



HADDENHAM Parish Council

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DRAFT MINUTES ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday 23rd September 2019, 7.30pm
Day Centre Lounge, Haddenham Village Hall

Present: Cllrs Mr. Lyons, Mr. O'Hanlon, Ms. Poole, Mr. Wheeler, Ms Poole, and Mr Young (Chair)
Ex-Officio: Mr. Truesdale
Clerk: Ms. Gilbert
Assistant Clerk: Ms. Griffiths
5 Members of the public and Cllr Mr. Sharp

E20 20 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Mr. O'Loughlin.

E20 21 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

Public Participation

3 members of the public expressed their concern about work being considered by the Council to the trees on the footpath behind their homes on the boundary of Sheerstock and Thame Road Business Park. One member of the public sought clarification on what was happening with the proposed car parking restrictions on Sheerstock.

E20 22 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 3rd June 2019 were AGREED as a true record and signed.

E20 23 CLERK'S REPORT

Review of outstanding and ongoing actions not dealt with on the agenda.

Telephone Box in Churchway

The Rotary club repainted the phone box over the summer using a free kit obtained by the Council from British Telecom.

Pavilion Doors

The new pavilion doors have been installed. The contractors are coming back to finalise the work shortly. Issues arising during the fitting had been resolved with the users.

E20 24 PRECEPT

It was AGREED to defer discussion of the Precept to the end of the meeting.

E20 25 STREETLIGHTS

(i) Street Light replacement rollout

The street lights and lanterns which were highlighted 'in poor repair' as per the street light survey have now all been replaced. All subsequent maintenance will be general wear and tear and this will be assessed on whether replacements are needed. It is worth noting we still have an 'ageing' asset and it may be worth considering a measured rollout on future replacements:

Inventory 20 years +old	Installed in 1970's	Installed in 1980's *	Installed in 1990's
Columns	27	45	4
Lanterns	13	26	4

*the majority of these columns & lanterns were installed in 1980 – so only just into the 80's.

(ii) Streetlight connections.

New columns have been installed on Dovecote, Dovecote Close, Stokes Lane (x3) Stokes End, Stokes Croft, Marriotts Way, Wykeham Way (x2). We are waiting for UK Power Networks to connect them and then we can remove the old columns.

We replaced a lantern in Gibson Lane and we had complaints from one resident that it was too bright. We have worked with Eldridge's to try and minimise the affect by trialling a new 'dimmer' lantern which reduces at 11pm at night. The resident did say it did reduce the light a bit but was still bright.

Outside number 5 Rosemary Lane, the neighbour across the road found the new lantern to bright, we have fitted a shield and this has resolved the problem.

E20 26 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

(i) The Aspire monthly reports and contract meetings reports were received.

There has been a mixed response to the reduced cutting of verges to support biodiversity. The majority of people were in favour of the changes, however, there have been some complaints about the appearance of the verges. Discussions have been held with Aspire regarding balancing the need for biodiversity with not allowing the verges to become too overgrown. It has also been agreed with Aspire to plant more wildflower seeds around the village.

It has been confirmed that there is Hemlock growing at Green Lane by the RHS. It was arranged for a specialist to cut it using a Flail Cutter in June. Going forward, it will be cut again in Autumn and then monitored over the next year and cut when necessary to try and eliminate re-growth over time.

Additional verge grass cutting on Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust roads:

Bucks County Council have confirmed that the roads need to be added to our devolved service agreement and have made a small payment towards the cost of maintenance.

Stockwell:

The location of the bollards has been agreed and a site survey has been carried out. We have been told that the work to install them will take place in the near future.

(ii) No work has been authorised in addition to the contract.

(iii) Devolved Service Agreement extension

The opportunity to extend the Devolved Service Agreement until 31st March 2022 was noted. This will be considered at the next full Council meeting.

E20 27 CHURCHYARD MAINTENANCE

A second section adjoining the collapsed section of the stone wall has been fully restored. The ivy has been removed from the remaining third section of wall.

E20 28 TREE WORKS

(i) Householder – Roberts Road.

The cutting back of overhanging branches at the property has been completed.

Snakemoor

The two trees highlighted in the survey of Snakemoor have been pollarded.

Slave Hill & Whitecross Road

The Bucks CC Local Area Technician has scheduled work on the verge trees to take place on 23rd September.

Banks Park

Mixed trees in the playground area and car park have been crowned and the arisings removed.

- (ii) The best management policy for the Leylandii on the Sheerstock footpath boundary was discussed and the work to be carried out will be reviewed taking into consideration the concerns of the residents. The importance of screening for properties is acknowledged. The trees on the short stretch behind the concerned residents' homes will require work to remove dead wood and reduce the size as they are aging and overgrown. Expert advice will be obtained to try and retain these trees as a preference to replacement. The Council will look into suitable replacements for the existing trees along the longer stretch of footpath where residents were supportive of the work. The residents who responded to the consultation will be consulted about the intended replacements.

