

ST. IPPOLYTS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of St. Ippolyts Parish Council held on Monday 11th March 2024 at St Ippolyts Parish Hall.
Welcome to the Meeting of St Ippolyts Parish Council.

ATTENDANCE DETAILS

Cllrs. Mrs Pamela Skeggs (Chairman), Mrs Rebecca Elliott, Mr Peter Hobson, Mr Daryl Hayler and Mrs Jane Lintott.
In attendance: one member of the public with clerk Mrs Susan Mears.
Also present: NHC & HCC Cllr Mr Richard Thake (part)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Mr Jon Marsh, Mrs Louisa Knapp, Mr Robert Moore and NHC Cllr Mrs Claire Strong.

2. CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Members are reminded that any declarations of interest in respect of any business set out in the agenda should be declared.

3. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

Copies of the Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th February 2024 have been circulated to each member of the Council.

Resolved. The minutes be approved as a true and accurate record of the procedures and be duly signed by the Chairman.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

St Ippolyts Football Club secretary Mr Andrew Parsons discussed drainage issues at the recreation ground on the football pitch near goal and penalty area. Non evasive Verti-draining treatment by a specialist discussed £250.00 exc VAT per treatment and it was discussed three treatments recommended in a year. Cllr Mr Thake discussed locality budget funding available for one treatment to be matched by SIFC and this was agreed by the Football Club. Cllr Mr Thake referred to other possible drainage solutions for future discussions.

Resolved It was agreed by Parish Council to apply for locality funding and to fund one treatment. Clerk to obtain contractor details from SIFC and place the order.

Mr Parsons reported repairs to the Pavilion door undertaken and a leak in a kitchen storage cupboard will be resolved. Discussions ongoing with Hitchin Belles Football Club and possible discussions with an under 14's Sunday team to commence.

5. REPORTS FROM COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS, POLICE AND OTHERS

Cllr Mr Thake referred to budget increases and discussed Speed and Volume surveys in the pipeline. The Gosmore Footpath Scheme and S106 from the S11 development discussed, Cllr Mrs Skeggs referred to the NHC Planning Control Committee meeting on 15 February and NH Cllr Mrs Strong's support. Cllr Mrs Skeggs raised the question of potential land ownership issues.

6. CLERK'S REPORT

Signed agreement received for use of Gosmore Village Green 27th April - 29th June, Saturdays at 7.30am for fitness classes. Signed agreement received for use of Gosmore Village Green Sunday mornings for Folk Dancing

Defibrillator locations discussed by a resident. Cllr Mrs Elliott confirmed the defibrillator at The Bull has been relocated to The Bird in Hand and Cllr Mr Hayler advised there is one at Tall Trees. Pound Farm developer Osprey Home has confirmed a defibrillator on the site and there is one located at the Parish Hall which is registered with HeartSafe. Information supplied from Hall caretaker to register on <https://www.defibfinder.uk/> Hall caretaker advised it needs new electro tray and battery expires 22nd June.

Resolved Information to be obtained and order placed.

St Ippolyts Football Club secretary Andrew Parsons emailed an update on the club's season. See also item 4).

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Resident concerns over fly tipping Footpath 11 adjacent to Waterdell Lane and Half Handkerchief Lane received, clerk reported to landowner and received reply it will be removed. Resident reported highways issue broken bollard London Road, clerk received reply work has taken place.

Attended NHC Elections briefing - 6 March. Notice of Election 22.03.24 Nominations close 05.04.24. information will be circulated.

7. UPDATE ON ON-GOING MATTERS AND AGREE NEXT ACTIONS

a) Chairman's update.

Completed HAPTC survey. Attended Annual meeting of Hertfordshire Parish, Town and Community Councils and County Cllrs on 5th March. St Ippolyts Parish Hall AGM on 13th March.

b) Consultations

None.

c) Maintenance and repairs

Rowan Grove Graffiti on rear of noticeboard and bins reported to Steve Westwood.

St Ippolyts Village Green Wild Cherry Tree, crown lift required reported to NHC Andrew Mills who confirmed work will be carried out. Footpath 14. Tree down reported to HCC Rights of Way Robert Lloyd, removal confirmed, Cllr Mr Hobson confirmed tree removed.

Tree work identified in tree safety inspection to be carried out within 6 months:

Dell Field

T9 - Remove upper branches and stems to a desired height from which a new crown will regenerate.

T10 - Monolith tree to 2 m height, retain standing stem as habitat.

T11-Remove tree to ground level.

Gosmore Village Green

T4 - Remove tree to ground level.

T5 - Remove 2 x failed limbs; Pollard remaining stem to just above union at 2.5m height

T6 - Remove limb growing across lane back to main stem.

Resolved. Councillors to review the report.

Further 6 trees identified that require work within 12 months, to be discussed at later date.

Cllr Mr Hayler emailed concerns over a highways issue, erosion edge of Gosmore Village Green.

Resolved Matter to be reported to Highways.

Cllr Mr Hayler also emailed concern over a resident's tree and will forward a photograph.

d) Play areas, equipment and pavilion visual inspection

Clerk requested the visual inspection rota is signed at the meeting.

Resolved. Agreed by councillors.

