

ABBHEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr Julian Vischer
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2015/03/174

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19th March 2015 at Two Mile Ash School at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs E. Matthews (Chairman) S. Galbraith, D. Lewis, K. Wilson. + Dan Pearson MK Rugby Union Football Club (MKRUFC) & 5 residents: Janice Cristoe, Mrs Windmill, Mrs Shulver, Brent 'Che' Johnston & Siobhan

Clerk: J. Vischer

1. **Apologies** Cllr Dr. A Evans
2. **Public Open Forum** Dan Pearson gave a brief presentation about the '2015 Balls Idea' put forward by the Chairman of MKRUFC, Gary Spinks. The project aimed at inviting sponsors to buy either 25 or 50 special rugby balls at £10 each with the sponsors name on one of four sides. These would then be presented as gifts for attendees at training events held by MKRUFC in the locality. As the Parish Council had already benefited from the provision of goal posts in the park and learning that an England player, and sometime Captain, Ed Slater was a TMA resident it was agreed to sponsor 500 balls. Logo and/or motif/legend to be agreed by councillors at a later date but very soon. It was also proposed that this could feature in the Party in the Park raffle and events. Proposer Cllr. Lewis, Seconder Cllr. Wilson, passed. Unanimous.
It was agreed to extend the Public Open Forum time as the foregoing had taken up all the time.
Mrs Cristoe and Mrs Shulver complained of rubbish/mattress outside of nos. 52-54 not being picked up and a settee around the back. Rubbish is regularly left out on the road all the time instead of only on collection days. Mrs Windmill added that this is the case with no 25 on the opposite side of the High St. It was agreed that the clerk write a letter to both. **Clerk**
Mrs Shulver also complained of the overgrowing shrubs at Kepwick which were hanging over the wall. This matter had already been reported.
Mr. Johnston complained that he had waited for the residents' item at the end of the last meeting only to find that residents were not asked for further input as scheduled on the agenda. The clerk apologised and explained that the agenda item was a mistake and had been a hangover from when the Public Open Forum was held at the end of the meeting and should not still have been on the agenda since its re-scheduling. He invited Mr Johnston to raise the issue now. Mr Johnston replied that the matter was no longer relevant. Mr Johnston further complained that the advice he had been given at the last meeting was useless and reporting to 101 had done nothing, he added that Cllr. Wilson's comments about liability for an accident in a 60mph zone was hardly germane as the speed limit was 30mph and felt that the councillor was having a go at him or at least cyclists in general. In his defence Cllr. Wilson stated that Mr Johnston had misconstrued his remarks, which had been made in good faith. Mr Johnston went on to say that he had nearly been knocked down on his bicycle again recently and that something needed to be done. Both he and his colleague Siobhan would like to see a 20mph zone enforced. The Chair explained that this proposal had been thoroughly investigated in the recent past and was by no means a simple matter. The first step was a speed-check to prove whether there was a speeding problem in the first place, and that the implementation of this on the recent application had resulted in not enough speeding vehicles to warrant further speed restrictions. The clerk pointed out that the white warning triangles on the speed bump in question had been almost completely erased through use and the Parish Council could apply for them to be repainted. This was agreed. **Clerk**
3. **Approval of February Minutes & any Matters Arising.** Approved, although it was agreed that the clerk had been too harsh over item 11a (Emergency Repairs to bridge on Danstead Way email exchange). Proposer Cllr. Lewis, Seconder Chair, passed. Unanimous. No Matters Arising.
4. **Report on Matters Arising from previous minutes**
 - a. **Parish Walkabout** –The clerk had received no replies from any of the people contacted as per last minutes (*item 4a*). It is assumed these officers will take no action until the contractor has finished his schedule – which has only just begun on Two Mile Ash.