20 29 PONDS

The ponds have been treated for algae by a local pond specialist free of charge. Thanks were expressed to the volunteer by the Committee. He has also made some recommendations for future maintenance and improvements which should prove cost effective in the long term. Mr Young and the Clerk are arranging to meet him to discuss a maintenance plan.

The willow tree that fell has been removed from Banks Pond.

The Committee shares the concerns expressed by residents regarding the dropping water level at Pond Close, and is aware of correspondence between Tring Fishing Club and the Environment Agency, which is the appropriate organisation to investigate.

E20 30 SPEED MONITORING

(i) Sentinel speed watch equipment.

The speed watch equipment has been out in Haddenham in September and has been booked for another week in October. The following is a summary of information was recorded from the September outing:

Station Road 15:00 – 16:15:

9 vehicles were recorded travelling >35mph, 2 of which were >40mph

Station Road 08:00 – 08:15

2 vehicles were recorded travelling >35mph

Stanbridge Road 15:50 – 17:20

14 vehicles travelling >35mph, 3 of which were >40mph

Thame Road 15:50 – 16:50

9 vehicles were recorded travelling >35mph, 1 of which was >40mph

Thanks were expressed to the volunteers and particularly to Julie Taylor for her help with scheduling and training volunteers.

E20 31 PLAY AREAS

(i) Woodways

The new Zip Wire has been installed.

The seat of the seesaw has been defaced so a replacement seat has been ordered.

The police are continuing to monitor the carpark for antisocial/illegal behaviour.

Replacement signage for the restriction of dogs has been installed.

We are in the process of obtaining quotes for required maintenance to the swings, as highlighted in the recent ARD inspection report. The Clerk will chase the annual playground reports which are due.

Quotes have also been requested for replacing some of the worn grass matting.

Banks Park

The fence that was recently installed with the new play equipment is now blocking access to a man hole cover that needs to be accessed to read the water meter for the Scout & Guide Centre. The Clerk has contacted HAGS regarding getting the fence moved.

The grass matting in the park has been repaired.

A toy hammer needs to be put back on one of the instrumental toys.

Sheerstock

The new playground equipment has been installed and the playground was officially opened on 21 September 2019. The opening was well attended and the feedback has been very positive.

A loose decorative ball needs repairing on a piece of equipment.

- (ii) It was noted that new benches are needed in the Sheerstock recreation area. The Clerk will arrange to get quotes for these.

E20 32 COMMUNITY ORCHARD COMMITTEE

- (i) The draft minutes of the committee meeting held on 14th August 2019 were noted. Mr. Lyons reported that a Jazz concert at the Orchard had recently taken place and was very well supported.

- (ii) The quotes to repair the render and capping on the Orchard wall were discussed. It was AGREED to recommend going ahead with the quote from Historic Buildings, as this was the cheapest. The Clerk will need to confirm the quote is still valid as it was received some time ago.

E20 33 ALLOTMENTS COMMITTEE REPORT

- (i) The draft minutes of the committee meeting held on 14th August 2019 were noted. Mr. Wheeler reported that the allotment plot rents will be increased in 2020 from £18 to £20 for a 5-pole plot and the rent collection morning will be held on 5th October 2019.

- (ii) Mr Wheeler reported that the willow tree near the solar panels is to be reduced in size to allow more sunlight through.

E20 34 CLIMATE EMERGENCY PROJECT

- (i) Mr O'Hanlon reported that representatives of the Council had attended a Zero Carbon Haddenham (ZeroCH) meeting and had also met with two qualified local volunteers who can help establish a methodology for measuring the carbon footprint of the village. The method chosen will allow a baseline to be established for measurement that will mean improvements can be monitored, as well as allowing the factors which have the biggest impact on carbon emissions to be identified. In the future, the project hopes to identify 5 to 10 key action points which will lead to the biggest reduction in carbon emissions for the village.

It was noted that AVDC has passed a motion asking the future Buckinghamshire Unitary Authority to become carbon neutral by 2030.

- (ii) It was reported that ZeroCH have started work on reLEAF, a tree planting project supported by the Council and that a press release was due to be released in the near future.

E20 35 GREEN FLAG AWARDS

It was noted that work would need to be done and maintenance plans created in advance of applying for the awards and this would need to be costed. The Council will not apply for the awards until it is ready.

