

Abberley Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 26th January 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.35pm.

Present: Cllrs: Mr T Nott (Chairman), Mr R Goodman, Mr A Jukes, Mr J Lakeman, Mrs C Knight, Mrs N Kedwards, Mr G Crompton and Ms K Andrew.

In Attendance: Mrs A Watson (Clerk), District Cllr. Mr P Cumming and Ms. S Teasdale, Manager of Marshes Residential Children's Home, Abberley.

1. Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr. Mrs D Gage and County Cllr. Dr K Pollock.

2. Declarations of Interest: There were no declarations of interest.

3. Suspension of the meeting for Democratic Public Question Time. There were no public in attendance.

4. The Chairman welcomed Sharon Teasdale, Manager of Marshes Residential Children's Home in Abberley, who kindly attended the meeting to give a brief talk about the children's home and her role. The home accommodates 4 children at a time from various parts of the country, with a staff team of 10 working on a rota. Stay lengths vary but most are 6-12 month care plans that allow the children to benefit from the support packages available to them and they are no risk to the public. Councillors and Ms Teasdale discussed various aspects of the home including funding and exit and transitional plans when the children leave. The Chairman thanked Ms Teasdale for her interesting talk and invited her to stay for the rest of the meeting, which she did.

5. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on the 08/12/15 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

6. Planning

6.1 To note the following new applications dealt with by delegated procedure:

6.1.1 15/01710/FUL Applicant: Mr & Mrs Whiting. Proposal: New dwelling in garden of existing dwelling at Stone Cottage, Apostles Oak, Abberley, WR6 6AA. Parish Council comment: **Recommend Refusal**

6.1.2 15/01701/FUL Applicant: Mr G Benton. Proposal: Single storey rear extension at 15, The Carpenters Shop, Abberley Park, Stockton Road, Abberley, WR6 6AW. Parish Council comment: **Recommend Approval**

6.2 To note the following MHDC Planning decision notifications:

6.2.1 15/01582/HOU Applicant: Mr & Mrs Whiting. Proposal: Extension to existing dwelling at Stone Cottage, Apostles Oak, Abberley, WR6 6AA. **Application Withdrawn**

6.2.2 15/01710/FUL Applicant: Mr & Mrs Whiting. Proposal: New dwelling in garden of existing dwelling at Stone Cottage, Apostles Oak, Abberley, WR6 6AA. **Application Withdrawn**

6.3 To note the following Appeal Notifications:

6.3.1 **APP/J1860/W/15/3139165** Applicant: Mr & Mrs AE Steward. Proposal: Application for removal or variation of a condition to remove Condition 2 agricultural occupancy at Holy Acre Farm, Suffolk Lane, Abberley, WR6 6BE.

6.3.2 **APP/J1860/W/15/3133352** Applicant: Mr N Birchley and Ms G D'Angelo. Proposal: Change of use of land to site 2 yurts for residential use associated with the long term management at Ridding Coppice, Worles Common, Stockton.

6.4 Bloor Homes meeting held on the 13/01/16 – update and notes kindly taken by Cllr. Andrew. The meeting, requested by Bloor Homes in December, had been arranged with Malvern Hills District Council planning department. Councillors discussed the notes taken by Cllr. Andrew and comments made by Bloor Homes representatives and Planning Officer Mr D Kinsella. Bloor Homes did not indicate if they will appeal the refusal of planning application 14/01122/OUT or if they will submit a new application and no further correspondence has been received since this meeting.

6.5 Letter and photographs from Mr R Winwood regarding planning application 15/01049/FUL. This was read out by the Clerk and speeding traffic on the A443 was discussed. Cllr. Crompton suggested to Ms Teasdale that some form of notice for 'no turning' should be put in the driveway of the children's home.

6.6 Neighbourhood Planning – Cllrs Crompton, Kedwards, Andrew and Knight are attending two training sessions on Neighbourhood Planning run by Malvern Hills District Council in January.

7. Welfare

7.1 Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr. Lakeman reported that Cllr. Kedwards was doing a great job taking over the reins of Neighbourhood Watch. The lack of visible police within the Teme Valley continues at PC Woods has not been replaced yet at Tenbury and Cllr. Lakeman has written to Sergeant Ian Blanchard to ask what is going to happen. Cllr. Lakeman also reported on some good news, that the fibre optic cabinet for BT broadband to connect the second half of the village should be operational by the end of March.

.....2015-2016

Chairman

Abberley Parish Council

At this point, District Councillor Paul Cumming gave his report and stated, that due to losing the rate support grants, financial savings will have to be made earlier than expected at the District Council and this may affect services. This has also resulted in a recommendation that the Council tax rate will increase by 3.6%. Cllr. Cumming anticipates that the South Worcestershire Development Plan will be approved shortly.

7.2 Defibrillator box. The Clerk had received quotations and will look to place an order for a stainless steel box at a cost of £650 plus VAT.

7.3 A reminder of an invitation to the next Worcestershire Parish Conference on the 24/02/16 at 6.30pm at County Hall was read out by the Clerk.

7.4 A letter from The Chantry School Headteacher, Andy Dickenson, regarding increase in planned admission numbers was read out by the Clerk. No action required.

8. Highways. The Clerk read out items reported to the Worcestershire Hub and the Temporary Road Closure Notice at Apostles Oak for Severn Trent Water works commencing 15/02/16. It was requested that the blocked drains at the bottom of Suffolk Lane near Brickyard Corner also be reported to highways and that a reminder be included in the parish news report for parishioners to cut their hedges back. Concerns were raised over dangerous trees overhanging the A443 that belong to the Elms hotel. The Clerk will write to the manager of the Elms Hotel regarding this matter and send a copy to the County Council. The VAS sign just before the village shop will also be reported as it is believed to be faulty.

9. Finance

9.1 To agree the Budget 2016-2017. The Clerk had provided Councillors with copies of the draft budget and accounts with a bank reconciliation to 13/01/16. It was unanimously agreed to set the budget for 2016/17 as prepared, which was signed by the Chairman.

9.2 To agree the Precept request 2016-2017 and submit to Malvern Hills District Council by 31/01/16. It was unanimously agreed that there should be no increase in the Precept of £8,500, which is the same as last year. The Clerk will put this request in writing to Malvern Hills District Council.

9.3 Receipts: 13/01/16 WCC Lengthsman Payment £1740.00

9.4 To confirm the following payments made during January:

9.4.1 Clerks Salary December 2015 -January 2016 £305.00

9.4.2 Lengthsman for work during December 2015 £162.00

9.5 The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

9.5.1 Clerks Expenses December 2015 – January 2016 £61.48

9.5.2 Abberley Village Green Trust – Assistance with Insurance Costs 2015/2016 £650.00

10. Councillors' and Clerk's reports and items for future agenda.

- To complete and approve Annual Risk Assessment.
- County Cllr. Dr Ken Pollock had kindly sent a report which included an update on changes at the Council including the news that Simon Geraghty, the former deputy, was elected as leader, with Anthony Blagg as his deputy. Cllr. Pollock is to assume the portfolio of Economy, Skills and Infrastructure. All other Cabinet posts remain the same. Cllr. Pollock also reported that he has not yet had a response to his request for more speed control measures on the A443 in the village.

11. Date of the next meeting:

It was confirmed the next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th March 2016 in Abberley Village Hall at 7.30pm.

12. Meeting closure

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.30pm