

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 **10th OCTOBER 2022 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	Yes
R. Kirkland	Parish Councillor	Yes
N. Nicholson	Parish Councillor	Yes
A. Parker	Parish Councillor	No
D. Garrod	District Councillor	No
P. Schwier	County Councillor	No
L. Brown	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes

3 Members of public

22/112 **Apologies for Absence**

Cllr Parker

Resolution: Accept apologies for absence.

Proposer: Cllr Kehr **Seconded:** Cllr Turner – Unanimously agreed.

22/113 **Members' Declarations of interest**

None declared for this meeting.

22/114 **Public Forum**

The contractor that clears up the bins and bus shelters in the village would like to increase their costs as they have been doing the work for many years and haven't increased their prices. Council to consider this at their next meeting.

A member of the public questioned if the agenda had been posted on the website – it had but there was a date on the website not related to the agenda that may have confused things.

Members of the public were concerned with regards to the hunt that passed through the village, which has caused some damage and distress to residents' pets. The Council have received an apology from the Master of the hunt and will address this issue at their next meeting. In the meantime, those that have had incidents should report them to the Police rural engagement team.

22/115 **Minutes**

Resolution: Approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 11th July 2022 as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Kehr – Unanimously agreed.

Resolution: Approve the minutes of the Council meeting held on 12th September 2022 as a true record.

Proposer: Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Kehr – Unanimously agreed.

22/116 **District & County Councillors Reports** (Appendix A)

Reports in appendix.

22/117 **Clerks Report** (Appendix B)

Notices the Clerk receives regarding suspicious activity to be distributed via the village email system.

The Council decided not to donate to the Essex Air Ambulance.

22/118 **Action Tracker** (Appendix C)

Council would also like to get quotes to make the wall on the cricket ground safe as well as repair quotes. The Council currently have a quote from a builder.

Clerk to remove set up of new email account from tracker.

Clerk to remind Malcolm to quote for Noticeboard repair and playground work.

Clerk to send letter to Cllr Schwier regarding highways and flooding issues.

Risk register and Asset register to go on next agenda.

VAS and SID's can be removed from the agenda.

The Council have noted that people have started to use the telephone box and noticed games being left in there for others to share.

22/119 **Finance** (Appendix D)

Resolution: Agree payments for this month, payments circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Proposer: Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Kehr – Unanimously agreed.

Cllr Kehr appointed as authoriser.

22/119.1 **Grants**

No grants.

22/119.2 **Budget**

No comments on the current budget.

Council agreed to meet informally to discuss the budget for 2023/24 and go over the asset register in November, prior to the November Full Council meeting.

22/119.3 **Clerk's Salary**

Resolution: Agree a Clerk salary increase, back dated to May 2022. Clerk salary increased to SCP13.

Proposer: Cllr Turner **Seconded:** Cllr Kehr – Unanimously agreed.

22/120 **Risk Register**

Deferred, to be removed from agenda and kept on Action Tracker.

22/121 **Asset Register**

Deferred.

22/122 **New Planning Applications**

There was a re-consultation on prior application which the comments made by the Planning Committee in September still stand. The Council object to this application but note and approve of a change to remove the access gates.

22/123 **WASC – Prison Development Proposal**

WASC has produced a number of reports detailing the natural surroundings and how prisons operate and that the current proposal doesn't meet the Home Offices' own guidelines. The reports also highlight that this development is a potential steppingstone for further development.

Resolution: Agree a donation of £100 to help WASC.

Proposer: Cllr Nicholson **Seconded:** Cllr Turner – Unanimously agreed.

22/124 **Flooding in the Village**

Letter to go to Cllr Schwier regarding blocked drains and flooding issues, Clerk to CC in Cllr Garrod.

22/125 **Playground**

No comments.

22/125.1 **Playground Annual Inspection**

Clerk to action annual inspection.

22/126 **Highways and Footpaths**

No comments.

22/126.1 **Hedges and Trees Trimming**

Essex Highways are investigating the issue up camps road with over hanging trees.
Cllr Nicholson to investigate land registry details on behalf of the Council.

22/126.2 **VAS or SID Illuminated Sign**

Remove from agenda.

22/126.3 **Culvert Clearance Quote**

Wait to see if Essex County Council will action.

22/126.4 **HGV Traffic**

Email to go out to the village asking for reports of incidents that the Council can bring to the company's attention. – Clerk to action.

22/127 **Handyman Fund Projects**

No comments.