E20 36 BLEDLOW RIDGE HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING CENTRE

The decision to make a donation will be deferred until more information about the business plan for the recycling centre is available. It was noted that the Council hadn't received much feedback from residents about the Bledlow Ridge centre closing, possibly due to the nearby access residents have to the recycling centre in Rabans Lane, Aylesbury.

E20 37 CAR PARKING RESTRICTIONS

Confirmation of the Council's application to the LAF for 50% funding in 2020/21 has been received.

E20 38 NOTICEBOARD

It was AGREED to adopt the updated notice board policy.

E20 39 SNAKEMOOR

It was noted that Robyn Thorogood is planning to retire from managing Snakemoor and no replacement volunteers have yet been found. The Clerk will meet with Robyn in the near future.

E20 24 PRECEPT

The Environment Committee budgets for 2020-21 were discussed and a RECOMMENDATION was AGREED for setting the precept. See appendix 1.

E20 40 CORRESPONDENCE AND ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

Correspondence has been received from a resident regarding anti-social behaviour in the Woodways carpark.

Several residents have written regarding the replacement signage about dog walking restrictions in Woodways Park.

Requests have been received for additional bike racks around the village. This will be added to the next agenda to consider.

E20 41 MATTERS OF REPORT

The community speed watch sign on the junction of Woodways and Stanbridge Road is obscuring the view of drivers and needs moving.

E20 42 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

Monday 25 November 2019.

CLOSURE OF THE MEETING

The meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed: _____ DRAFT _____
Chair

Date: 25th November 2019

Appendix 1

HADDENHAM PARISH COUNCIL
INCOME & EXPENDITURE FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 30TH JUNE 2019
DRAFT 4

	Precept Proposal 2019/20	Budget 2019/20	Annual Budget 2019/20 v Precept Proposal 2019/20	Actual Q1	Actual YTD 2019/20	Budget YTD 2019/20	Variance to Budget	Latest Projection FY 2019/20	2019/20 Projection Variance to Budget	Precept Proposal 2020/1	Precept Proposal 2020/1 v 2019/20	Change from budget 2019/20
	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£	£
ENVIRONMENT												
EXPENDITURE												
Maintenance	500	1,500	- 1,000	686	686	375	- 311	1,500	-	1,500	- 814	- 1,000
Play Areas maintenance	5,350	5,350	-	1,727	1,727	1,338	- 390	5,350	-	7,000	- 5,273	- 1,650
Churchyard maintenance	3,500	3,500	-	440	440	875	435	3,500	-	3,570	- 3,130	- 70
Outsourced Maintenance	48,500	49,240	- 740	12,310	12,310	12,310	0	40,919	8,321	72,000	- 59,690	- 23,500
Water Ponds	1,030	1,030	-	430	430	258	- 172	1,030	-	1,050	- 620	- 20
Refuse bins	1,500	1,500	-	274	274	375	101	1,500	-	2,000	- 1,726	- 500
Dog Bins	3,000	3,000	-	298	298	750	452	3,000	-	4,500	- 4,202	- 1,500
Pest Control	500	500	-	120	120	125	5	500	-	510	- 390	- 10
Mapping	75	75	-	19	19	19	-	75	-	80	- 61	- 5
Tree Works	4,160	4,500	- 340	1,120	1,120	1,125	5	4,500	-	4,500	- 3,380	- 340
Misc	360	1,000	- 640	-	-	250	250	1,000	-	360	- 360	-
Devolved Services	15,000	15,500	- 500	3,560	3,560	3,875	315	15,500	-	16,200	- 12,640	- 1,200
Street Lighting maintenance	7,250	9,250	- 2,000	2,033	2,033	2,313	280	9,250	-	9,440	- 7,407	- 2,190
Street Lighting energy	8,000	6,500	1,500	2,455	2,455	1,625	- 830	6,500	-	7,000	- 4,545	1,000
Training	100	100	-	-	-	25	25	100	-	1,000	- 1,000	- 900
S137	25	25	-	25	25	25	-	25	-	379	- 354	- 354
	98,850	102,570	- 3,720	25,497	25,497	25,661	164	94,249	8,321	131,089	- 105,592	- 32,239
INCOME												
Fair rent	355	355	-	-	-	-	-	355	-	355	355	-
Pole refund	30	30	-	-	-	8	- 8	30	-	30	30	-
Commuted sums	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Recharged to Banks Park Trust	-	-	-	-	-	1,899	- 1,899	-	-	-	-	-
Devolved Budget	7,596	7,596	-	1,899	1,899	-	1,899	7,596	-	7,730	5,831	134
	7,981	7,981	-	1,899	1,899	1,906	- 8	7,981	-	8,115	6,216	134
NET	- 90,869	- 94,589	- 3,720	- 23,598	- 23,598	- 23,755	157	- 86,268	8,321	- 122,974	- 99,376	23,598