signed

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- b. **Overgrowing shrubs** at the corner of Kepwick / High St – re-reported 24 Nov, ref 4507842 – ‘In progress’. These had not been done.
 - c. **Flooding outside no's 167 and 169 Clay Hill** (rain water running down the side of the road slips up and over the kerb of a driveway entrance and washes over the adjacent redway) - reported 17 Nov. ref 446572 – ‘In progress’. This had not been done.
 - d. **Parish Leaflets** – printing & distribution. The clerk had picked up the leaflets from the printers and obtained quotes for distribution. It was agreed to go with the Leaflet Lady as her prices had been by far the cheapest and she had been ready to communicate at the end of email. The solo delivery option was chosen at £120.
 - e. **Great Monks St overgrowing shrubs** – reported under ‘Garamonde Drive’ 24 Sep; ref 412277 – *In progress*. Re-reported as shrubs along the edge of the redway to the East side of Great Monks Street, 26 Jan. ref 497725. This had not been done.
 - f. **Kiln Farm redway** near Monks Way - reported 24 September; ref 412508 – *In progress*. Partially done.
 - g. **High St.** behind Dentists – re-reported 12 September; ref 402567 – *In progress*. This had not been done.
 - h. **Hole on the Approach verge** (*responsibility of adjacent housing association, according to MK council*) – as Cllr Evans had not been approached by anyone the clerk had got in touch with the Guinness Trust after several tries. The regional coordinator based in Chelmsford, Essex agreed to look into the matter as the duty officer was away on maternity leave.
 - i. **Flooding in the Park** – Phil Snell had replied to the Chair in connection with the provision of the new play equipment but not to the clerk. Regarding the ‘rubber mulch’ he thought it the only way forward. The Chair had asked him to explain more clearly what it would involve.
 - j. **Overgrowing shrubs along footpaths on both sides of Monks Way** – reported 26 January ref 498444 (Some progress had been made by last meeting) Not completed. **Cllr. Wilson**
 - k. **The parking area along the High St on the west side** (*to ask for individual bays to be marked out*) - reported 26 January ref 498675. No update.
 - l. **To create a new parking bay in the verge along the High St by Cambron** - reported 26 January ref 498624. To await new Parking Application Form. These had just come in after the publication of the agenda. However a resident had complained about this believing that it was already approved and residents had not been consulted. He was assured that this was only the first steps to see if it was viable. Residents would be kept informed and ultimately consulted
 - m. **Barrier Planters** – prices – Chris Gossop had duly established the prices of the planters but had not managed to get in touch with the nursery that specialised in planting and winter storage. It was decided to put the project to one side as not only were the prices for the planters coming to well over £1000 but the important issue of ongoing maintenance had not been resolved.
 - n. **Potholes on the Abbey Hill roundabout** reported 19 February ref. 520108. ‘*does not meet criteria for repair yet, will be monitored*’ 5 March.
 - o. **[Wymbush footbridge by Lodge Lake** (Parks Trust - PT) – reported 24 Nov. The PT had acknowledged this referral but no update received.]
 - p. **[Footpath in the Park** – reported 20 Oct. ref 430877 - passed on to Highways by Environment, in November.]
5. **Xmas Tree Lighting** – In the light of the reply to queries regarding the details of maintenance costs it was decided to abandon the project on the grounds of cost.
6. **Parish Council newsletter** – the next publication would be around May 1st just before the election. An article should be included promoting Party in the Park. Other suggestions to Cllr. Galbraith.
7. **Finance - Cheques for authorisation.** The following cheques were approved for payment:

signed

date

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<i>Chq No.</i>	<i>To Whom</i>	<i>gross</i>
882	J Vischer - salary	364.80
883	Post Office (PAYE)	333.92
884	A H Contracts 7829,7882	326.03
885	J Vischer - admin	13.48
	Total	1,038.23

Proposer: Cllr. Lewis, Seconder: Chair, passed. Unanimous.

Balances:

This showed an overall balance of £9,566 for all available funds (+ reserves).

8. Planning Applications.

Previous Applications - 15/00143/LBC, Listed building consent for installation of fence (retrospective) At: Kiln Farm Club, Keller Close Kiln Farm. *Not objected to. Still pending.*

NEW – 15/00275/FUL, 66-70 The High Street Two Mile Ash, Change of use from offices (use class A2) to 3 residential dwellings (use class C3) for use as short term accommodation.

No objection but to lodge a comment on the importance of proper parking arrangements and their enforcement.

9. Correspondence and Grant requests

An email requesting participation in a joint 'giving of grants' had been received from a nearby Parish Council. Several parish councils giving a percentage, the suggestion being 10%, the total would reach a £3000 target - for the purchasing of equipment and support. The project was called Junior Parkrun and involved outdoor sessions for young people similar to the Parkrun project for adults. It was decided not to support the venture. There had been a letter from the Pensions Regulator advising of the change in rules. Clerk to ascertain if this applied to the single employee below a certain salary. **Clerk**

A change-of-address letter had been received from the External Auditor Mazars.

10. Other Meetings and New Items

Other Meetings -

- a. Cllr. Lewis had not managed to attend the NAG meeting but the minutes had been received and circulated by email.
- b. The clerk had attended the quarterly SLCC session, which was about planning and its enforcement - the new chief of MKC Planning Anna Rose had been in attendance.

New Items –

- c. Cllr. Wilson asked if any further information had been heard about the provision of green bins for the allotments. None had been forthcoming.
- d. The Chair raised the issue of the crumbling road surface in the High St under the increased volume of traffic since the various road closures on Danstead Way. It was agreed that this applied to Corn Hill as well. **Clerk to report**
- e. Annual Parish Meeting to be arranged.
- f. There had been no replies regarding the footbridge survey that had been passed on to MKC a few months ago – clerk to investigate. **Clerk**
- g. It was agreed that enforcement of the yellow lines was lamentable as councillors had even witnessed cars parked on them being ignored on the rare visits by traffic officers. **Clerk to write.**
- h. Nomination Papers were handed out.

11. Date and Time of Next Meeting - Thursday 16th April 2015 at 7.30pm at TMA School

12. Confidential Items - There were two confidential items

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm

signed

date