

ABBHEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mr Julian Vischer
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2015-16/8/205

MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 21st January 2016 at Ashbrook School at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs S. Galbraith (Chair), D. Lewis (*from 8.40pm*), B Johnston, T. Holland. 2 members of the public: Mrs Windmill (who offered apologies from Mrs Cristoe) & Chris Gossop (Two Mile Ash Environmental Group - TMAEG)

Clerk: J. Vischer

1. Apologies - Cllr N. Lategan.

2. Public Open Forum – Mrs Windmill raised the issue of reckless drivers parking and driving over the grass verge at the end of the High St, especially at school times, and crushing the newly sprouting crocuses. She had managed to place two traffic cones on the verge to prevent this happening. She also queried why the lights were still on the 'Christmas tree'. **Clerk to follow-up**

Chris Gossop (TMAEG) thanked the Parish Council for the donation towards the bird boxes which were now all installed, mainly along Ash Brook. They had ordered a further 5 which had yet to be mounted. He reported that the Open Gardens scheme for 2016 had been launched inviting residents to participate. The event would take place on the weekend 25-26 June. The end of March was the deadline for entrants.

3. Approval of November Minutes and December Notes, and any Matters Arising not covered below - The November minutes were approved as a true record - Proposer Cllr Galbraith, Seconder Cllr Holland. Unanimous. There were no queries over the December notes.

a. Rugby Balls – Dan Pearson had told the clerk that he was happy to keep them at the Rugby Club until the Party in the Park event.

4. Declarations of Interest in any of the following items – Cllr Lewis declared an interest after his arrival, on all planning matters.

5. Neighbourhood Watch proposal – The clerk had received a reply from the Chair of Neighbourhood Watch Milton Keynes, Oscar Hubert, explaining the structure and expected operations of Neighbourhood Watch (NW) members and coordinators. It was agreed that it was not for the Parish Council to run such a scheme and that the advances in social media and the Thames Valley Police Alerts, now available to anyone via email, had to some extent taken over the NW role. An email would be sent out to all those on the newsletter group list to see if any volunteers were forthcoming. A note would also be added to the Friends page. The next Newsletter would contain the email address for the Alerts. **Chair/Clerk**

6. Parish Logo – Cllr. Lategan had put together a draft which all agreed fitted the brief well – it had been circulated by email. This needed two modifications and would soon be ready. The Chair had attended the prize-giving on behalf of the Parish Council at Two Mile Ash School at the end of the Autumn term, which was much appreciated by children and staff.

7. Cleaning road names project – the Chair made clear that there had been some misunderstanding about which road signs he was referring to, he had meant principally the redway signposts. These had recently been replaced around Central Milton Keynes station. Clerk to contact MK Council regarding the cleaning and renovation programme. **Clerk**

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8. Tree Quotes & Order – the clerk had received three quotes. Two of these were very close (just over £800). Although the third quote was much cheaper (just over £400) no detail had been included in the quote so it was not clear if all the clauses of the specification had been met, and there was no promise of guarantee or replacement tree planting. Only one quote included the latter and so it was agreed to award the contract to them. Proposer Cllr Galbraith Johnston, Seconder Cllr Holland. Unanimous. **Clerk**

9. Citizens Advice Bureau request for funding – This request for approx. £2500 funding for a fortnightly surgery was rejected on the grounds of cost.

10. 'Green field' between Downland and Clay Hill – It was agreed to research the costs of Five-a-side goal posts and to see if permission for such an installation was likely. **Clerk**

11. Report on Environmental Matters from previous minutes -

a. Brunleys footpath by Oriflamme (Intrinsys Kiln Farm) *Reported 11 Nov 2015 - Ref 778164*. No update received – to be checked on site. **Clerk**

~~b.~~ Review of entire junction and crossings - passed to Highways in October 2015 (*originally reported 23 March 2015 ref 547432 as White warning triangles on the speed bump*). As no update was again forthcoming it was agreed to request the installation of warning pedestrian crossing lights such as those seen outside of schools. **Clerk**

c. Tree outside 161 Clay Hill - 24 September ref 734644 *'in progress'*. No update.