22/128 **Resources for Teenagers**

No comments.

22/129 **Stansted Airport**

Cllr Nicholson has produced a letter to go Stansted Airport and National Air Traffic Services (NATS).

22/130 **Matters to be Raised by Members for the Next Agenda**

Contractor costs increase.

22/131 **Date of the Next Meeting**

Next Full Council Meeting 14th of November 2022.

22/132 **Meeting Close**

@ 9:29 PM

Signed.....

Dated.....

Clerk to the Council: Luke Brown
72 St. Edmunds Fields, Great Dunmow,
Essex, CM6 2AN
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APPENDIX A

District Councillor's Report October 2022 to Parish Councils
(Cllr. Diana Garrod - Bumpstead Ward)

Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

Intended closure of Hill Lane, Sturmer Road. Due to commence on 9th December 2022 for 5 days whilst Gigaclear Ltd undertakes network repair.

Intended closure of Wiggens Green. Due to commence on 10th October 2022 whilst Essex County Council undertakes carriageway patching.

Community Funding Applications Now Open

Essex County Council's Community Challenge Fund is now open for applications. Grants of £300 to £5,000 are now available to fund a new, not for profit scheme, group, initiative or idea.

<https://www.essexfuture.org.uk/community-fund>

Covid-19

The national news says there were 9,631 people in hospital with coronavirus as of 8am on 5th October 2022. This is a 37% increase on last week (7,024) and the highest figure since 3rd August. Those aged 85 or over have the most cases, suggesting that care must be taken when having contact with elderly people. Cambridge University Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust say that, as of 5th October, they had 97 patients in hospital; an increase of 109.1% on the previous 7 days. West Suffolk NHS Foundation Trust says there were 56 patients in hospital on 5th October; an increase of 77.8% on the previous 7 days.

Ukraine

The Braintree District has welcomed a number of Ukrainian guests into the district and in particular under the Homes for Ukraine Scheme. Ukrainian refugees were also welcomed under a visitor visa and under a family visa. We currently know of one household in the family scheme and approximately 90 households on the Homes for Ukraine scheme. To date, only one placement made under the Homes for Ukraine scheme has broken down and the household was supported by the Council to find an alternative placement out of areas. Beginners language classes continue in Braintree. Officers supported the Ukrainian Independence Day event held at Braintree Town Hall. Over 45 people attended and celebrated with traditional song, dance and dress. To date the Cashier's team have paid 198 payments to guests (for 90 families) from funding

made available by Central Government under the Homes for Ukraine scheme amounting to £39.6k of immediate financial support.

Finance News – as at 31st August 2022:-

Collection of Council Tax achieved 48.2% which is a similar level of performance to that achieves last year. Amount collected £52.5m. Business Rates collection was 47.9%, which is an improvement over the last two years for the same period. Amount collected £20.7m.

The Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund for Businesses (CARF), £974k had been paid to 182 business accounts. The Council promoted the scheme extensively to encourage businesses that might be eligible to apply before the scheme expired at the end of September.

Energy Rebate Scheme (Main Scheme – Council Tax Bands A-D) 44,700 rebates totalling £6.7m had been paid by end of August, with a further 5,540 or £831k being offset against taxpayers' accounts. The team were continuing to apply offsets where no response had been received from customers requesting details to pay their Energy Rebate. The scheme ended on 30th September.

Discretionary Energy Rebate Scheme has been launched with 264 customers having been paid totalling £36.9k, and a further 4 offsets against Council Tax accounts (£600) by end of August. The Council continues to highlight the scheme to encourage those who might be eligible to apply to maximise the use of available funding before the end of November.

The Council is currently in the process of inviting applications for reassessment against the Business Rate Discretionary Scheme from charitable, non-profit making bodies and community amateur sports clubs. The scheme currently allocates around £270k of business rate relief to 160 organisations. New applications will also be accepted against the scheme.

Street Scene Enforcement

I am pleased to report that the Council has seen a 12.8% reduction in the number of fly-tips in the first 4 months of this financial year (to end August) compared with the same period last year.

The Street Scene Enforcement Team has been working with the Housing Team to establish a support group where people with complex needs attend a meeting and support is put in place to assist the person/s in sustaining a tenancy. It is hoped that this will reduce antisocial behaviour and its impact on others, as well as the number of evictions necessary.

