

ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr. Julian Vischer
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2015/01/168

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 22nd January 2015 at Two Mile Ash School at 7.30pm (postponed from 15th January)

Present: Cllrs E. Matthews (Chairman) S. Galbraith, Dr. A Evans, K. Wilson. + 2 residents: Mrs Windmill (High St), & Mrs Janice Cristoe (High St.)

Clerk: J. Vischer

1. **Apologies** Cllr. D. Lewis
2. **Public Open Forum** Mrs Windmill reported that paint was already coming off the new bollards just installed to replace the old wooden ones. Clerk to report.
Both Mrs Windmill & Mrs Cristoe were concerned about the increase in parking along their section of the High St during school drop-off and pick-up times since the painting of the new yellow lines. Also more drivers were parking their vehicles up on the kerb, substantially reducing the pavement width. They were advised to report these infractions (to 101 and MK Council) as often as they occurred because then the authorities could build up a dossier of evidence to justify action. The proposed kerb alterations put forward by the Parish Council would take time. Both residents asked if the pampas grass plants were going to be removed completely. The plan is that they will stay but now be appropriately looked after with regular cutting back.
3. **Approval of December Minutes & any Matters Arising.** Approved. *Proposer Chair, Seconder Cllr. Wilson, passed. Unanimous.*
4. **Clerk's Report**
 - a. **Bollard renovation quotation** – the proposed price of £4,594.01 was agreed, and in addition – at MK council's insistence – it was agreed to pay the amount in advance. Proposer Chair, Seconder Cllr Galbraith, passed. Unanimous. It was agreed to insist that the Parish Council had a meeting to sign-off the quality of the work before the contractors were paid.
 - b. **Parish Walkabout** – After being contacted by the clerk the officer Andy Hudson had suggested meeting when the new contractors had finished their schedule in order to see what may have been left out. However when asked when this might be it turned out to be at the end of the pruning schedule which the clerk suggested was unacceptable. All agreed it was too long to wait. Clerk to pursue a date every week from now on.
 - c. **Overgrowing shrubs** at the corner of Kepwick / High St – *re-reported 24 Nov; ref 4507842 – 'In progress'.*
 - d. **Flooding outside no's 167 and 169 Clay Hill** – *reported 17 Nov. ref 446572 – 'In progress'*
 - e. **Wymbush footbridge by Lodge Lake** (Parks Trust) – *reported 24 Nov. No report back.*
 - f. **[Footpath in the Park** – *reported 20 Oct. ref 430877 - passed on to Highways by Environment]*
 - g. **Garamonde Drive overgrowing shrubs** – *reported 24 Sep; ref 412277 – 'In progress'.* Cllr. Evans pointed out that these shrubs ran along the edge of the redway to the East side of Great Monks Street and so were not 'Garamonde Drive'. Clerk to alter and re-report.
 - h. **Kiln Farm redway** by Monks Way - *reported 24 Sep; ref 412508 – 'In progress'*
 - i. **High St.** behind Dentists – *re-reported 12 Sep; ref 402567 – 'In progress'*
 - j. **TMA School** – invitation to meet. The school had postponed the proposed meeting at the last minute.
 - k. **Parish Council Communication – email and newsletter** – this had been circulated prior to the

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meeting. Cllr. Galbraith was congratulated on the quality of the newsletter. This to be circulated to the email group and put up on the Friends page after final proofread. It was agreed to publish every quarter and keep with 2 page format until it seemed necessary to change. Councillors were requested to submit actual text to the editor (Cllr. Galbraith) and not just submit ideas. The clerk would proofread prior to publication and circulate.

- l.* **The wooden bridge** behind the school field. *reported 20 Oct. ref. 431229 – ‘Closed’.*
- m.* **Brioche Car Park Floodlighting** – the clerk had contacted Eric Jouet, Industrial Director, Brioche Pasquier UK. It turned out that the floodlights had been dipped down promptly after the initial complaints.
- n.* **Xmas Tree illuminations** – the clerk had arranged to meet with the contractor Lamps & Tubes Illuminations on 10th Feb at 10am to discuss possible schemes. Councillors were invited to attend.
- o.* **Hole on the Approach verge** – Following the request for action the clerk had been contacted by Sheila Baker from MK Council to explain that the hole had been dug by MK contractors to facilitate in the repair of a recurring flood within the building that belonged to Midsummer Housing Association at 8 Ellesborough Grove. As this had been a courtesy and not their responsibility MK Council felt that the finishing off - i.e. the filling-in of the hole – should be done by the Housing Association – when and if the repairs were complete. The clerk had not managed to contact anyone from the Association who knew about this.
- p.* **Flooding in the Park** – the clerk had received an update from Phil Snell stating that he had instructed the Fix-it Team to ‘dig out’ the area but as this clearly was not enough he was going to re-assess the situation. After some discussion it was agreed that the Parish Council would be willing to commit funds towards getting some proper drainage put in as clearly the original agricultural drainage was no longer effective. Clerk

- 5.* **Parish Report Leaflet** – three more edits had been passed around and this was now agreed as the final document subject to the inclusion of the precept decision.

6. **Finance.**

Cheques for authorisation. The following cheques were approved for payment:

<i>Chq No.</i>	<i>To Whom</i>	<i>gross</i>	<i>Vat</i>
871	J Vischer - salary	333.16	
872	A H Contracts - 7723	171.08	28.51
873	Lamps & Tubes	385.20	64.20
874	TMA School	17.00	
	Totals	£906.44	£92.71

Balances:

This showed a current account credit balance of £1,143, which tallied with the latest bank statement, and an overall balance of £10,985 for available funds (+ reserves).

- b.* **Precept** – prior to discussing the precept it was agreed to alter the agreed budget figure to £25,807 (it had been at £25,190) due to the reduction in the actual quote for the bollards and a discrepancy in the negative carry-forward. *Proposer Chair, Seconder Cllr. Wilson, passed. Unanimous.*

The precept was discussed in detail and two proposals were put forward:

- 1.* To precept for the entire budget amount working out at approximately £18 per band D household. *Proposer: Cllr. Galbraith, Seconder: None. Not accepted.*

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2. To precept for £14,471 in order to continue to run down the reserves - working out at approximately £10 per band D household, which was the last precept prior to 3 years of zero precept. *Proposer Chair, Seconder Cllr. Wilson; carried: 3 For and 1 Against.*

6. Planning Applications.

Previous Applications None

NEW – The revised street plan drawing for Fairfield in the Western Expansion Area was examined.

10. Correspondence and Grant requests

The Parks Trust annual programme was circulated in addition to that circulated by email.

There were no grant requests.

11. Other Meetings

No-one had attended the NAG meeting. Minutes had been circulated by email.

12. New Items

a. Councillors –

- i. **Overgrowing shrubs along footpaths on both sides of Monks Way** from the redway by the brook towards the golf course entrance. Clerk to report.
- ii. **The parking area along the High St on the west side** does not have individual bays marked and cars tend to be parked in an inefficient and wasteful way. Clerk to report.
- iii. **To create a new parking bay in the verge along the High St by Cambron** to alleviate the parking congestion lower down the High St – clerk to submit idea to MK Council.

b. Residents - None

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Thursday 19th February 2015 at 7.30pm at TMA School

The Meeting closed at 8.50pm

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