

# Helions Bumpstead Parish Council

LUKE BROWN

Clerk & RFO

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Village Hall, Helions Bumpstead,

3 Mill Rd, Haverhill, CB9 7AH

Tel: 07713 926 645

Minutes of the **HELIONS BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING** held on **14 FEBRUARY 2021 AT 7:00 PM.**

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT
S. Kehr	Chair	Yes
N. Turner	Vice Chair	Yes
S. Cunningham	Parish Councillor	Yes
R. Etheridge	Parish Councillor	No
R. Kirkland	Parish Councillor	No
N. Nicholson	Parish Councillor	Yes
A. Parker	Parish Councillor	Yes
D. Garrod	District Councillor	Yes
P. Schwier	County Councillor	Yes
L. Brown	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes

0 Members of the public.

## 21/249 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Kirkland & Cllr Etheridge.

**Resolution:** Accept apologies of absence.

**Proposed:** Cllr Kehr **Seconded:** Cllr Nicholson – unanimously agreed.

## 21/250 **Public Forum**

No members of the public present.

## 21/251 **Members' Declarations of interest**

None to declare for the business set out in this agenda.

## 21/252 **Minutes**

**Resolution:** Approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> January 2021 as a true record.

**Proposed:** Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Cunningham – unanimously agreed.

## 21/253 **District & County Councillors Reports** (APPENDIX A)

Essex County Cllrs Report – The Boundary Commission for England are in the stages of reviewing all Parliamentary constituencies and the independent hearing is up to the 4<sup>th</sup> of April 2022.

There is a new booking system in place at recycling centres for vans, including pickups and vehicles towing trailers with more than one axle. They will now need to book a slot in advance.

Solar Together is a scheme for residents to buy solar for cheaper, via buying in bulk. Residents are encouraged to sign up to the scheme before the 15<sup>th</sup> of March 2022.

There is a new Grant available called the Green Homes Grant for residents, that is mainly for household incomes under £30,000, and could provide up to £10,000 towards improving the energy efficiency through insulation, heating and hot water systems, solar panels and lighting.

The draft library plan had over 2000 responses.

ECC are providing up to £200 in vouchers to help the most vulnerable adults with food and energy costs.

ECC budget has gone up by 4.5%, 2% is council tax, 1% is an increase to social care and another 1.5% is also going towards social care which was deferred from last year.

District Cllrs Report – see Appendix

#### 21/254 **Clerks Report**

The rubble from the bridge that was hit has been left in the adjacent ditch.  
Fly tipping is still on the corner of Boblow's located in the ditch/drainage system.

#### 21/255 **Action Tracker** (APPENDIX B)

It was suggested that the welcome pack and magazine be added to the website.

Memorabilia – still waiting for quotes from suppliers, Cllr Turner looking into it.

Repair to playground equipment – Wicksteed has suggested going to the original manufacturer to repair, the Council is unsure who that was as there is no label. It was suggested that Mr. Cox maybe able to help.

Water Lane – Clerk has contacted EC Cllr Schwier with regards to the issues and waiting to hear back.

Jubilee Beacon – Clerk has spoken to the Fire Pit but has not heard back, it was suggested the Clerk speak to Helions Forge as well.

#### 21/256 **Finance** (APPENDIX C)

**Resolution:** Approve payments for February.

**Proposed:** Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Kehr – unanimously agreed.

#### 21/257 **Grants**

The request from the Church for a grant was deferred until the Council have seen the Churches accounts.

The request from the Pavilion for a grant was deferred until the Council have further justification for the grant.

Clerk to forward grant request form to Cllr Turner so that it can be passed to Mr. Claydon of the Cricket Club. No requests have been submitted by the Junior Cricket Club at this time.

#### 21/258 **New Planning Applications**

No current applications to consider.

**21/259 Playground**

Shelter blew over and Mr. Cox agreed to put it upright again for the Council. He suggested fixing the shelter with brackets to stop it from happening again.

Clerk to contact Mr. Cox to quote for repairing the play equipment.

**21/260 Flooding in the Village**

The Council have received the report.

One of the recommendations is to install a rain gauge but there is already one which has 15 years of data available.

Sages End Road and Camps Road still have drains blocked.

Cllr Parker has taken on the responsibility to go through the report and highlight misinformation, which includes that certain road's drains were not properly cleared when last serviced and inaccuracies in locations of where culverts and drains are.

The Council hope to use the report to question Braintree District Councils action on the Ramsey's building site and their failure to take into account proper drainage plans. Cllr Turner to draft a response.

**21/261 Highways and Footpaths**

Footpath on Church Hill, there are holes in the footpath which need reporting. – Clerk to report.

Footpath 29 bridge still in bad condition and footpath 21 bridge could use another handrail. – Clerk to report.

