter flooding it would be even more so.

5/9/22 Luton Rising Update. No significant decision.

DRAFT

9/9/22 David Hart. Resignation Letter to Little Munden Parish Council
8/9/22 Email from James Lungley activating "Operation London Bridge" on PC Website.
14/8/22 Email to Head of Customer Service, Castle Water explaining complaints the PC has against Castle Water
09/9/22 Castle Water Complaint Response – including claim for Leak Allowance and settlement offer
12/9/22 Email to Richard Cassidy, Returning Officer, East Herts District Council/notification of Casual Vacancy
20/9/22 Email of thanks to Ken Crofton re Locality Budget. To help with forthcoming Community Events in December.
TH commented that Monday 12th December was the date for the Pensioners Lunch

7. FORTHCOMING PROJECT DATES AND UPDATES

CM explained that the Children in Need Countryside Ramble would be 1 pm on 9th October 2022, meeting at Horses' Meadow Car Park. It will be 4.9 miles long and is Walk No 117 / The Dane End North Loop. It's suggested to finish at the Boot, to leave time for a Roast which can be booked in advance.

PENSIONERS LUNCH
TH confirmed that this would take place on Monday 12th December and would include a meal, a band or possibly a Choir. CM suggested the Choir could perhaps come down from the School.

REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY CERMONY
This would be on November 13th and there would be refreshments afterwards. CM to organise cakes.

PANTOMIME
The dates were confirmed as 16th of December for an evening performance and 17th/18th December for a matinee and an evening performance.

PARTY IN THE HALL
This was still being planned for the beginning of December.

8. CASTLE WATER AND WATER METER SITUATION. CHART SERIES OF EVENTS WHICH RESULTED IN SUCH HIGH WATER READINGS/CCTV FOOTAGE

9. UPDATE RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENT AND DISCUSSION ON UPDATING EMERGENCY PLAN DOCUMENT

With regards to the Risk Assessment, the following points needed to be included/updated into the document. A copy of the updated document is attached to these Minutes for approval at the November Meeting.

- A Budgetary Committee needs to be appointed and volunteers would be needed for this.

DRAFT

- Look at long term budgeting so there is always money in the pot.

- Election funding/costing need to be built into this as could potentially be a huge expense

- Grants Team needs to be appointed. Volunteers to be sort for this to look at ways to raise money for projects such updating location and improvements to Play Equipment

- Councillors Interests document to be reviewed.

EMERGENCY PLAN DOCUMENT
Discussion took place regarding this document particularly in the light of the recent hot weather and the threat of fire this had posed. This became a reality when a tree caught fire on one of the very hot days in July at Founceley Avenue putting houses and flats at risk of being burnt down.

Discussion took place on how measures could be put in place to prevent such an incident becoming serious. Fortunately, on this occasion the fire brigade did respond extremely quickly.

All agreed that a large concern is the fact that Dane End is surrounded by fields. There was an organisation called Farm Watch in place so perhaps it might be possible for the Parish Council to tag onto that and be alerted for any future nearby threats of fire.

One of the essential additions to the Plan would be to identify people who may need help. Volunteers could be identified to help vulnerable and disabled people who need help to evacuate their homes. A list of people who need assistance could be put in place. It may be a help to perhaps liaise with Neighbourhood Watch. It was agreed that all fire hydrants should be checked for with Fire Service to obtain information on when their last service was. Fortunately, some had been repainted and marked to make sure they are visible. The Parish Council should also ensure, via the Fire Service that they're all working.

10. RESOLVE TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR HART
It was resolved to accept the Resignation from the Parish Council of David Hart.

11. HOME FARM DEVELOPMENT AND TRANSPORT/A602 MATTERS
Four members of the general public were at the meeting who were particularly concerned about the delays to the A602. All felt they were entitled to compensation for the increased delays and the increased petrol costs resulting from the diversion and LGS felt that a Class Action should be sort due to the damage to cars and inconvenience caused.

PA provided some background on the original building of the bridge and thought that, the concrete reinforced metal frames have moved and the concrete wasn't thick enough. He thought they were now going to try and repair it with resin. LGS felt that the Contract should never have been given to the Contractor and questioned whether their compliance process had been fully carried out. A resident commented

DRAFT

that someone must have signed this off and that there should be a meeting with Herts Highways, Herts County Council and the Parish Council to which residents could attend. AH suggested that the Parish Council were free to attend public meetings at County Hall where public questions were allowed. He also suggested checking the Home Farm development, Transport Management Plan as it will be difficult to start work until there is better access to the site.

TH commented that she was continuously in discussion and email correspondence with Herts Highway, in particular their project manager, Helen McCormack

It was agreed that a Public Meeting should be held, the Clerk and TH to arrange. The General Public would be invited and would be able to submit questions to the Parish Council to be answered by the Project Manager at Highways.

12. TO CONSIDER PARISH MATTERS FROM PARISHIONERS

- LGS commented on the status of the Wheelwrights Appeal. An Informal Hearing was due to take place on 24/11/22 but had not been confirmed. She had not heard anything from the Council despite the fact that the site had quadrupled in size. The excessive lighting is also in breach of the law.

- A resident addressed the Parish Council to complain about the overall shortage of buses. The Trusty Bus service appears to be only running 50% of their service and Herts Link won't go to Ware or Hertford. PA pointed out that Sacombe Pound don't get any buses at all, as a consequence of the A602 Roadworks. This is extremely inconvenient for people who need to get to work. AH commented that he thought that Herts Linx were expanding their fleet and it would be worth the Parish Council getting onto them. It would also be worth checking to see if they are not adhering to the Terms of their Contract. This situation also made it extremely difficult for people to get to medical appointments. TH suggested in the interim something could be put on Spotted seeking Volunteers to help people get to appointments.

- Discussion then took place on the general state of pavements and roads. The gutters were full of weeds and it was difficult to not to park cars on the street so if someone did come to clean there would be obstructions on the road. A resident suggested that the road sweepers only seem to come during the summer. There was also a problem on Windy Rise with a crab apple tree which needs cutting back. TH suggested that there needs to be a proper schedule implement by EHDC and sent to the Parish Council so residents could be informed when the road sweeper is coming. AH also pointed out that there is a means whereby the Parish Council get their own contractors and then bill back to Highways.

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

- BS enquired whether anyone knew if what was happening about the burnt-out house in Founceley Avenue as it was impossible to get through to the Clarion,

DRAFT

the Housing Association. AH suggested he could help if the PC couldn't get through to them.

- All thanked BS for the splendid work he carried out on the new wooden road signs at the entrances to the Village. All agreed how lovely they look!

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING: - Thursday 20th October 2022

The Meeting was brought to a close at 9.24 pm

DRAFT