

ABBEY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES of the Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 9th March 2023 at 7.30pm at Two Mile Ash School

Present: Cllrs D. Simpson (in the Chair), A Evans, A. Pant, K. Ryan. Two members of the public, Anne Vine, Natasha Cheriyan.

1. **Apologies** – Cllr P. Blyth.
2. **Open Forum** - Anne Vine (AV) reported back on the progress of the Warm Places initiative. Over the last 7 weeks 18 different residents had attended with approx 3 or 4 volunteers in attendance. Councillors had recently agreed to AV's suggestion to purchase three fan heaters (£99.99 each) as currently the Church heating was unreliable. It was agreed to refund AV for this purchase as soon as possible and not wait until the next meeting. A brief discussion ensued about the future of the project as the season draws to a close. It was agreed to see how it progresses before making decisions. The MKCC Bins Tour demonstration team had agreed to use the 14th April session for their presentation. Publicity to be arranged by AHPC.
CLK
Anne Vine also gave an update on the proposed Craft Group (which would coincide with the Friday Warm Places sessions). Funds would be made available if sufficient interest is shown. Councillors had declined to be issued with tailored AHPC email accounts (at £18 per person) but it was agreed that a group email could be provided for volunteers should the Craft Group go ahead. AV had drawn up a publicity poster which had been approved. Councillors agreed that this be posted on Friends of TMA. Natasha Cheriyan reported on the very successful February 19th litter-pick, when 22 sacks of litter had been collected. She proposed arranging further litter-picks, which councillors supported. AHPC would again assist with publicity and sacks etc. Dates to be arranged.
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. **February 2023 Meeting Minutes Approval** - previously circulated, were unanimously approved. Proposer Cllr A Pant, seconder Cllr A Evans.
 - 4.2. **Matters Arising from those Minutes**
 - 4.2.1. **Sight of new MKCC Landscaping contract (10.2)** - A formal letter had been sent to R Trowse, MKCC Commissioning Programme Manager, on 23 February 2023. An email acknowledgement stated that the contract was still being 'fine-tuned' and MKCC was considering making it an item for discussion at the next Parishes Forum. It was agreed that sight of the contract was still essential. Clerk to pursue. **CLK**
 - 4.2.2. **MKCC Bins Tour demonstration** - the team had agreed to use the 14th April Warm Places session for their presentation. Publicity to be arranged by AHPC. **CLK**
 - 4.2.3. **EV Chargers project** - no update yet provided.
 - 4.2.4. **MK Springers grant report** - no update yet from the organisation [*post-meeting note*: the contact person replied to say that she would shortly be leaving and had passed on AHPC's request to another member of staff]
5. **Communications**
 - 5.1. **Social Media/Website** Feedback from the Community - no matters of concern reported. It was noted that the Chair had succeeded in attaching the new dog bin map to the website Home page.
 - 5.2. **Community Award** - Cllr Blyth's earlier nomination was approved unanimously. **CLK**
 - 5.3. **May Elections timetable** - Nomination papers to be submitted by hand between March 27th and April 4th.
 - 5.4. **Email addresses** - (*as Open Forum above*) - Councillors had declined to be issued with tailored AHPC email accounts (at £18 per person) but it was agreed that a group email could be provided for volunteers should the Craft Group go ahead.
6. **Environment**
 - 6.1. **Xmas Tree Lights** - Messages left but no contact established. [*post-meeting note*: the contractor had

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replied after the meeting to say that although they would be happy to continue to dress the Xmas Tree they could not take on any further work] CLK

6.2. Proposed Defibrillator - The Bargain Booze shop landlord had still not responded. The Clerk had arranged to re-visit One Stop Shop tomorrow for a closer inspection of possible sitings of the defibrillator box. [*post-meeting note*: The manager had been helpful but it was clear greater expertise was required. The Clerk subsequently invited the owners to arrange a visit by their buildings maintenance contractor to investigate potential places at the front of the shop] CLK

6.3. Christmas Tree Green railing repair - a site meeting had not yet been convened. Cllr Ryan would contact the Allotment Association to retrieve the railing as soon as practicable. KR

6.4. New Play equipment - installation had been completed by SERCO on AHPC's behalf. Positive comments had already been noted on social media.

6.5. Autumn bulbs - The recently planted bulbs are now coming up along the Approach.

6.6. Project and Fault Log Update - 28 items: 4 projects and 24 faults ongoing. Items reviewed.

7. Finance

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

Clerk's salary & expenses (period 12) £944.12; Warm Places expenditure (supplies) £39.49; HMRC PAYE & NIC's (4th Qtr) £561.43; Data Protection subscription £35.00; Bank error (Clerk's salary) £0.40; SERCO - via MKCC - (new play equipment) £20,700.00. Payments were approved unanimously.

Income - Ward Cllr Grant (towards play equipment) £200; Warm Places funding £4,000.

Available funds (bank reconciliation of main account) at 28th February 2023: £65,260. (plus reserves £38,502).

7.2. VAT repayment delay - the Clerk had enquired some weeks ago why the June 2022 reclaim was still outstanding only to be informed eventually that HMRC had no record of the claim. Subsequent telephone calls confirmed this. The Clerk has re-submitted the original claim as copies had been made at the time.

8. Planning Applications

8.1. Previous

22/02216/FUL Transport House Brick Close **Kiln Farm**, Change of Use from warehouse (class B2) to Model Car Museum (class F1), erection of 2 storey extension to side of building including erection of open aspect canopy / coach shelter and internal alterations. *Pending*

22/02727/HOU **29 Thornciffe Two Mile Ash**, The erection of a single storey side extension with roof lights. New areas of paving and new landscaping. *Permitted*

22/02921/HOU **18 The High Street Two Mile Ash**, The erection of a front porch with enclosed balcony terrace. *Awaiting Decision*

23/00058/HOU **40 Astlethorpe Two Mile Ash**, The erection of a proposed two storey rear extension with rear gables, new side windows and extended block paved driveway. *Pending*

8.2. New

23/00390/HOU **32 Astlethorpe Two Mile Ash**, The erection of a single storey rear extension with roof lights. No objections.

22/02717/FUL **Kiln Farm Sports And Social Club** Keller Close Kiln Farm, Increase the height of the boundary fencing with concrete posts and bases (retrospective). No objections.

9. Grants and Correspondence - Vital Signs magazine (MK Community Foundation) and Clerk's quarterlies.

10. Other Meetings and New Matters

10.1. Community Garden - Clerk to enquire if any new plants required and send thanks to the organiser.

10.2. Parish noticeboard - It was agreed to replace the noticeboard as good offers were available. A maximum budget of £1,000 was agreed. CLK

10.3. Annual Update 2022/23 - it was agreed that funds should be allocated to the printing and hand delivery of the report.

11. Date of Next Meeting – Annual Parish Meeting & Ordinary Meeting Thursday 20th April 2023. To be held at Two Mile Ash School at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed

date