Cllr Parker to contact the housing association with regards to clearing the ditch behind footpath 21.

**21/261.1 Hedges and Trees Trimming**

Hedges near Ivy Todd are over hanging the road causing traffic to move onto the verge causing damage to it. Clerk to contact the residents of the houses nearby and ask them to maintain their hedges.

**21/262 Queen's Jubilee (02 June 2022)**

The Council have suggested a picnic on the recreation ground, but for everyone to supply their own food and drink.

No one has stepped up to help organise a community celebration, which is required if one is to go ahead and succeed. There is little time remaining to organise events and the Council really need the community to take on the responsibility.

The Council is in the process of organising a Beacon, although there was a suggestion of a laser show instead.

Cllr Turner suggested the community could play soft cricket on the recreation ground during/after the picnic.

The Climate group has suggested planting a Jubilee wood, which would consist of giving saplings in pots to children to look after until October/November when they can be planted.

**21/263 Handyman Fund Projects**

Clerk to chase Mr. Instance for a quote to fix the bus shelter.

**21/264 Street Lighting**

Deferred to next meeting.

**21/265 Response to the Hunt**

The Council decided against any further action.

21/266 **Letter of Thanks**

**Resolution:** Approve the writing a letter of thanks to those involved in the Pub.

**Proposed:** Cllr Kehr **Seconded:** Cllr Parker – unanimously agreed.

21/267 **Snowplough**

It was proposed that the Council no longer require a snow plough service and that the Ramsey's no longer need to pay for that part of their insurance. Cllr Kehr will inform the Ramsey's of the decision.

21/268 **Litter pick**

There is a Spring Clean event at the end of March, the Council suggested organising their litter pick event for Saturday the 26<sup>th</sup> of March and to start at 10 AM from the Village Hall – Clerk to arrange gloves, pickers and bags.

21/269 **Policy Review**

Deferred to next meeting.

21/270 **Resources for Teenagers**

Deferred to next meeting, but there were suggestions for cricket nets to be installed.

21/271 **AONB**

To be removed from the agenda until there is an update.

21/272 **Matters to be Raised by Members for the Next Agenda**

Street Lighting, Boundary Commission, Policies to be moved up the order.

21/273 **Date of the Next Meeting**

14<sup>th</sup> of March 2022

21/274 **Meeting Close** @ 9:46 PM

Signed.....

Dated.....

Clerk to the Council: Luke Brown  
72 St. Edmunds Fields, Great Dunmow,  
Essex, CM6 2AN  
07713 926 645

**APPENDIX A**

District Councillor's Report February 2022 to Parish Councils 07/02/22  
(Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward)

**Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders**

Intended closure of Haverhill Road, Helions Bumpstead. Due to commence on 7th February 2022 for 5 days whilst Anglian Water undertakes new connection.

Intended closure of Sages End Road, due to commence on 8th February 2022 for 4 days whilst County Broadband Ltd undertakes superfast fibre optic broadband installation.

Intended closure of Hempstead Road, Water Lane; due to commence on 6th March 2022 for 6 hours and Steeple Bumpstead Road on 27th April 2022 for 6 hours, whilst Openreach undertakes pole testing.

### **Additional Restrictions Grant has Re-opened**

The Additional Restrictions Grant scheme opened for more applications on Monday 7 February 2022. Having already invited applications in January, BDC have now been able to assess the initial applications and determine that it has some remaining ARG funds to support our businesses. This grant aims to support businesses outside the business rates system experiencing difficulties because of the Omicron variant. Supported will be businesses which supply the hospitality, events, leisure and travel sectors, including sole traders and businesses based at home. The amount awarded will be a one-off amount of £1,500.

More info: [https://www.braintree.gov.uk/advice-environment/additional-restrictions-grant-1?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.braintree.gov.uk/advice-environment/additional-restrictions-grant-1?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)

### **Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund – coming soon**

A business rates support package, worth £2.9 million, will be available to support businesses ineligible for existing support linked to business rates. The relief is for businesses who have been adversely affected financially as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic. More information on the process for applications will be made available on BDC's website this week.

### **Braintree Officer Trial New Drug Spray**

As part of ongoing work to tackle anti-social behaviour (ASB) across our county, officers from Braintree's Community Policing Team have introduced a new anti-drug spray. They visited licensed premises and public venues throughout Braintree and Witham's town centres last weekend to coat surfaces that can often be used for recreational drug taking, such as those in bathrooms. The clear substance coats the surface with a powerful bittering agent which reacts with any powdered substance. If the substance is then ingested, it will have a foul taste which can last several hours. The initiative has been launched and funded by the Braintree District Community Safety Partnership, and is the first of its kind in Essex.

