

ABBHEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr Julian Vischer
50 Gibsons Green, Heelands, Milton Keynes, MK13 7PE
Tel 07866 412706
website:abbeyhillpc.org.uk

2015/05/180

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 21st May 2015 following on from the Annual Meeting at Two Mile Ash School at 7.50pm

Present: Cllrs S. Galbraith (Chairman), D. Lewis (Vice Chair), B Johnston; 3 residents: Janice Cristoe, Mrs Windmill, Natasha Cheriyan and Robert Tite (administrator, Two Mile Ash School)

Clerk: J. Vischer

1. **Apologies** None.

2. **Public Open Forum** Mrs Windmill reiterated her complaint that the two new bollards near her house had been damaged and needed repainting. It was suggested that these would surely be under some kind of warranty. **Clerk to confirm**

She added that the previously reported dead plants in the shrub bed opposite her house had still not been removed. **Clerk to contact Landscape contractor**

Mrs Cristoe and Mrs Windmill both were still concerned about the ongoing parking problems – and damage to pavements/kerbs.

Robert Tite reported on the school Road Safety Group and invited councillors to attend meetings as the school wished to suggest improvement and change in concert with the local community. Councillors welcomed the proposal and Cllr. Lewis volunteered to attend on their behalf. Cllr. Johnston added that the Church of Jesus Christ and the Latter Day Saints had offered parking to the school in the past but this had not been taken up. He added that he felt sure the offer was still open. Mr Tite thought perhaps liability insurance might have been the reason but would check.

Mr Tite reported that the School would no longer be mowing the top field for occasional school sports use as the condition of the field was so poor. (It is the responsibility of MK Council).

Mr Tite closed with a newly revised rate for room hire which he passed to the Chair for discussion.

Natasha Cheriyan complained of the unreliability of the newly reduced frequency of Bus route 14 (previously 4) which not only affected reliability but also punctuality. This was supported by Cllr. Johnston. However Mrs Windmill thought that the service was more reliable in that the reduction in frequency had improved reliability. Mrs Cheriyan stated that there was a petition of complaint doing the rounds. MK Council (MKC) budget had reduced the subsidy to public transport but it was agreed to write to Arriva airing these grievances on behalf of those who depended on the bus service. **Clerk**

3. **Approval of April Minutes & any Matters Arising not covered below**

April Minutes approved unanimously. Proposer Cllr. Lewis, Seconder Cllr. Galbraith.

Matter Arising – Yellow Bollard Refurbishment Inspection. The clerk had met with Phil Sears, Contract Support Technician Highways Team MKC, on 1st May to inspect the work of the contractor. Both agreed that a satisfactory result had been achieved. However various anomalies had resulted. All requested bollards were painted and completed except for 2x existing bollards to be re-painted in Hepleswell, and 2x new bollards to be installed also in Hepleswell. On investigation of the area there was no sign of the possible location for the 4 bollards, but as they have been paid for it is possible to relocate these works to a different location. There are 2 bollards missing on High Street, eastbound of the one way system near Radcote Lodge. The clerk subsequently instructed MKC to install the 2 new bollards there. Later the clerk also found 4 bollards that had been missed out on the parish council map at the redway crossover in the middle of Pitfield, Kiln Farm, and asked for two of these to be painted in place of the Hepleswell ones. The other two of these bollards would have to be paid for as an extra (£75.62). This was agreed, cheque raised.

ABBNEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

2015/05/181

Cllr. Lewis reported that at the NAG meeting the Chair had spotted two bollards that had been missed out by 70 Clay Hill that were on our map and so should have been included – clerk to report to Phil Sears. **Clerk**

4. Report on Matters Arising from previous minutes

- a. **Overgrowing shrubs** at the corner of Kepwick / High St – re-reported 24 Nov, ref 4507842 – ‘In progress’. On the walkabout, which was held on 11th May with MKC officers: Andy Hudson, Head of Environment and Waste; John Price, Landscape Contracts Manager; Phil Snell, Project Manager Neighbourhood Services; and the clerk, this site was visited. The officers declared that the planting was not theirs - although it was hard to see who else it could belong to. However on seeing the group of visitors the house-owner came forward and introduced himself saying he would like to get rid of the plants because they had badly cracked the garden wall (this was clearly visible) which needed re-building. The matter was left in the officers’ hands. **Clerk**
- b. **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’. No update.
- c. **High St.** behind Dentists – re-reported 12 September; ref 402567 – *In progress*. No update
- d. **Flooding in the Park** – Position regarding rubber ‘mulch’ – On the ‘walkabout’ (see above a) the clerk drew Phil Snell’s attention to this and the promised new equipment. The latter was now in and ready to be installed and Mr Snell suggested the proposed rubber ‘mulch’ should be installed at the same time to which the Clerk agreed as this was better than nothing and would at least get rid of mud directly under and around the equipment. Clerk to seek to ensure this was all done ready for the Party in the Park (12 July). **Clerk**
- e. **The parking area along the High St on the west side** (to ask for individual bays to be marked out) The Parking Application Form had been submitted.
- f. **To create a new parking bay in the verge along the High St by Cambron** – reported 26 January ref 498624. As this project would likely cost at least £5000 (match-funding) and require formal planning permission it was agreed to postpone the application until next year and budget accordingly.
- g. **White warning triangles** on the speed bump reported 23 March ref 547432. No update.
- h. **Crumbling road surface**, reported 24 March ref 547722. No update – although the top half of Clay Hill was down to be done as part of the re-surfacing programme.
- i. **5 Footbridges** – all reported 21 April ref’s – Fennymere 572241, Leafield Rise 572261, Clay Hill 572314, Clay Hill(2) 572334, Downland 572426. No updates. It was suggested that these be repaired with funding from the Parish Council but this might require major funding and so would have to be made a budget item.
- j. **Parish Walkabout** – as noted above, in attendance: MKC officers: Andy Hudson, Head of Environment and Waste; John Price, Landscape Contracts Manager; Phil Snell, Project Manager Neighbourhood Services; and the clerk. Capiam Walk was examined in some detail and officers recognised that the maintenance works had not been up to standard in previous years. However this year the area had been severely pruned and was relatively tidy although the dead tree (elm) was still standing. This would be felled and one or two other areas of resurgent bramble and ash tree saplings would be gone over again. In addition to Kepwick (above) the clerk pointed out two areas by TMA School entrance where there was bare soil with crumbling kerbs and blockwork. These would be attended to. A further small area of bare soil opposite the chip shop would most likely be turned to hard surface.
- k. **Footpath in the Park** – reported 20 October, ref 430877 – (passed on to Highways) to be ‘escalated’ with a further request to re-dress all the Park footpaths in time for Party in the Park. **Clerk**
- l. **[Wymbush footbridge by Lodge Lake** (responsibility of Parks Trust) – reported 24 November.]

ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

2015/05/182

No update.

m. **[Hole on the Approach verge** (*responsibility of adjacent Guinness Trust housing association, according to MK Council*) – awaiting reply from Regional coordinator.] No update.

5. **Parish Council newsletter** – the new edition (no.2) had been circulated. It was agreed that in order to advertise the upcoming Play Sessions for the school summer holidays and the Rugby World Cup sponsored training sessions, that the next issue would have to go out by July, and to include Party in the Park it would best go out in the first week if possible. Articles to include the formation of the new Parish Council and the resignation of the outgoing Chair Eve Matthews. **Cllr. Galbraith**
6. **Parish Logo** – it was agreed to invite both schools to get pupils involved in the design of a logo as soon as possible although this might not happen until the Autumn term. It was also agreed that some kind of prize would be offered for the winner (for example £20 book token) but again the schools might make other suggestions. A proviso would be included along the lines of ‘the parish council reserves the right to modify the winning design’. **Clerk**
7. **Party in the Park preparations** – ongoing, several preparatory payments had been made. Clerk to establish when the new equipment would be installed. **Clerk**
8. **Holiday Play Sessions** – As circulated by email a session had been arranged for the summer half term - May27th between 10.00 and 12.30. Clerk to advertise on noticeboard. To be put on Friends page as an ‘event’. **Cllr. Johnston**
9. **Finance - Cheques for authorisation.**

a. **The following cheques were approved for payment:**

<i>Chq</i>		
<i>No.</i>	<i>To Whom</i>	<i>gross</i>
892	A Mantle (Leaflet Lady)	120.00
893	J Vischer - salary	529.45
894	Marcus Young - May	153.00
895	A H Contracts	142.03
896	TMA sch - room hire Apr	17.00
897	S Hollywood - P in P	21.00
898	Worldwide Hole-in-One	265.00
899	MK Council - extra bollards	75.62
900	K Galbraith - P in P	500.00

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

Available funds at 30 April 2015: £20,958

New bank mandates were filled-in and signed. Clerk to fetch authorised signatory's signature.

10. **Planning Applications.**

15/00275/FUL, 66-70 The High Street, Change of use from offices – *still pending*

15/00673/FUL 64 Leaffield Rise Two Mile Ash Two storey extension to side, single storey to rear – *still pending*

NEW - 15/00814/FUL 38 Denmead Two Mile Ash Replacement windows and door (retrospective).

No objections.

15/00934/FUL Marlborough House Keller Close Kiln Farm Change of use from office (use class B1) to clinic (use class D1). No objections.

ABBHEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

2015/05/183

11. Correspondence and Grant requests - other than via email.

The clerk had received an invitation for the Parish council to send a representative to inspect the new mini-bus bought with the help of a donation from the Parish Council. This was set for 1st July at 7pm.

The Chair volunteered to attend. Clerk to confirm venue.

No grant requests.

12. Other Meetings and New Items

New Items –

- a. Neighbourhood Action Group (NAG) Cllr. Lewis had attended the last meeting where the subject of drug dealing on TMA as mentioned in previous meetings was discussed. The police said they would 'keep an eye out' but had not had any reports. The very day after the meeting a raid apparently took place.
- b. Cllr. Lewis had received advanced warning of events being planned to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of Milton Keynes in 2017.
- c. Cllr. Lewis also reported the felling of several mature horse-chestnut trees on Haithwaite that had been done without approval. He would investigate further. **Cllr. Lewis**
- d. Cllr. Johnston proposed the creation of a Twitter account which he would be happy to manage as he was already running one for the Church of which he was a member. Cllrs agreed this was a good idea. Clerk to research rules and regulations in relation to this.
- e. Cllr. Galbraith had invited Friends of TMA on Facebook members to prioritise the things in most need of attention in the parish, and he had created a list from the replies. The list was briefly gone through but it was agreed to discuss it in more detail at the next meeting. **Cllr. Galbraith**
- f. The proposed new room hire rate was discussed and it was felt that a jump from £17 per session to £42.50 was too steep. Alternative venues to be researched including the Annexe and the Hall part of the school which would not be part of the same cost structure as it was self-contained. **Clerk, Cllr. Lewis.**

13. Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 18th June 2015 at 7.30pm at TMA School

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm