

# HELIONS BUMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

## ATTENDANCE

NAME	POSITION	PRESENT
C Brown	Chairman	Yes
S. Kehr	Vice Chair	Yes
N. Nicholson	Parish Councillor	Yes
A Parker	Parish Councillor	Yes
S. Cunningham	Parish Councillor	Apologies
N Turner	Parish Councillor	Apologies
R Kirkland	Parish Councillor	Yes
D. Garrod	District Councillor	Apologies
D. Finch	County Councillor	Apologies
C. Carlisle	Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer	Yes

3 members of the public attended

### 19/175 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Cunningham, Cllr Turner, DC Garrod, CC Finch

### 19/176 Members' declarations of interest

Cllr Nicholson, Cllr Kehr HBCBS  
Cllr Kehr VHMC

### 19/177 Public forum

A resident asked who is responsible for the debris on the road from moving straw from neighbouring farms. Cllrs thought it would be the contractor rather than the farmer, the Clerk will check this and report back at the next meeting.

A resident asked why the Agenda wasn't on the website, the Clerk apologised saying the Agenda was uploaded onto the website, but there was an error message during upload. The Clerk will look into this issue and once again apologised. The agenda has now been reloaded to the website. Cllr Nicholson did say that the agenda was on the notice board and that Happy Paws was on the agenda

Mr Mckenna asked if they hadn't come to the meeting how would we get any questions answered. The Clerk stated the Parish Council would have written to Mr & Mrs Mckenna to ask any questions if the council required any further clarification. The Parish Council were pleased that Mr Mckenna and Katie attended the meeting to discuss their new business "Happy Paws".

The District Councillor Diana Garrod had received numerous concerns from residents about Paddock View "Happy Paws". Residents are concerned about Noise, Footpaths,

and Change of Use. How many dogs will be on site at one time and security of the perimeter fencing.

Mr McKenna informed the council that "Happy Paws" will be Kennelling overnight and day boarding. The McKenna's have already started their new business and to date there has been no problems.

Councillor Nicholson raised a question about boundary fencing and the potential need for need 2 secure boundary fences, meaning the kennels and other existing fencing around the perimeter of the property. The Parish council will review the legislation and discuss this at their next meeting. The Parish Council stated that they had no jurisdiction over licencing of the kennels and would pass on any concerns to the relevant authority.

The council discussed the following concerns:

- Due to it being a small business there is no need for change of use permission.
- Mrs Simmons land backs on to the McKenna's land, at present there is no fence and this was a concern. Mr McKenna has agreed with Mrs Simmons that a fence would be erected.
- The dogs are fenced in kennels of the correct size, and they have a fenced in exercise area.
- There is a concern about dogs barking from residents, Mr McKenna stated there is a clause in their admission form, stating if a dog is a problem they could refuse it. Access to the kennels will be down the drive to Park View.
- They are licensed for 6 dogs at a time and 3 of which are the owners. The Licence has been issued by the District Council, the licence lasts for 1 year.
- If Mr & Mrs McKenna want to increase the number of kennels and dogs boarded they will have to contact the District Council about licensing.

The Clerk agreed that she would keep in touch with the McKenna's to keep an open dialogue in case she received any further concerns.

19/178 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> August 2019, were **approved** and signed as a true record of the meeting.

#### 19/179 Finance Report

##### Payments

19/179.1	£309.66	Cathryn Carlisle	Clerk's Salary	BACs
19/179.2	£56.24	Haven	Lighting	D/D
19/179.3	£19.99	BT	Telephone	D/D
19/179.4	£17.00	Cathryn Carlisle	Expenses	BACs
19/179.5	£500.00	Malcolm Cox	Oak Tree	
19/179.6	£360.00	PKF Littlejohn	Audit	Bacs

19/179.7	£52.80	CB Mowers	Mower repair	Bacs
19/179.10	£20.60	M Catchside	Mag Dist.	Bacs
19/179.11	£195.01	Silverton's (Clerk Paid)	Play Bark	Bacs

Payments were **approved** by all members of the council present.  
Cllr Parker Checked the invoices after the meeting.

19/179.8 Month Bank Statement and Monthly Budget Form

The Clerk had sent out the Bank Statement and monthly budget form prior to the meeting. These were **approved** by all members of the council present. The Clerk asked for Cllrs to think of any projects they would like to be included in next year's budget. To let the Clerk have costings before the next meeting.

The Clerk to send out the Grant Forms

19/179.9 External Auditors Report

The smaller authority has not restated the 2017/18 figure when revaluing assets in section 2 Box 9. Please note that the Practitioners' Guide allows smaller authorities to use any reasonable valuation method, provided that the prior year figure is restated for consistency and comparability. The Council felt that this was nothing major and took the comments on board.

