

# ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



## MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 18th February 2021 at 7.30pm, held Online

**Present:** Cllrs D. Simpson (in the Chair), K. Ryan, J. Spragg, A. Evans. No residents

Clerk: J. Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – Ward Cllrs R. Exon, R Bradburn. These were accepted.
2. **Public Open Forum** - None
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 January Meeting previously circulated, were unanimously approved. Proposer Cllr Spragg, seconder Cllr Ryan.
  - 4.2. **Matters Arising** - None
5. **Communications**
  - 5.1. **New Website** - An updated version of the draft website had been received, but it still had unresolved issues. Councillors to look through and respond to Cllr Evans by the end of next week. Cllr Evans would collate and send to the designer. **AE**
  - 5.2. **Social Media** - It was noted that there were no serious estate concerns being shared amongst users.
6. **Environment**
  - 6.1. **Parking Enforcement Officer (shared)** - No further information had been received from MKC. The clerk leading the initiative on behalf of parishes across MK had not heard anything for several weeks.
  - 6.2. **Post and Rail Installation** - The initial phase of Post & Rail fencing renewals (outside TMA School and Ashbrook School), funded entirely by Abbey Hill Parish Council, had been completed. Further similar projects were being planned.
  - 6.3. **Christmas Tree replacement** - Councillors confirmed their preference for Norway Spruce especially as its success rate was higher than Nordmann Fir. The Clerk had received a further quote for a very large and expensive tree and one that was about 3m tall. The quotation had included a warranty for the first year but no maintenance schedule. The guarantee was only valid if the tree had been 'well-maintained' - including watering. The quotation had not included the removal of the old tree. Councillors agreed that the smaller-sized tree could be suitable. The Clerk offered to telephone the contractor to establish definitively if they would remove the existing tree and if they would provide a maintenance schedule. [*post-meeting note*: the contractor confirmed that they would not offer to remove the tree and neither would they offer a maintenance program. They did offer an annual inspection service and would quote accordingly] **CLK**
  - 6.4. **TMA Play Parks** - [*estate walk round postponed until better weather conditions*] - Cllr Simpson offered to liaise closely with the playgrounds officer Phil Snell regarding play equipment generally and the rules for volunteer repainting of old equipment. This was agreed.
  - 6.5. **Wildflower planting**, High St verge opposite Fairways - the proposed wildflower planting to replace the decimated shrubs and weed-ridden grass had been discussed on site by SERCO and the Clerk. SERCO had since offered a quotation of £440 to carry out the works. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead on the basis that this would be a trial area to see how appropriate and how successful such a project could be. Proposer Cllr Ryan, seconder Cllr Spragg. **CLK**
  - 6.6. **Cobbled tree pits** by the shops - refurbishment of the empty cobbled tree spaces had been discussed on site with SERCO and the Clerk. It was pointed out by the tree officer who was also present that there were too many trees close together so he would not recommend replanting all of pits. Empty rondelles could be over-cobbled; low shrubs would be acceptable but sight-lines for turning traffic had to be considered. It was agreed to arrange a socially-distanced site meeting

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amongst councillors for this Wednesday 24th February.

**6.7. Fault/Project Log** - there were 7 projects and 13 faults outstanding. It was agreed to re-number post and rail phases. To be discussed via email.

## 7. Finance

**7.1. Payments** for authorisation & Balances - since the January meeting:

Clerk's salary (period 11) £721.24; Clerk's admin/expenses (mostly refund of laptop purchase) £1,081.98; Post and Rail (1) £13,040.32; Community award (special) £26.99.

These payments were approved unanimously. Proposer Cllr Ryan, seconder Cllr Evans.

Available funds 18 February 2021: £75,546 (plus reserves £38,443).

## 8. Planning Applications

### 8.1. Previous

20/03267/FUL 24 Milesmere Two Mile Ash, Single storey side extension, amendments to fenestrations, partial smooth white render finish to front elevations. *Permitted*

20/03314/FUL 17 Farinton Two Mile Ash, Single storey rear extension and single storey porch extension. *Awaiting Decision*

20/03315/CLUP 17 Farinton Two Mile Ash, Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed loft conversion with dormer extension to rear roofslope and rooflights to front roofslope. *Awaiting Decision*

20/03184/FUL Units K1, K2 & K3 Pitfield Kiln Farm, Refurbishment of industrial units, including amendments to elevations, yard extension (Unit K1), reconfiguration of car parking and new pedestrian footpaths (resubmission of 20/01803/FUL) *Awaiting Decision*

21/00099/FUL 4 Garamonde Drive Wymbush, Adaptation of existing warehouse for new windows and gas suspension vents to the front and rear elevations, 4 escape doors, a new Air Handling Unit (AHU) on the existing steel frame, new mechanical plant within the extended plant area and a new armo barrier to seclude vehicular and pedestrian traffic. *Pending*

### 8.2. New

*For information only:* 21/00418/CLUP 15 Langton Drive Two Mile Ash, Certificate of lawfulness for the proposed single storey rear extension

## 9. Grants and Correspondence

9.1. No grant applications.

9.2. Behaviour First Consultancy - Cllr Evans reported that Behaviour First Consultancy proposal was expected by tomorrow at the latest. It was agreed to discuss this via email [*post-meeting note* - no proposal had been received by 24th Feb]

9.3. The Clerk was requested to invite YIS - Young People's Mental Health - to the next meeting. **CLK**

9.4. Correspondence (other than email) - None

**10. Other Meetings and New Matters** (WEA; Parishes Forum; Community Annexe, Community Garden) - it was agreed that AHPC be represented at the MKC Biodiversity workshop on 23rd February. Cllrs Ryan and Simpson agreed to attend.

**11. Date of Next Meeting** – Thursday 18th March 2021. To be held online at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 8.35pm.

*Signed*

*date*