

Abberley Parish Council

Draft Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 12th April 2016 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

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

In Attendance: Mrs A Watson (Clerk), District Cllr. Mr P Cumming and 1 member of the Public.

1. Apologies: Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. Mrs D Gage, Mr A Juckes, Mrs N Kedwards and County Councillor 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 questions.

4. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held on the 08/03/16 were taken as read, approved and signed by the Chairman.

5. Planning

5.1 To note the following new application to be dealt with by delegated procedure:

16/00369/FUL Applicant: Mr A Jew. Proposal: Proposed alterations to planning permission 14/01668/FUL incorporating increase in floor plan size and new separate single garage building to front at Land adj to 46 Apostles Oak, Abberley, WR6 6AA. **Parish Council comment: Recommend Refusal.**

5.2 Abberley Parish Council Response to Appeal: APP/J1860/W/16/3144810 Applicant: Agents for Bloor Homes to appeal refusal of planning application 14/01122/OUT for 25 dwellings on land adjacent Apostles Oak. The Chairman thanked the Councillors involved with compiling the Parish Council response to the appeal document and District Cllr. Cumming agreed that it read very well and it is now a matter for the planning inspector.

5.3 Notification of SWDP related consultations and invitation to seminar on 25th April 2016 at County Hall. Cllr. Crompton to attend.

5.4 Neighbourhood Planning. The NP Steering Group is working towards applying for a grant and organising a public meeting. This is planned for the evening of Tuesday 19th July and efforts will be made to publicise the event and encourage parishioners to attend.

6. Welfare

6.1 Neighbourhood Watch and Superfast Broadband. Cllr. Lakeman kindly reported on local broadband and the recent connection to Abberley Common. Anyone who has signed up to BT should be doing a speed test to ensure they are getting the best result. Cllr. Lakeman reported that he is now able to achieve 37mbs. Cllr. Kedwards is doing a great job running Neighbourhood Watch and due to a number of break-ins within the Teme Valley the PC's have changed their working pattern. Anyone who has a break-in can get forensics fairly quickly as the police are trying to do something to catch these criminals.

6.2 West Mercia Police & Crime Commissioner (PCC) Elections – Thursday 5th May 2016 were noted.

6.3 Malvern Hills District Parish & Town Council Conference 18/04/16 at Council Chambers, Malvern. 6.00pm-8.30pm. No Councillors are available to attend.

6.4 A letter of thanks from Mrs E Richmond on behalf of Nora Parsons Day Centre was read out by the Clerk.

6.5 MHDC Overview and Scrutiny Committee reports and community award scheme survey were noted.

6.6 MHDC Ward walk and youth bus information. District Cllr. Cumming reported on an interesting 'ward walk' within the parish and the Clerk is to find out additional information on the youth bus project from Wychavon Council.

7. Highways.

7.1 Items reported to Highways by the Clerk and information from Mr M Willis regarding pot holes and fly tipping. The Clerk reported that despite a road closure notice for Abberley Common resurfacing work, nothing has been done to date other than the telegraph pole on the pavement has been moved onto the garage forecourt. The Clerk read out correspondence from Mr Willis regarding fly tipping which is occurring regularly on private land near Shavers End Quarry and a complaint he had made to the County Council regarding the recent road repairs. The Clerk is to report the drains at the junction of Suffolk Lane and the B4202 and those up from the Village to Wynnattes Way together with pot holes by Jacobs Well and Church Farm again. The Clerk reported that the overhanging trees outside the Elms Hotel had now been cut back.

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7.2 Information on Lengthsman's Contract for 2016/2017. As the contract has still not been received it was agreed to extend the current contract with Mr C Jones for another month.

7.3 MHDC information on street naming and numbering guidance was noted.

8. Finance

8.1 The Notice of Annual Audit of Accounts for year ending 31/03/16 has been received from Grant Thornton and the date for submission to them is the 24th June 2016. The Clerk will contact Mr A Eden regarding the internal audit. In order to comply with the provision of electors rights all accounts and annual returns will also be available on the parish website after this date.

8.2 To confirm the following payments made during March:

8.2.1 Clerks Salary March-April 2016 £305.00

8.3 The following payments were authorised and cheques signed:

8.3.1 Lengthsman for work during March 2016 £240.00

8.3.2 Clerks Expenses March-April 2016 £32.39

8.3.3 Abberley Village Hall £46.75

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

- Query from Mrs E Tassell regarding public question time and a Community Plan. Councillors considered Mrs Tassell's suggestion of moving public question time to the end of the meeting, however it was agreed that the current format will remain. It was suggested that Mrs Tassell may be interested in being involved with the NP Steering Group and the Clerk is to contact her with the suggestion.
- Beacons for the Queens 90th Birthday Celebrations were noted.
- Resignation of Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer, Mrs A Watson and advertisement for new Clerk. It was agreed that the Chairman, Cllr. Goodman and Cllr. Andrew will meet to discuss the vacancy and job description.
- A report from County Councillor Dr K Pollock was read out by the Clerk.
- Cllr. Goodman raised a query from the Village Hall Committee regarding the defibrillator for the Village. The Clerk is to chase up Mr Noel Orbell at West Midlands Ambulance Service who had offered to provide one free of charge.

10. Date of the next meeting:

It was confirmed the next meeting will be the **Annual Parish Meeting and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council** to be held on **Tuesday 17th May 2016 in Abberley Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

11. Meeting closure

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.00pm