8. PLANNING

a) Planning Applications

24/00035/FPH at 24 - 26 Mill Lane, Gosmore. Installation of rear 2m boundary fence and closeboard gates.

Resolved. Clerk to request extension of time and councillors to review.

23/02945/FPH at 70 Waterdell Lane, St Ippolyts. Part two storey and part single storey rear extension, alterations to front fenestration including removal of garage door and relocation of front door (amended plans received 15.02.2024 and description amended 22.02.2024)

Resolved. It was agreed there was no objection.

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24/00346/FPH at 6 Gosmore Ley Close, Gosmore. Single storey rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory.

Resolved. It was agreed there was no objection.

24/00420/FP at Land To The West Of, Hitchin Lane (Folly Lane). Installation of a new vehicular access off Hitchin Lane together with associated field gate and hard surface.

Resolved. Councillors to review.

Received after Agenda Pack published:

24/00282/LBC at Maydencroft Manor, Maydencroft Lane, Gosmore. Alterations to partitions on first floor level of the East Wing. Insertion of metal framed leaded light casements to new east elevation windows previously permitted as timber frame casements. Insertion of conservation roof light on the east (rear) elevation.

Resolved. Councillors to review.

24/00443/FPH at 2 Waterdell Lane, St Ippolyts. Two storey front extension with open sided porch. Alterations to fenestration.

Resolved. Councillors to review.

b) NHC Planning Decisions

23/01659/LBC at Brookend Farm House, St Ippolyts. Replacement front door, door case and pediment. Refused 29.02.24. *Supported by Parish Council.*

c) Planning Enforcement

The Bull PH. NHC Planning Officer Tim Bloomfield advised an investigation undertaken and when site visited there was no sign of any vehicle repairs taking place, either at the rear of the property or on the highway, the property appeared to be unoccupied, Estate Agents contacted for further details of the purchaser/lessee.

Clerk advised residents to provide additional details as to where the vehicle repairs are taking place, Cllr Mr Thake also notified. Matter chased with NHC Christella Menson.

9. FINANCE

a) Payments and Receipts

Payments and Receipts

The following payments were requested:-

- a) £83.82 (inc £13.97 VAT) from John O Conner (Litter bins February)
- b) £1500.00 (inc £250.00 VAT) from Maydencroft Ltd (tree Safety Inspection)
- c) £30.00 from Garden Valet (Graffiti removal Rowan Grove)
- d) £100.00 from Cllr Mrs Pamela Skeggs (chairman allowance)
- e) 1368.00 (inc. £150.00 VAT) from Maydencroft Ltd (Ash reduction Gosmore Green)
- f) £2.60 from Clerk (Travel Allowance)
- g) £106.09 (inc £4.02 VAT) from Clerk (Admin-Microsoft 365 annual renewal, laptop care, zoom, stationary, postage, CPRE seminars)
- h) £58.22 (inc. £9.70 VAT) from Talk Talk (Phone and broadband)
- i) £782.32 from Clerk (March Salary).

Resolved The total payment of £4031.05 was approved.

The following receipts submitted:-

- a) £25.00 from Rainmakers International Folk Dancing (open space hire)
- b) £25.00 from Sam Scott Fitness (open space hire)
- c) £1240.64 from (HMRC) VAT return.

Total receipts £1290.64.

b) Orders and Quotations

Quote received from Clements Play Management Services.

Dell Field

Repaint horse. £140.00 plus vat

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Slide.remove graffiti £15.00 plus vat
Flat swings. supply and fit 4 x new swing bushes and shackles. £60.00 plus vat
Clean safety surfaces. £300.00 plus vat
Recreation Ground
Clean safety surfaces. £300.00 plus vat
Hedgehog. Remove graffiti £15.00 plus vat
Flat Swings. Rust treat and paint top bar £80.00 plus vat
Supply and fit 4 x swing bushes and shackles £60.00 plus vat
Five a side goals. Rub down and repaint 2 x goal frames £180.00 plus vat
reinstate 2 x goal areas with soil and turf £250.00 plus vat
Gosmore Village Green
Clean safety surface £60.00 plus vat
Resolved. Agreed.

c) 2023-2024 Audit

Internal Auditor appointed, date confirmed 1st May with Herts Internal Audit Services.

10. NEW ISSUES

a) Review and Approve Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment and Management documents.

Clerk circulated the Financial Regulations, Risk Assessment & Management documents and Mandatory Standing Orders to be reviewed.

Resolved Agreed and approved.

b) Complaint from Member of the Public

Matter to report only. Member of the public requested a councillor declaration of interest, clerk forwarded information and referred to NHC website, Complaints Procedure and Code of Conduct also forwarded. Advice received from HAPTC. Complaint does not relate to the councillor acting in their capacity as a parish councillor. Councillors complete a declaration of interest form to register their declarable interests within their Council area.

11. DATES OF MEETINGS

The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Meeting, to be held on Monday 8th April 2024 at 7:15pm at the Parish Hall, followed by the Parish Council Meeting.

Meeting dates for 2024 agreed as follows: -

Monday: 13 May (AGM), 10 June, 8 July, 9 September, 14 October, and 11 November.
All meetings start at 7.30pm, except for the April meeting which starts at 7.15pm.

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.10pm.