d. Redway surface by Tavelhurst - 21 September ref 763895 *'in progress'*. This had been marked as 'closed' presumably on the basis that it did not qualify as a 'pothole' (not deep enough). Clerk to enquire of Neighbourhood officer (MKC) as to what to do about it to get the Health and Safety message across. **Clerk**

e. *Matters to be kept on the agenda for monitoring purposes* – Capian Walk – shrubs, dead tree (result of walkabout) this had now all been done. [a. Footbridges on program for repair and renewal; b. High St. Car Parking Bay Markings Application.]

12. Finance

a. Cheques for authorisation & Balances from December and this month
December

908	J Vischer - salary	440.20
909	Post Office (PAYE)	83.78
910	J Vischer - admin	302.69
911	Marcus Young - Dec (grass & waste)	309.00
912	MK Play Association - 141263	<u>312.18</u>
Total		1,135.67

January

913	Marcus Young - 1316 - all bins for year	1,620.96	270.16
914	Lamps & Tubes - 67455 - annual	390.00	65.00
915	Ashbrook School - room hire (1)	96.00	
916	J Vischer - salary	620.31	
917	J Vischer - admin	<u>47.80</u>	<u>3.55</u>
Total		2,727.27	335.16

Available funds at 30th December 2015: £10,007.

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- b. Purchase of accounting software – it was agreed to take advantage of the reduced rate and purchase the software. Final price to be recorded when purchase order made. Annual subscription (£113) to be added to the Budget. Proposer Cllr Lewis, Seconder Cllr Galbraith. Passed with one abstention.
- c. Budget and Precept Approval – The draft Budget was discussed and a few expenditure items were increased to a total of £28,498. The most significant of these was for an increase in the number of Play Sessions to Ten which qualified for a reduced rate: two at Easter, two the Party in the Park Day and 6 during the school summer holidays. It was agreed that the precept should remain the same as last year at £14,471. Proposer Cllr Galbraith, Seconder Cllr Holland. Passed with one against.

Clerk

13. Planning Applications -

Previous (for update)

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. (Objected to). *Refused.*

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. (Not objected to) *Permitted.*

15/02844/CLUP 3 Fennymere Two Mile Ash, Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed garage conversion and new single storey porch. *Lawful Use granted.*

15/02895/FUL 18 The Hythe Two Mile Ash, Single storey rear extension, garage conversion and enclose existing porch. (Resubmission of 15/02242/FUL) *Permitted.*

NEW – 15/03111/FUL 35 Milesmere Two Mile Ash, Single storey rear and side extension. No objections.

15/03089/FUL 2 Fennymere Two Mile Ash, Single storey front extension, garage conversion including a new roof, rear conservatory and minor elevational alterations. No objections.

14. Correspondence and Grant requests - other than circulated via email.

A letter had been received from Ringway the Highways contractor inviting parishes to contribute suggestions for collaborative projects. In the light of the stalling of the post and rail project this seemed a bit rich. The clerk had contacted the sender to complain and been told the matter would be looked into. The Plan:MK documents were distributed.

15. Other Meetings and New Items

Cllr Lewis had not attended the most recent NAG meeting and had been informed that very few representatives attended.

Cllr Lewis had attended the recent WEA steering group meeting which had been informative regarding the siting of the two underpasses – as yet undecided.

Cllr Johnston had not been able to attend the most recent Parishes Forum meeting.

The Chair proposed a meeting with Environment and Waste regarding the park area to see if progress could be made to resurface the footpaths and tidy-up or replace the boules court. Clerk
The Chair reminded members of the upcoming meeting about Great Holm Fire Station closure. Cllr Johnston asked if the Parish Council would look sympathetically on a soup kitchen proposal with regard to grant funding. Cllr Johnston to prepare a detailed presentation. Cllr Johnston

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting – Thursday 18th February 2016 at 7.30pm at Ashbrook School

The Meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed

Date