

# ABBNEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr Julian Vischer  
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2015-16/6/199

## MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at Ashbrook School at 7.30pm

**Present:** Cllrs S. Galbraith (Chair), D. Lewis, B Johnston, N. Lategan. 2 members of the public: Mrs Windmill & Mrs Cristoe  
Clerk: J. Vischer

### 1. Apologies - Cllr T. Holland.

**2. Public Open Forum** – Mrs Windmill had met with Peter Goff from MK planning enforcement regarding the neighbours' overlooking her garden and house since the construction of their decking. This was at least 20cms above ground level at the bottom of the fence according to measurements taken by Mr Goff. However he advised that there was little she could do other than put a 2' trellis on top of the existing fence. Councillors could not add any further suggestions. Mrs Windmill went on to complain about how two previous visits had been arranged with Mr Goff which he had failed to attend. This had not given a good impression of MK Council's commitment to residents. She had also reported to the police the frequent use of pellet guns by her neighbours – with up to 70 pellets lying about her garden - and was pleased to say that this had now stopped.

Mrs Cristoe reported the continued presence of the unsightly rubbish/old furniture outside of 54 High St, an MK Council rented block of flats. Cllr. Lewis had looked into the matter but it appeared that no outside intervention could be taken unless it was a public health hazard as this was the responsibility of tenants.

### 3. Approval of October Minutes and any Matters Arising not covered below -

The minutes were approved as a true record - Proposer Cllr. Johnston, Seconder Cllr. Galbraith. Unanimous.

- a. Two Mile Ash Environmental Group had planted crocuses in the central landscaped area behind One-Stop Shop.
- b. The dog-poo stencil had been used for the first time by Cllr. Johnston on the footpath and green down from Clay Hill (streetlight ref:25). *See below*
- c. It had been agreed via email that in spite of the poor condition of the spruce that the Xmas lights should still go ahead. The clerk had arranged a booking in the busy schedule of MK Illuminations – this was timed for December 2<sup>nd</sup>. The lights would be on from 15.00hrs. to 02.00hrs. every day until January 6<sup>th</sup> 2016.

### 4. Declarations of Interest in any of the following items – Cllr. Lewis: all planning matters.

### 5. Matters arising from previous minutes -

- a. **Neighbourhood Watch proposal** – The clerk had sent an email to the Chair of Neighbourhood Watch Milton Keynes, Oscar Hubert, enquiring as to the structure and expected operations of Neighbourhood Watch members but had received no replies. The Chair offered to look into the matter. **Chair**
- b. **Rugby Balls** – Dan Pearson, member of MK Rugby Club, had said he had distributed the rugby balls to the two schools principally and to 'a couple of local chid-minders'. There were 8 left. It was agreed to keep some of these for future prizes at Party in the Park. **Clerk**
- c. **Parish Logo – update** – the prizes had not been awarded yet as the Chair had been away and no other councillors had been available to go to the school to present them. Cllr. Johnston volunteered to attend the next date, Friday November 27<sup>th</sup> 2.30pm. **Clerk**  
Cllr. Johnston reported that he had not had time to pursue the finished design. **Cllr. Johnston**

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- d. **Great Holm Fire Station closure** – The clerk was thanked for submitting a robust rejection to the proposed closure made on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr. Lewis offered to canvass local residents to submit emails expressing their views as he had already had a very strong response against closure via a questionnaire. The decision on the Fire Station would not be made until February. **Cllr. Lewis**
- e. **Residents Parking Zone Application, Kepwick** – raw data results had just been passed to the clerk today. These showed only 62.5% in favour of a zone – 75% in favour is the required threshold. There were only 16 respondents. This matter is now closed.
- f. **Parish Council newsletter new edition** – the ‘Xmas issue’ was at a very early stage.

**6. Status of ‘green field’ between Downland and Clay Hill** – the clerk had researched how to apply for Village Green status. It had been suggested to him that the outcome of an impending case be awaited as this might determine the likelihood of success. The five criteria: a. has the land been used for more than 20 years; b. have a significant number of inhabitants used it; c. are these inhabitants “local”; d. have they “indulged, as of right”; e. “...in lawful sports and pastimes” - all applied in our case. It was agreed to join The Open Space Society as they would be a useful source of advice and support. **Clerk**

