

ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES of the Meeting held on Thursday, 19th December 2019 at 7.30pm, at Two Mile Ash School

Present: Cllrs S. Galbraith (in the Chair), A. Evans, K. Ryan, D. Simpson, J. Spragg. Residents: Mr P. Blyth, Mr P. Answer.

Clerk: J. Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – None.
2. **Public Open Forum**
 - 2.1. Messrs. Blyth and Answer were concerned about the sudden notification from MKC Highways that the signalised junction at High St/Watling St. would be implemented now, to take advantage of the Watling St. closure for the new underpass. Mr Answer had communicated with the Clerk about this before the meeting. As AHPC had received no such formal notification the Clerk had contacted MKC Highways to be told that notification had been sent out on December 16th but that the officer had made an error and not included AHPC in the circulation - apologies were offered. It was agreed that the Clerk write a letter of complaint to Highways, copying in Ward Cllr M Gowans (responsible for Roads and Transport), regarding this and how AHPC received a poor standard of communication from MKC Highways generally. CLK
 - 2.2. Both residents also reported on the very poor patchwork of road surface repairs carried out by MK Highways on the Fairways roundabout.
 - 2.3. Mr Blyth argued in favour of the original left-turns-only traffic control proposal as at peak times it was impossible to get anywhere punctually, the traffic was so congested. Councillors had already exhausted this subject with MKC who rejected the proposal at the start of the road closure.
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 October Meeting previously circulated, were unanimously approved. Proposer Cllr Evans, seconder Cllr Ryan. Unanimous.
 - 4.2. **Matters Arising** – None.
 - 4.3. **November meeting** - this had been postponed but councillors held an important meeting in its place with Nick Hannon and Ward Cllr Emily Darlington regarding the 'Third Option' for Devolved Services (*see below*).
5. **Devolved Landscape Services**
 - 5.1. **The 'Third' Option** (*MKC's contractor continues to provide the base service but AHPC becomes the contract administrator for the area, with provision for regular meetings and top-up services at AHPC's expense*) — following the productive meeting (*above*) councillors agreed in principle to adopt the Third Option. A schedule of unit costs was requested. Proposer Cllr Evans, seconder Cllr Simpson. Unanimous.
 - 5.2. **Briefing meeting** - The scheme manager Kay Petit had arranged a briefing meeting for the Clerk on 2nd January 2020 at the Civic Offices to explain administrative procedures and expectations. Councillors were free to attend if they wished. CLK
6. **Business Plan** - interim review
 - 6.1. Cllr Simpson reported that he had prepared a working draft. To be circulated. It was agreed to approve the final interim review by the end of March. DS
 - 6.2. The original version to be posted on the website. CLK
7. **New Website** - 123 Internet had not issued a full quotation as promised. Neither had Scott Jones responded to emails. Cllr Evans reported that another local contractor had turned the work down. To be further researched. AE

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8. **Social Media - Friends of Two Mile Ash (FoTMA) and Twitter account** – stolen bicycles and parking enforcement were common topics. Reports of a resident being threatened at knife-point were also aired. It was agreed that the Clerk invite Thames Valley Police to attend the next parish council meeting. **CLK**

9. **Fault/Project Log**

- 9.1. **Ongoing faults/projects** – 20 items – 8 projects, 12 faults. Items were updated including -
- 9.2. **Christmas tree verge anti-parking project** – The fresh quotation - requested to include the 'curve' of horseshoe 19th Oct. - amounted to some £4,100. It was agreed that the Clerk contact two other MKC approved contractors. **CLK**
- 9.3. **Orca-wand gap** - awaiting advance payment: to be made at this meeting.
- 9.4. **Five-a-side goalposts** - Still awaiting full repair. **SG**
- 9.5. **Additional Disabled Parking bay request outside Ashbrook School** - this was abandoned due to excessive costs (at least £3,000) **CLK**
- 9.6. **Post and Rail** - specification of photographed recycled plastic fence still awaited from Ringway. Clerk to chase. **CLK**

10. **Finance**

Payments for authorisation & balances – since October meeting – Clerk's salary (period 8) £733.30; Clerk's admin/expenses £36.24; Gardening Group expenses £43.50; MKC (orca extra) £810.76; Clerk's salary (period 9) £534.80; HMRC (PAYE 3rd qtr.) £25.97; Clerk's expenses £20.00.
These payments were approved.
Available funds 30th November 2019: £53,215 (plus reserves £38,427).

11. **Planning Applications Previous –**

- 11.1. 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. *Pending.*
- 11.2. New -
 - 19/02671/FUL Units K1 K2 & K3 Pitfield Kiln Farm, Refurbishment & extension of industrial units & re-configuration of car parking & site access egress. No objections.
 - 19/03063/FUL 3 Cherleton Two Mile Ash, Single storey rear and two storey side and rear extensions. Remodel of front entrance. No objections.
 - 19/03070/FUL 35 Shorham Rise Two Mile Ash, Part ground floor and first floor side elevation extension to approved scheme 19/01453/FUL. Clerk to check previous AHPC response. **CLK**
 - 19/03114/FUL 9 Thorncliffe Two Mile Ash, Single storey rear extension, first floor side extension, single storey front extension and some internal alterations. No objections.
 - 19/03162/CLUP 16 Farinton Two Mile Ash, Certificate of Lawfulness for Proposed loft conversion with a shed dormer. *(for info only)*
 - 19/03306/FUL 41 Church Hill Two Mile Ash, Garage conversion and single storey rear extension. No objections.

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

- 12.1. No grant requests.
- 12.2. NHS England pamphlets, Clerks' Quarterly, Highways England MI update leaflet.

13. **Other Meetings and New Matters – (WEA; Parishes Forum; Community Annexe, Speedwatch Group)**

- 13.1. Speedwatch Group - Cllr Ryan reported that no new recruits had volunteered for the Group.
- 13.2. Community Annexe - Cllr Evans pointed out that the Annexe had still not contacted him regarding sitting on the Committee.

14. **Date of Next Meeting - Thursday 16th January 2020 at 7.30pm at TWO MILE ASH SCHOOL.**

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed

date