

Parish Council of Hempstead
Minutes of the Meeting of Hempstead Parish Council
held on Thursday 4th February 2021

Present: Sean McCarthy (Chairman), David Drane, Diana Frost, Laura Saxel, Mark Welbourn, Nicholas Turkentine, District Councillor Richard Freeman and the Clerk.

The Parish Council meeting started at 7:31pm

119. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Alan Weedon and County Councillor Simon Walsh.

120. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

A report from the County Councillor had been circulated.

121. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING 11th January 2021 agreed as a correct record.

122. MATTERS ARISING – None

123. FINANCE

Budget – The budget circulated by the Clerk was approved.

Expenses – Payment to the Clerk of £440 for expenses was approved.

124. PLANNING

Longcroft: UTT/21/0105/HHF. Erection of detached garden room. No comments required.

French's Farm: UTT/20/3361/HHF. Extension to roof to form enlarged first floor accommodation and other proposed changes to existing building. AWAITING DECISION

The Hawthorns: UTT/20/3045/HHF. Proposed first and single storey rear extensions. AWAITING DECISION

Oak House: UTT/20/1383/HHF. Proposed increase to height of existing wall and construction of fence. APPEAL SUBMITTED

125. CORRESPONDENCE

Freedom of Information Request – Clerk has responded noting that there are no UAV bylaws.

Local Plan – no requirement for the Clerk to forward onto Councillors.

Solar Farms Email – no action required.

Newsletter – It was reaffirmed that the newsletter is not sent out directly by the Parish Council.

126. NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH AND WELLBEING

Health and Wellbeing Plan – This has now been uploaded to the website and a hard copy will be put on the notice board.

127. HIGHWAYS AND RIGHTS OF WAY

40mph Limit – Signs have now been erected and the new speed limit is in force.

Potholes on High Street – Still awaiting ECC to commence resurfacing work.

Bridleway – It was noted that bridleway 19 is closed for repair works for at least 21 days.

128. ENVIRONMENT

Railings – Work will be required to be finished before the end of March.

Tree Felling/Pruning – The work has been concluded, including the uplifting of overhanging branches and brambles on the footpath.

Litter – Reports have been received by residents regarding an increase in litter on village footpaths. The Council queried whether there is an Uttlesford anti-litter campaign, and Cllr Freeman agreed to investigate and report back.

Fly-tipping – Dumped tyres by bridleway 19 have been reported to Uttlesford DC. Fly tipping is a big issue for the whole of Uttlesford, and Cllr Freeman agreed to look into the Council's official policy and report back.

129. FLOODING

Anso Road – The planned clearing of ditches had been delayed by County Broadband work, but investigation and "cleansing" work is planned for later in February. Essex highways are investigating the impact of run-off from surrounding fields. The Council noted that there are historical issues with drainage down the side of the road, but that it has recently become a significant issue that requires resolution. Nick Turkentine and the Chairman are in regular contact with affected residents and Essex Highways.

High Street – Anglia Water are still to inspect the suspected spring by Bellropes, but have confirmed that they will come out when time allows, as they currently have other areas of priority.

130. COMMUNICATIONS – The website accessibility document well on way to completion.

131. DEFIBRILLATOR – No update

132. VILLAGE HALL – Village Hall Management Committee AGM will be held on Zoom on 11 February.

133. ANNUAL REPORT – Councillors were reminded to provide submissions to the Clerk before end February.

134. EMERGENCY PLAN – Residents have been very complimentary about the new plan, which is now available on the village website.

Future Meetings: 11 March 2021 and 15 April at 7:30pm remotely on Zoom

The meeting ended at 8:40pm