## **7. Report on Environmental Matters from previous minutes -**

- a. 54 High St – untidy garden/rubbish – (*as above Open Forum*) Cllr. Lewis had looked into the matter but it appeared that no outside intervention could be taken unless it was a public health hazard as this was the responsibility of tenants.
- b. Norbrek – drying areas – no update: it appeared that enforcement had done all they were able to do. Matter closed.
- c. White warning triangles on the speed bump - reported 23 March ref 547432, ‘closed’. The clerk had reported the whole junction outside of the shop and in front of the school as a project for comprehensive review, better crossings and markings, and the possibility of lights, to environmental services and been told that it had been passed on to Highways.
- d. Damaged bench – Leafield Rise ref 640872. ‘in progress’ [Cllr. Lewis to establish its condition – *between the houses and the brook*]. Cllr. Lewis had not been able to establish exactly where the bench was located. [*post-meeting note: on 20<sup>th</sup> Nov. message received from environmental services that ‘work had been completed’*]. Matter closed.
- e. Tree outside 161 Clay Hill – (24 September 2015 Ref 738388) ‘in progress’. No change.
- f. Redway surface by Tavelhurst (not Tavistock) – (21 September ref:734644) ‘in progress’
- g. Un-readability of several road signs/names (Friends’ pictures) – the clerk had been advised that the Parish Council could indeed clean road names without specific permission, but for road signs the location had to be reported and permission given. It was agreed that councillors would divide Two Mile Ash grid-square according to the areas where they lived and ascertain where the road names were and how many needed cleaning. These to be marked on a map. **Cllrs.**
- h. *Matters to be kept on the agenda for monitoring purposes* – a. Footbridges on program for repair and renewal; b. Capian Walk – shrubs, dead tree (result of walkabout); c. Hole on the Approach verge (responsibility of adjacent Guinness Trust housing association, according to MK Council) – awaiting reply from Regional Coordinator; d. High St. Car Parking Bay Markings Application. No Updates – it was agreed to remove item c as no effort was being made by Guinness Trust and the Hole was slowly filling-in.

## **8. Finance –**

- a. **The following cheques were approved for payment.** Proposer Cllr. Lewis, Seconder Cllr. Galbraith.

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<i>Chq</i>		
<i>No.</i>	<i>To Whom</i>	<i>gross</i>
905	J Vischer - salary for Nov	615.38
906	J Vischer - admin	13.69
907	Marcus Young - November	<u>153.00</u>
Total		782.07

Available funds at 30<sup>th</sup> October 2015: £12,236

- b. New Transparency Code (info) – the clerk reported that he had added a new page to the website in order to provide the necessary information required by the new Transparency Code. The website provider had made no charge for the extra page even though the number of pages now exceeded our ‘package’.
- c. Preliminary Budget discussion – It was agreed to brainstorm ideas between meetings – new seating on the field; re-do slabs behind One-Stop - in time for the next meeting so that costings could be prepared for the January meeting.

## 9. Planning Applications -

### *Previous (for update)*

15/02184/TPO Land Between 40 - 42 Stone Hill Tree preservation order consent. *Consent given.*

Clerk to obtain quotes for the work.

15/02188/FUL 64 Leaffield Rise Two Mile Ash Single storey rear extension. *Permitted*

15/02253/DISCON 36 Leaffield Rise Two Mile Ash Details submitted pursuant to discharge of condition 2 (landscaping scheme) attached to planning permission 14/01895/FUL. *Refused*

15/02242/FUL 18 The Hythe Two Mile Ash. Double storey rear extension and garage conversion.

No objections. *Refused*

15/02521/CLUP 35 Milesmere Two Mile Ash Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed single story rear and side extension. Objected to. *Still pending.*

**NEW** – 15/02602/FUL 5 Calewen Two Mile Ash. Change of use of part of a dwelling house (Use Class C3) to use by a childminder (Use Class D1) for up to 12 children. This item was discussed at length and the resulting vote split the Council: 1 For and 1 Against with one Abstention (Cllr. Lewis did not vote as he had declared an interest in planning matters). The Chair’s vote carried. Objection: on the grounds of increasing the size of the business in a residential area and insufficient parking. **Clerk**

15/02729/FUL 4 Langton Drive Two Mile Ash, Replacement of an existing rear conservatory with a single storey rear extension and first floor side extension over part of existing garage. No objections.

## 10. Correspondence and Grant requests - other than via email.

Citizens Advice Bureau pamphlet was distributed.

The Chair and Vice Chair received a letter from the new Joint Civil Aid Corps informing them of its inception.

## 11. Other Meetings and New Items

In between meetings the clerk had received a request from Intrinsys Kiln Farm concerning Brunleys footpath by Oriflamme. The bushes are totally blocking access route/foot path used by office workers daily. *Reported 11 Nov - Ref 778164*

In between meetings it had been agreed to immediately replace a dog bin as an emergency as it was no longer fit for purpose and represented a health hazard. The standard price from the contractor had been agreed via email to councillors.

It was suggested and agreed that a ‘walkabout’ inspection of Kiln Farm be arranged for Dec 20<sup>th</sup>.

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Cllr Johnston reported that the new parking agreement between Two Mile Ash School and the Church of the Latter-Day Saints was nearing completion. This would enable staff to use the Church's car park.

Cllr Johnston reported that he had used the new dog-poo stencil for the first time. Location: down from Clay Hill, by the lower bend, on the footpath and green - streetlight ref 25. **Clerk** to inform MKC officers.

**12. Date and Time of Next Meeting** – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2015 at 7.30pm at Ashbrook School

The Meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed

Date