

# ABBAY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm, at Two Mile Ash School

**Present:** Cllrs S. Galbraith (in the Chair), A. Evans, D. Simpson, J. Spragg. Mr & Mrs Cristoe – representing the Community Gardening Group.

1. **Apologies** – Cllr K. Ryan. These were accepted.

2. **Public Open Forum**

Mrs Cristoe thanked AHPC for supporting the Gardening Group initiative. The first committee meeting would be this Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> September. She indicated that personally she would like to see the Christmas tree removed. Councillors agreed that the tree was still not flourishing. A decision about its future would be taken after Christmas. Mrs Cristoe reported that Ward Cllr Exon had visited the garden and was supportive – he promised to take up the outstanding matters of the uneven slabs and the leaning tree with MKC officers. Residents had so far donated over 70 plants and over 300 bulbs. Mrs Cristoe reported that residents were now beginning to make use of the public bench and asked councillors to consider the purchase of a further seat. She submitted an expenses slip (*see below*).

3. **Declarations of Interest** in any of the agenda items – None

4. **Approval of previous Minutes and any Matters Arising** not covered below

4.1. **Minutes** of the July Meeting previously circulated, were unanimously approved. Proposer Cllr Evans, seconder Cllr Spragg. Unanimous.

4.2. **Matters Arising** – None.

5. **Devolved Landscape Services** – AHPC had been asked by MKC for an update on their discussions.

5.1. **The draft MKC Service Level Agreement**, derived from the current contractor's (SERCO) contract - this had been circulated. Councillors agreed that this specified a high level of service, – e.g. that 80% of leaves should be removed; the clearing of rough mown grass debris (currently left *in situ*) – higher than that demonstrated by the current level of outcome as witnessed by councillors and residents alike. Nevertheless it was agreed that should AHPC take on the proposal the standard of maintenance would be far higher than that currently demonstrated by MKC/SERCO, and as reflected in the higher quality of landscape appearance in the six already devolved parishes. The Clerk was asked to make this point to MKC.

5.2. **The delegation of authority** implied by the term 'devolved' fell short as MKC clearly wished to retain control. Any and every change to the existing landscape appearance HAD to be approved by MKC. This was not true delegation. The Clerk was asked to make this point to MKC.

5.3. **Inclusion of Kiln Farm and Wymbush** – councillors still had serious concerns about residents accepting the inclusion of these two industrial estates in the devolvement, as the estates would account for a considerable proportion of the increase in the Parish precept. Kiln Farm and Wymbush together has the highest area for grass mowing at 45,164m<sup>2</sup>. Two Mile Ash stands at 25% less: 33,583 m<sup>2</sup>. However with regard to trees and shrubs Two Mile Ash does have considerably more than Kiln Farm and Wymbush added together – 83% and 95% more respectively. The Clerk was asked to re-iterate AHPC's wish to have Kiln Farm and Wymbush excluded from the proposal.

5.4. **TUPE** – Cllr Simpson reiterated his serious concerns about AHPC inheriting the TUPE liability. Cllr Galbraith was equally convinced that TUPE would not apply as this would be a new contract – the job losses incurred through MKC's devolvement proposal was MKC and SERCO's liability and could not be passed on to the new parties.

6. **Speedwatch Group and Traffic update**

1. A training day had been offered by the PCSO's of 28<sup>th</sup> September. Two volunteers had already agreed to attend – one more to confirm. **KR**

2. Vehicle movements were now being measured as counters were visible on the High St, Clay Hill and Stone Hill. Councillors asked that the Clerk request sight of the data or analysis, or both. Clerk to contact Head of Highways, Davina Millership. **CLK**

3. It was noted the called-for, and agreed, monthly briefing had not yet been set up. No update had

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been given regarding progress on the Whitehouse underpass. Clerk to contact Head of Highways, Davina Millership. **CLK**

7. **Website upgrade** – New candidates yet to be researched. It was agreed to advertise via Twitter and Friends of Two Mile Ash.

8. **Social Media - Friends of Two Mile Ash (FoTMA) and Twitter account** – both had been relatively quiet.

## 9. Fault/Project Log

1. **Christmas tree verge anti-parking project** – Still awaiting the appointment of an MKC liaison officer for the area. Clerk to contact Head of Highways, Davina Millership. **CLK**

4. **Five-a-side goalposts** damage – still awaiting repair. **SG**

2. **New Dog-waste bin** – installed in July.

3. **Ongoing faults/projects** – twenty items – six projects, fourteen faults.

## 10. Finance

1. **Payments for authorisation & balances** – since June meeting – Clerk's salary (period 6) £647.10; Clerk's admin/expenses £57.53; HMRC (PAYE 2<sup>nd</sup> qtr.) £111.97; external audit fee (annual) £240.00; Landscaping contractor (final) June/July £306.00; Parish Insurance (annual) £393.16. These payments were approved.

Available funds 31<sup>st</sup> August 2019: £28,602 (plus reserves £38,420).

2. **External Audit** - councillors welcomed the largely satisfactory report. The local government support-grant figure had been incorrectly stated in the submission.

## 11. Planning Applications *Previous (for update)*

### 1. *Previous* –

19/01453/FUL 35 Shorham Rise Two Mile Ash, First floor and part ground floor side elevation extension (re-submission of 19/00333/FUL) addressing reasons for refusal. *Permitted*

19/01516/CLUP – *for information only* - 13 Stone Hill Two Mile Ash, Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed single storey rear extension, garage conversion and minor elevational changes. *Refused*

19/01554/FUL Church of The Latter-day Saints The High Street Two Mile Ash. Provision of new metal 1200mm high boundary fence. *Permitted*

19/01689/FUL 3 Haithwaite Two Mile Ash, First floor, side extension. *Permitted*

### 2. *New (all since decided)*

19/01794/FUL 62 Shorham Rise Two Mile Ash. Single storey front extension, garage conversion and revised rear fenestration. *Permitted*

19/01768/FUL 13 Stone Hill Two Mile Ash, Garage conversion and minor elevational changes. *Permitted*

### 3. *New (since the publication of the agenda)*

19/02353/FUL 6 Caldwell Two Mile Ash, Proposed two storey side extension. No objections.

19/02304/FUL Land On The Corner of Pitfield And Tilers Road Kiln Farm, Change of use of the site to open storage (Class B8). Associated alterations including the erection of a 3m high security fence, with 3m high gate. No objections.

## 12. Correspondence and Grant requests (other than email)

1. SLCC quarterly magazine; play and fitness equipment brochure.

2. Gardening Group expenses – these were approved. Proposer Cllr Galbraith, seconder Cllr Evans. Unanimous.

## 13. Other Meetings and New Matters – (WEA; Parishes Forum; Community Annexe)

1. No reports from other meetings.

2. Gardening Group spending threshold – it was agreed to set this at a maximum of £50 per single item. Proposer Cllr Galbraith, seconder Cllr Evans. Unanimous.

## 14. Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7.30pm at **TWO MILE ASH SCHOOL.**

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

*Signed*

*date*