Environmental Services – Unauthorised Encampments

The Public Health and Housing Team worked with Essex Countywide Traveller Unit to monitor 6 unauthorised encampments so far this year. (Gt. Saling, Thistledown, Ft. Notley Country Park, Rickstones Rd; Witham, Braintree Rugby Club, Cressing Sports & Social Club). All the encampments moved on following eviction. The Sites involved were checked and were found to be left in a reasonably clean condition with waste bagged and collated ready for collection.

Energy Efficiency: ECO or ECO Flex

352 households have signed up this year so far for either the ECO or ECO Flex Scheme. The ECO scheme provides an opportunity for those on an income or disability related benefit to qualify for partial or fully funded replacement of old or defective boilers or for the installation of energy efficient insulation measures. The ECO Flex offers similar grants but with a broader qualifying criterion; for those on a state pension, on a low income of less than £30,000, have savings of less than £16,000, have a long-term health condition or disability, have young children or for those that are currently pregnant.

Rural Prosperity Funding

The Council has provisionally been awarded £589,191 capital money by the government from the Rural Prosperity Fund. This is acting as a capital ‘top up’ to Shared Prosperity Funding for rural areas. The fund is to spend in years 2023/24 and 2024/5 on supporting rural businesses to develop new products and facilities that will be of benefit to the wider economy, or supporting new and improved community infrastructure for the benefit of the local economy. An investment plan will be submitted to Cabinet for agreement before submitting to government by the deadline of 30th November.

Five Year Housing Supply

At the start of September the Council published its roll forward for the 5 year housing land supply. This roll forward showed that against a target of 4,986 homes the Council is only able to provide sufficient evidence for the delivery of 4,848 new homes. This means that the Councils housing land supply currently stands at 4.86 years. For the determination of planning applications this means that the decision maker must make a decision on the ‘titled balance’, where the need for new homes has significant weight and negatives of the development must significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits of new housing.

Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner

A reminder that people can put questions to Roger Hirst, Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex:- Uttlesford PFCC Public Meeting – 13th October 2022 at 7pm Saffron Walden Town Hall.

Cllr. Diana Garrod
Braintree District Councillor - Bumpstead Ward

APPENDIX B

Clerk’s Report

Correspondence

I have received an email about potential suspicious vehicle, a white double cab pickup with beige agricultural hard top back in the village.

The Council has been requested to donate to Essex Air Ambulance.

I have made enquiries for Remembrance Day; I’m hoping Jenny from Steeple has made the arrangements.

Other News

Recycling bags are being delivered to residents in Braintree this month extras have been requested for the village to be delivered to the Chair.

APPENDIX C

Council Meeting	Reference	Details	Status
July '21	21/150	Update website	CLlr Kehr to review website
Sept '21	21/170	Obtain quotes for works for repairing wall on cricket ground	CLlr Kehr to action
Sept '21	21/176	Set up email accounts for the CLlrs	1 account left to set up
May 2022	22/39	Contact Mr. Cox regarding securing play equipment to the ground – Waiting for quote	Clerk to action
May 2022	22/42	Drapers Lane notice board repairs	Clerk to action
June 2022	22/55	Speak to the PPT regarding install of cricket nets	CLlr Turner to action
July 2022	22/73	Contact BDC regarding playground repairs	Clerk to action
July 2022	22/73	Contact other playground companies for repairs	Clerk to action
July 2022	22/73	Contact CCLlr Schwier regarding highways issues	Clerk to action
July 2022	22/76	Review the Risk Register	CLlrs Kirkland, Etheridge and Kehr to action
July 2022	22/77	Update asset register	Clerk to action
July 2022	22/79	Create report to send to CLlr Schwier regarding blocked road drains	CLlr Parker to action
July 2022	22/81.2	Investigate installing VAS or SID's	CLlrs Etheridge and Turner to coordinate
July 2022	22/83	Contact Allison with regards to moving the telephone box and ask if there is support from the community to do this	CLlr Kehr to action

APPENDIX D

Date	Supplier	Description	Invoice	FPO/DD	Min Ref	Rec	Credit	Debit	VAT	Net
Opening Balance							46,896.97	-		-
	Employee	Salary - October	N/A	BACS				304.98		304.98
	Employee	Expenses - October	N/A	BACS				24.40		24.40
	Mark Istance	Bus Shelter & Bins	30	BACS				65.00		65.00
	DRAX	Electricity - September	INV 2787/88	DD				54.59	2.60	51.99
	HBCBS	Grant	N/A	BACS				425.00		425.00
Totals								873.97	2.60	871.37
								46,023.00		