



**MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL  
ON MONDAY, 11<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2024 AT 7.30PM**

Present: Andrew Marchant  
David Oxley  
Simon Bagnall  
David House  
Amanda Parker  
Jan Pledger

Members of the Public: Mark Parrott  
Ann Grimsdale  
Robert Cadwallader  
Gemma Cadwallader

County / District Councillors: None

Police: None

Apologies: CC Jeff Jones, DC Geoffrey Williamson, PC Glen Stanway.

Officer present: Caroline Jones (Clerk)

**58.1 Apologies received:** CC Jeff Jones, DC Geoffrey Williamson, PC Glen Stanway.

**58.2 Personal / Prejudicial Declarations :** None received/raised.

**58.3 District Councillor Comments :**

There was nothing to highlight from the County Council.

DC Williamson reported that the Parish Council and other organisations in the village may be interested that the next round of East Herts Community Grants opened today. Applications can be made via the EHC website. Anyone who may be interested in more general news about what is going on in the district can view it here: [Latest news & announcements | East Herts District Council](#)

**58.4 Public Comments**

No comments raised.

**58.5 Police**

Police reports have been received. 2 outbuilding break-ins were reported in Oct-24 but were not represented on the latest reporting. Clerk raised with PC Stanway (20/11/24).

**58.6 Minutes of the Meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024**

The minutes were approved and the Chairman authorised to approve for the meeting held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2024.

**58.7 Planning**

**58.7.1 5 Castle Cottage SG9 OBW :** 3/24/1551/PASE : 9 Solar Panels on flat roof – approval not required.

**58.7.2 8 Moatside SG9 ODD :** 3/24/0155/HH : Appeal lodged 23/04/24.

**58.7.3 8 Moatside SG9 ODD :** 3/23/2214/HH : Appeal lodged 25/04/24.

**58.7.4 New Applications**

**58.8 Finance**

**58.8.1 Updated Budget :** Budget was received and ratified.

**58.8.2 Precept Ratification :** no change to the precept from 2024-25 - £6,000 agreed and ratified.

**58.8.3 Summary of funds** for this financial year approved and accepted.

Letter of thanks to be sent to David Moule for litter picking.

It was agreed and ratified that the PCC grass cutting payments will remain at £1,200 this year but be increased to £1,625 in the new financial year (Apr-25). It was also noted that if funds are available at end of this financial year, a further remit may be made to the PCC.

Invoice to be raised for Brent Pelham and Meesden Newsletter contribution.



- 58.8.4** The bank reconciliation dated 11<sup>th</sup> Nov-24 was approved and signed. Payments for Nov-Dec 2024 were approved and authorised to be arranged by bank transfer when due. Payment for Joe Poulton £1,200 to be arranged.
- 58.9 Highways / Vegetation**  
No vegetation issues were raised but the village usually received two cuts, Clerk to enquire if a further cut will be undertaken. A number of large potholes by the entrance to St George's End/triangle are to be logged on the Highways Portal.
- 58.10 Flooding**  
Flooding at the Well continues. The Chapel confirmed that the ditch may have been filled but were convinced that a drainage pipe would have been laid from the Phone Box past the bungalow to allay any flooding. Drainage would have been set well back (some 3m). Originally the ditch was open and whether a drain collapsed cannot be acknowledged.  
  
There were no reported recent flooding at either Silkmead and Cave Gate.
- 58.11 Litter Picking**  
The current North Herts bin emptying service has been good. A survey is being conducted by NHDS and it is expected that the playing field entrance bin could be excluded.
- 58.12 Playing Field**  
The contact number for any skateboard ramp issues need to be updated to the new Clerk's number. It was noted that the grass was long and Mr Johnson will be approached to cut the hedge/verge.
- 58.13 Church**  
The recent quiz was well attended and raised in excess of £1,100 for repairs.
- 58.14 School / St George's End Parking**  
Nothing raised. From time to time there are some dangerous parking; cars get notices.
- 58.15 Village Hall**  
Following a member of the public tripping at a pothole in the car park, the VHC arranged drive patching via Joe Poulton which included the connecting strip that belongs to EHDC.  
  
Films continue showing once a month, exercise classes running 3/week. There have been village events and bookings which have included the Harvest Lunch, Church Quiz (with 80 players), John Hamilton's Wake. Usage continues to be good.  
Upcoming events : Music Evening 22 Feb-25 (Beat the February Blues) and the Village Hall Quiz on 29 Mar-25.
- 58.16 Newsletter**  
The deadline for the December/January edition was yesterday. The newsletter is a full edition.
- 58.17 Anstey Quarry**  
Activity onsite continues with rumours of house building – the site is being closely monitored.
- 58.18 Defibrillator** – the monthly monitor check was carried out today (11.11.24) and fully functional.
- 58.19 Correspondence** – a list of correspondence received and sent was accepted.
- 58.20 Any other Business**
- 58.21 Future Items / Matters Carried Forward :**
- 58.21.1** Laptop performance to be monitored – it was suggested to have Oops! IT clean/check its performance.
- 58.21.2** Phone box – Perspex is being replaced and the door/cast iron box needs repainting. The phone box cannot be restored by the Parish Council as BT have confirmed it will be maintained as a working public phone due to the rural area and lack of any secure mobile signal.
- 58.21.3** The Well – it was confirmed that the Environmental Agency test the depth of the water monthly.
- 58.21.4** War Memorial – steps are in need of repair due to water/ice damage.
- 58.21.5** Noticeboard – repairs required are : The Well needs the front glass removed and the School one needs squaring up to enable opening.
- 58.22 Next Meeting :** Next meeting to be held at the village hall on Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2025.  
Meeting closed at 20:15pm.