LITTLE MUNDEN PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 18th May 2023 at Dane End Memorial Hall.

1. **PRESENT: Tracey Harding (TH) Chair; Paul Armstrong (PA) Vice Chair; Billy Summerson (BS); Julie Hursey (JH); Michelle Galvin (MG); Jessica Harding (JH); Stephanie Armstrong (SA)**

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Ken Crofton; Aubrey Holt**

3. **TO APPROVE MINUTES OF THE APM OF 28th April 2022**
Copies of the Agenda and End of Year Accounts were circulated. TH welcomed everyone to the Meeting and thanked all for attending.

The Minutes of the previous Annual Parish Council meeting held on 28th April 2022 were confirmed as a true record of that meeting. The minutes were proposed by JH and seconded by BS as a true and correct account of the meeting.

4. **TO DEAL WITH MATTERS ARISING FROM THOSE MINUTES**
None

5. **TO RECEIVE THE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT FOR THE YEARS 22/23**
TH asked if anyone else would like stand for Chair for the year 2023/24 and then agreed to continue as Chairman for another year and presented the Chair's Report as follows:
Items considered are set out below:-

General Statement
What a busy year we have had, firstly with our annual bulb planting, Children in Need Walk and then the 'Jubilee Celebration Event' the first big community event for some years, it proved a huge success for the community and we look forward to this year's Summer Celebration with the Vikings returning to Dane End (just for the day). We also embarked on another first for our Parish Council and Community as a joint effort, the Pantomime 'Cinderella not as you know it'. It was a lot of hard work and I applaud all that were involved it making it such a huge success with such tight timeframes and budgets, it rounded off the year really well.

Development of Home Farm Farmyard
Slow progress has started at Home Farm, we are in communications with the builders EPGL. Some concerns have been raised regarding the

demolished wall and removal of the asbestos wall. We are awaiting a response from the company.

Expansion at Wheelwrights Farm

We have recently been notified that permission has been granted for the extension to the number of sited mobile homes and touring caravans on site, this is another blow for the local residents and once again we have to again question how prepared East Herts District Council were in this process. On the day it was quite clear they were not as they were seen to be disagreeing with each other and being totally unprepared, questions should be asked re the current Planning Departments competency at managing such high-profile cases. The Parish Council are in close contact with the residents of Rowney Lane and will continue to offer support where we can.

Horses' Meadow

Play Equipment

The new football goals were installed last summer and seem to be a huge hit with the local children, giving them a safe environment to play in.

Drug Issues

Things seem to have quietened down over the winter months, we will monitor the situation as the weather warms up and the days get longer, if we see an increased activity in this area we will work with the local police on the best resolution.

Trees around the village

We seem to have mounting issues around the trees along Munden Road, Kingsfield Road and Founceley Avenue. They all need to be reduced in height.

Several discussions are ongoing re this ever-growing problem and hopefully we will have a resolution soon.

Traffic Calming

Resin Path along Munden Road: Discussions have taken place with the Developer of Home Farm and the Council. The developer has agreed that once the works are started they will apply for a

condition of change to the planning proposal to get the path removed as it is simply not a safe option for our village and totally unnecessary. It will cause problems for people wishing to park outside

their homes and the upkeep will simply not take place by EHDC as they cannot manage junction markings and potholes plaguing our roads presently.

Church and Parish newsletter

After an initial meeting it was agreed to obtain sponsors via business adverts to help with the continued cost of the Newsletter, l am glad to say we have had some local businesses advertising and it would be lovely to see more.

Village Signage

A huge thank you to Cllr Billy Summerson for making and erecting the new village signs, more to come soon at the Sacombe end of our village and in Sacombe itself. They look fabulous and make the village entrances not only look smart but make drivers aware they are entering a populated area and hopefully encourage them to slow down.

Speed Signs

Now Sacombe has been opened to the public once again we will soon be installing our second village speed sign.

Signage

We are in talks with Ringway about the state of the signage in and around the village, we are also speaking to them about new signage along Whempsted Lane at the junction with Green End as drivers are not aware of the junctions on the top of the hill and are driving too fast.

Highways/A602

Hopefully now the bridge beams are in place we will be on track for the opening of the new road in October 2023 if not before, fingers crossed everyone.

Litter Picking

The council in their wisdom have cut funding for a litter picker from April 2023. We have already been out around the village collecting litter but this problem is not going to go away and we need to look at a more regular parish initiative or the adopt a road scheme l am confident the parishioners will support this.

WITH THANKS

A huge thanks to our members of the community who chose to remain anonymous but gave hugely to support the Parish Council events and generous donations to the school and other community initiatives. We really do appreciate all the support given.

Thanks also to Russell and Liz Parkins at Dane End Christmas Tree Farm for continuing to support the Parish Council with a gift of a Christmas Tree and the generous loan of the Toilets for our Jubilee event last year and this years'

Summer Fair. Thanks to Russell for taking charge of the Hog Roast at the jubilee event!

Finally
I would like to formally thank Gerry our Clerk for all the extra work she carries out on our behalf. A lot of this goes unnoticed but is much appreciated. I would like to formally thank Ken Crofton for his generous donation to our 'Jubilee Event, Seniors Christmas Lunch and Pantomime; without his generosity the events would not have been able to take place.

l would like to thank Cllr Claire Monk, Cllr Dave Hart and Cllr Coleen Colihoo who stood down earlier this year from their roles, their input throughout their term of service was really appreciated and we wish them well with whatever they do next in like and hope to see them at future events.

Now to welcome our new Parish Councillors, Cllr Michelle Glavin, Cllr Stephanie Armstrong and Cllr Jessica Harding to the and look forward to working with them to drive even more initiatives in the future.

Lastly, l would like to thank all the Parishioners within our Parish and in the villages of Sacombe and Great Munden for their support with our recent events and we will continue to build the links between our communities as it we are proving working together really does make us stronger.

Councillor Tracey Harding
Chair

6. TO RECEIVE AND IF FELT FIT TO APPROVE THE FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 2022/23

Copies of the Financial Statement had been circulated to the Parish Councillors. All Parish Councillors attending the Meeting approved the Financial Statement 22/23.
The Financial Statement was approved by all Councillors.

7. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM ORGANISATIONS WITHIN THE PARISH
Sadly no one was available to offer a report.

8. TO DEAL WITH ITEMS OF ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Discussion took place regarding the upcoming Summer Event on 24th June 2023. An alternative Viking Group had been booked which would offer public partipation for both adults and children.

9. TO RECEIVE AND NOTE COMMENTS FROM PARISHIONERS

None.

10. The APM was brought to a close at 9.05 pm.

Signed:_____ **Date:**_____
Chairman