

ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 10th February 2022 at 7.30pm at Two Mile Ash School

Present: Cllrs D. Simpson (in the Chair), A. Evans, K. Ryan, A. Pant, P. Blyth; Mr C Gossop for Two Mile Ash Environmental Group (TMAEG); no Ward Councillors

Clerk: J. Vischer.

1. **Apologies** – None.
2. **Public Open Forum** - Mr Gossop (TMAEG) reported on the progress of the Bluebell Circuit and thanked AHPC for its grant support. This went towards the cost of the concrete foundations of the footbridge. The circuit was now open for use and TMAEG had been offering guided walks; additional features were still in process of execution, for example the preparation of a wildflower garden and bulb planting. Mr Gossop also reported on the upcoming Open Gardens programme which was being reinstated after a two-year absence due to the Covid pandemic. Mr Gossop added that the cost of printing the Open Gardens publicity brochure was considerable, and that the entirely voluntary Group would always welcome any financial support from the Parish Council - acknowledgements would be included in the programme (*see item 10*).
3. **Declarations of Interest in any of the agenda items** – Cllr D Simpson regarding a neighbour's planning application (*item 8.2; 21/03696/FUL*).
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 A Evans, seconder Cllr P Blyth.
 - 4.2. **Matters Arising from these Minutes** - none
5. **Communications**
 - 5.1. **Website** - the requested snags had not yet been corrected. It was agreed to request site traffic numbers from the provider. **CLK**
 - 5.1.1. **Business Links policy** - at present the website Links page consisted mostly of Links from the old website with a few new ones. It was noted that the text on the page had been modified to state that listing on the page did not constitute an endorsement by AHPC. However there was no formal policy on qualification criteria. These were discussed and agreed. Policy wording to be circulated and approved.
 - 5.1.2. **Social Media** - Facebook and Twitter: nothing of unusual significance to report.
6. **Environment**
 - 6.1. **Landscaping Services from 2023** - it was unanimously agreed that: i) unless the TUPE requirement was formally excluded AHPC would withdraw from any Expression of Interest; ii) in any case AHPC would prefer to continue with the current 'Third Option' arrangement rather than full devolution of services. It was noted that to date a 'Third Option' choice had not been offered by MKC. Decisions to be conveyed to the liaison officer. **CLK**
 - 6.2. **Project and Fault Log Update** - 24 items: 5 projects and 19 faults ongoing. Main projects:
 - 6.2.1. **Xmas Lights** - no update on cable ducting requirement.
 - 6.2.2. **Tree Pits** - The 3 remaining tree pits had been investigated and prepared for planting by SERCO. Councillors agreed that 3 specimen low-growing shrubs be chosen from the Emberton wholesale nursery, plus compost, and planted as soon as practicable. The Clerk offered to go to the nursery to choose the plants from stock; Cllr Blyth offered to assist with planting. **CLK/PB**
 - 6.2.3. **Footbridge Repair** - In between meetings councillors had thanked Ward Councillor Zoe Nolan for succeeding in accelerating a long-awaited repair to the handrail on the footbridge over Loughton Brook near the H4 in Wymbush.
 - 6.2.4. **Electric Vehicle Charge-points** - An assessment by BP Pulse of the High St location revealed that the pavement was too narrow to support lipstick charging-points. These would have to be

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installed in the parking bays which would mean 6 'normal' parking bays would be lost. As the run of parking spaces is split by an island there are only 8 or 9 parking spaces each side of the island. Councillors decided that for 6 of these to be taken by EV points was unacceptable. A suggestion of widening the pavement around the charge-points would be conveyed to BP Pulse.
CLK

6.3. Play Area projects

6.3.1. Play areas at Haldene and on the redway near Atherstone Court - it was agreed to go ahead and request the cooperation of MKC to refurbish two small play areas through ordering the paint again via MKC. **CLK**

6.3.2. Central park play area project - there was no update on the bid for funds. In the meantime it was agreed to invite the experienced playgrounds officer to the next parish meeting for a general discussion on what sort of equipment might be suitable.

7. Finance

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

Clerk's salary (period 11) £818.00; Hire of meeting room (1st Qtr 2022) £127.50; Clerk's admin/ expenses £16.00; Re-Issue: Xmas lights and cabling £1,611.60 (*cheque never received*). Payments were approved unanimously.

Available funds (bank reconciliation of main account) at 31 January 2022: £103,137. (plus reserves £38,447).

8. Planning Applications

8.1. Previous

21/03241/FUL Sikh Temple Keller Close Kiln Farm, The erection of a two storey side extension and alterations to parking. *Awaiting Decision*

21/03429/FUL 20 Church Hill Two Mile Ash, The erection of first floor extension over existing ground floor extension and new porch to front elevation (re-submission of similar proposal of 21/00821/FUL). *Permitted*

21/03296/FUL 6 Leafield Rise Two Mile Ash, Construction of a loft conversion with one front dormer and two rear dormer extensions. *Pending*

21/03577/FUL 10 Brindlebrook Two Mile Ash, The erection of a new front extension, new first-floor side window and a part two-storey and part single storey rear extension. *Permitted*

21/03685/FUL 19 Cavenham Two Mile Ash, Erection of part two storey and single storey rear extension and internal alterations. *Pending*

8.2. New

21/03696/FUL 2 The Approach Two Mile Ash, Demolition of existing garage and erection of a two-storey side and rear 2-bedroom annexe extension with pitched roof over. Objection on the grounds of: 1. Overlooking the neighbours with consequent loss of privacy and loss of light; 2. Inadequate parking provision; 3. Out-of character with the existing - this is an independent building and not simply an extension. **CLK**

22/00101/FUL 5 Cherleton Two Mile Ash, The erection of ground & first floor side and rear elevation extension and internal alterations. (Resub 21/03677/FUL). No objections.

9. Grants and Correspondence - no grant applications or correspondence.

10. Other Meetings and New Matters

10.1. MK Play Association provision - due to time constraints to be discussed outside of the meeting.

10.2. Councillors were in agreement to award a grant to TMAEG towards Open Gardens costs. Due to time constraints the amount would be decided outside of this meeting. **CLLRS/CLK**

11. Date of Next Meeting – Thursday 10th March 2022. To be held at Two Mile Ash School at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed

date