19/180 Clerk's Report

The Clerk has reported the Finger Posts which has been broken at the junction with Steeple Bumpstead Road.

There are concerns about the 5 shipping containers at Drapers, the Enforcement Officer has visited the site and saw no evidence of people living in the containers. The Enforcement Officer would need proof of people living in them, for any further enforcement.

Camps Road Hedges have been Cut

19/181 District Councillor's Report

No report

19/182 County Councillor's Report

No Report

19/183 Reports from Councillors with Matters affecting the village

- The Clerk will do a report from the joint group meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> September.
- The Clerk will look into the Website uploading issue.
- The new arrangement by the VHMC that they will not be organising whole – village events it will be done by a newly formed a Village Events Committee.

- Cllr Nicholson would like to see a dropbox/shared area so councillors can put thing on there. This will be looked at when looking at the new website.
- Cllr Nicholson has made some efforts to find a suitable gardening enthusiast to after the planters outside the village hall.
- Legal Review  
COUNCIL PRECEPT & THE GOVERNMENT’S DESIRE TO CAP  
Historically, Parish Councils were able to raise a ‘rate’ from the time of their establishment in 1894; this was then linked to their then duties under the Poor Laws. Rates were levied on non-domestic and domestic property until 1990, when the rates were replaced by the Community Charge and then the Council Tax.

The Local Council sector raises a precept as part of the Council Tax demand sent to residents. Each Parish Council forecasts how much money it is going to need the following year. This forecast is then divided by the number of properties in the Parish that fall into Band D Council Tax bands. This figure is adjusted to take account of such things as exempt properties and planned new houses. The final figure equates to the precept each property is taxed.

It was during 2016 that the Government stated its plan to extend referendum principles to Parish Councils. NALC responded with a firm opposition to these plans having conducted an extensive survey and consultation to Parish Councils and County Associations.

It was with great relief to the Sector that in March 2017 NALC could report that the Government had decided not to extend Council Tax referendum principles to any size of Parish for the 2017/18 financial year. Looking forward to 2019/20 we must remember that the then Minister Sajid Javid MP warned the sector to demonstrate restraint stressing that extending Council Tax referendums to Parishes was not off the table.

Consultation on 5G masts making them permitted development, and should it be compulsory purchased. The Council decided to input into the consultation that the parish council should have control of any such developments.

#### 19/184 Highways Issues: Clerk to report

##### 19/184.1 Speeding in the village

LHP forms have been sent in for additional speeding surveys.

The Clerk is getting the Speed Gun calibrated so we can get Speed Watch training organised and Community Speed Watch restarted.

#### 19/185 Footpath update

Footpath 61 the bridge requires mending

#### 19/186 Helions Bumpstead Recreation Ground

The Clerk has ordered 3 Bags of Play Bark to go on the play area.

#### 19/187 Village Enhancement

##### 19.187.1 To discuss village repairs

The Basket Ball hoop has been pulled down, it's been removed at the moment do to safety concerns, until the Council has looked into other ways of securing the Basket Ball hoop and making it higher. Cllr Nicholson to speak to Andrew Gage to see if he could help with this.

##### 19/187.2 Oak Tree

The Oak Tree has been taken down. The Clerk has been in touch with Malcom Cox about cutting back the cherry tree.

Mr and Mrs Robins said they had some concerns about of the trees around the boundary of their property, and asked if we could reduce some of the trees down by 6-10 ft.

The Clerk to get a Tree Survey done in the copse.

#### 19/188 Consultations /Publications sent

Braintree Local Plan consultation, Councillors felt that Haverhill was more of a threat than the WoB.

#### 19/189 Forward Planning

##### 19/189.1 Parish Plan

Cllrs agreed that it would be a good idea to have a separate meeting, with other village associations to define a new Parish Plan

#### 19/190 Website

EALC are launching a replacement to Essex info on the 19<sup>th</sup> September, the council will review the new website to see if it is a suitable replacement for our existing website.

#### 19/191 Neighbourhood Watch

No Update

#### 19/192 Welcome letter/Pack

Clerk to add Helions Bumpstead Mutual Support Network information.

#### 19/193 Planning

See Public participation

#### 19/194 Emergency Plan

The Clerk has been updating Emergency Plan and will add the Helions Mutual Support Network

#### 19/195 Items for information and inclusion on next meeting's agenda

19/196 Date of the next meeting 14th October 2019

19/197 Meeting Closed at 9.15 pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

Clerk to the Council: Cathryn Carlisle  
Herkstead Green Bungalow, Cornish Hall End, Braintree, Essex CM7 4HH  
01440 731964 07766 112536