The Braintree District Community Safety Partnership is made up of Braintree District Council, Essex Police, Essex Fire & Rescue Service and other services who are all committed to reducing the risk and impact of crime and hidden harm in the Braintree District.

### **Landscapes Review Response (National Parks and AONBs) – What Do You Think?**

(Implementing the review – Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) Implementing some aspects of the response to the review will require changes to legislation, subject to securing parliamentary time. Government are seeking public views on support for these proposed legislative changes, and their potential effects on different groups and interests. They are also interested to hear any wider views on other aspects of our response to the review. This consultation closes on 9 April 2022.

More info: Landscapes review (National Parks and AONBs): implementing the review - GOV.UK ([www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk))

### **Council Tax**

Re: Council Budget and Council Tax 2022/23 and Medium Term Financial Strategy 2022-/23 to 2025/26.

The following was discussed at the Cabinet meeting held 7th February 2022 and will go forward to Council for potential approval on 21st February 2022 (it is therefore subject to approval on 21/02/22):

Discretionary council tax discounts and exemptions for 2022/23 are:

- Discount applicable to empty dwellings undergoing major repairs is set at Nil % for the twelve month period;
- Discount applicable to vacant dwellings is set at Nil % for the six month period;
- Discount applicable to second homes is set at Nil %;
- Discretionary Council Tax Empty Homes Premiums charged on dwellings vacant for over two-years but less than five-years continue at 100%; on dwellings vacant over five-years but less than

ten-years continue at 200%; and on dwellings vacant for over ten-years continue at 300%, and that that this is duly published in a local newspaper within 21 days from this decision. In addition, the refund arrangement, as detailed in Section 13 of the main report;

Council Tax - The proposed estimates (producing a Council Tax Requirement for the Council of £10,421,496) as detailed in Appendix C and the Council Tax rate for 2022/23 of £189.63 for a Band D property, having taken into consideration:

- The consultation feedback, if any , received and reported verbally at the meeting;
- The assessment of risks in the budget assumptions;
- The Equalities Impact Assessments and
- The Section 151 Officer's report (Corporate Director – Finance) on the robustness of the estimates and adequacy of balances (Appendix G to the main report).

NB: The full report can be found with the agenda to the Cabinet meeting held 07/02/22 on BDC's website.

### **Message from Boundary Commission**

The secondary consultation on the proposed new map of constituencies in England will take place from Tuesday 22 February to Monday 4 April 2022. During this consultation, you will be able to provide your feedback on the proposed new constituencies via our consultation website, [bcereviews.org.uk](https://bcereviews.org.uk), by email or letter, or in person during a public hearing. I can advise that the booking system is now open, with details of the specific venue for each location where hearings will be taking place.

Cambridge 17th March 2022 (10am to 8pm) and 18th March 2022 (9am to 5pm). Eastern Southend is 21st and 22nd March (same times) and Ipswich is 24th and 25th March (same times).

More info: <https://boundarycommissionforengland.independent.gov.uk/2023-review/public-hearings/>

Cllr. Diana Garrod  
Braintree District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

**APPENDIX B**

**Action Tracker**

Council Meeting	Reference	Details	Status
July	21/150	Update website	CLlr Kehr to review website
September	21/170	Obtain quotes for works for repairing wall on cricket ground	CLlr Kehr to action
September	21/176	Set up email accounts for the CLlrs	1 account left to set up
October	21/188.2	CLlr Turner to investigate Jubilee memorabilia for the children of the village	CLlr Turner to action
Jan 2022	21/240	Mr. Cox to spread bark on playground area	Clerk to action
Jan 2022	21/240	Repair to play equipment	Clerk to contact Wicksteed
Jan 2022	21/242	Water Lane potential danger	Clerk to forward to CLlr Schwier
Jan 2022	21/242	Write letters to landowners regarding response from ECC on maintaining verges	CLlrs to action
Jan 2022	21/244	Jubilee Beacon	Clerk to contact the Fire Pit for a quote

**APPENDIX C**  
**February Payments**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Supplier</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Invoice</b>	<b>FPO/DD</b>	<b>Min Ref</b>	<b>Rec</b>	<b>Credit</b>	<b>Debit</b>	<b>VAT</b>	<b>Net</b>
Opening Balance							39,985.02			
	HB Cricket Club	Mower Fund	N/A	Remit			50.00			
	Drax	Electricity		DD				56.38	2.68	53.70
	Luke Brown	Salary	N/A	Bacs				299.78		299.78
	Luke Brown	Expenses	N/A	Bacs				24.40		24.40
	Mark Instance	Village maintenance	15	Bacs				65.00		65.00
	Cloud Next Ltd	Domain Name Renewal	172681	Bacs				132.00	22.00	110.00
<b>Totals</b>							<u>40,035.02</u>	577.56	24.68	552.88
							39,457.46			