

The Minutes Of Abberley Parish Council
Held At Abberley Village Committee Meeting Room At 7:30pm On 19th July, 2017

Present: Cllr C Knight (Vice Chairman), Cllr K Andrew, Cllr G Crompton, Cllr R Goodman

In Attendance: District Cllr P Cumming, Clerk

72. Apologies. Cllrs Trevor Nott, Ning Kedwards, Alan Jukes, Tony Eden and Jim Gibson send their apologies for not being able to attend this meeting, due to other appointments. County Cllr Ken Pollack submitted his apologies.

73. Temporary Chairmanship of meeting. Vice Chairman Cllr Knight in Cllr Nott's absence.

74. Declarations of Interest

- a. Register of Interests. Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b. To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
- c. To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
- d. Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the Clerk at least four days prior to a meeting.

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4)(b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items. Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may be a criminal offence.

The meeting will be adjourned for Public Question Time

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the Minutes as an aide memoire.

75. Minutes.

The Minutes of the Abberley Parish Council Annual Meeting held on 21st June, 2017.

76. Progress Reports.

- a. Report from Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (Cllr Andrew).
Cllr Andrew confirmed that the final questionnaire had now been agreed and was ready for launch. Final preparation were being made for promotional posters and the group would also be creating opportunities for non-internet users to offer their input into the questionnaire stage of the project. As soon as everything was ready for roll out, this element of the project would 'go live.'

77. District and County Councillors Reports.

For information, items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.

- a. District Councillor Paul Cummings gave his report.
Cllr Cummings had previously reported his own dissatisfaction with the overall performance of Malvern Hills District Council (MHDC) planning unit. As a result of continuing issues within the unit that were impeding effective and efficient working, outside assistance had been called in from an experienced member of staff from within Wychavon District council. Cllr Cummings hoped that this initiative would move MHDC planning unit forward in terms of the required effectiveness and cost-efficient working.

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78. Highways and Related Matters

- a. The Clerk gave a brief update outlining the meeting between Highways Community Liaison Engineer (Malvern Hills District) Ms Hannah Davies and Cllr Jukes. Meeting took place on the afternoon of Monday 26th June, with Cllr Jukes and Ms. Hannah Davies visiting Abberley and working through many of the issues that face the village, in situ. This involved a tour of Brickyard/Bank Lane/Suffolk etc. along with Wynniates Way, the pavement around the school and as many other items as could be fitted in.

The availability of funding and the need to prioritise the limited funds across the District/County was discussed. Cllr Jukes will give a fuller report at the next meeting.

79. Finance

- a Confirmation of payments made

Mins	Item	Description	Payee	Amount £
21.06.2017	68.e.1	Returned Cheque – Standard Fee	HSBC	-15.00
21.06.2017	68.e.2	Lengthsmans Account	A Johnson	-144.00
21.06.2017	68.e.3	Internal Auditor's Fee Account (2016-17 Audit)	K Gittins	-20.00
21.06.2017	68.e.4	Parish Clerks Salary (Month 3)	K Wild	-280.86
21.06.2017	68.e.5	Parish Clerks Office Expenses Office Allowance £16.00 Postage £9.10 Printing – Parish Meetings £10.24 Photocopier paper £8.00	K Wild	-43.34
21.06.2017	68.e.6	Parish Clerks Expenditure re * Transparency Code Grant Claim Laptop £349.99 Software £141.98 Scanner + printer/copier £92.99 Ink Jet Cartridges £64.99 External Storage £18.99 Less Discount purchases -£20.00	K Wild	-648.94

- b. Confirmation of receipts

Mins	Item	Description	Payor	Amount £
19.07.2017	b.1	VAT Refund	HMRC	130.92

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c. The Council authorised the following payments to be made

Mins	Item	Description	Payor	Amount £
19.07.2017	c.1	Lengthsman's Claim	A Johnson	-144.00
19.07.2017	c.2	Clerks Salary (Month 4)	K Wild	-350.76
19.07.2017	c.3	Clerks Expenses Office Allowance £16.00 Postage £2.40 HMRC PAYE paid on council's behalf £34.80	K Wild	-53.20
	c.4	Hire of Hall for council meetings 17 th May 2017 to 21 st March 2018	Abberley Village Hall	-89.50

80. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

a. Planning.

A quorum from the Planning Sub-committee confirmed that this matter was supported.

b. Speed Reduction (cross-parish council working)

In Cllr Kedwards absence, the Clerk gave a brief outline of an approach made by Lindridge Parish Council, who propose a multi-parish council team focussed on the problems of speeding on the A443. Approaches were being made to a number of parish councils whose borders surround this route. The approach had only just been made and Cllr Kedwards would be picking it up on her return. Updates will be made available at a later date as the project progresses.

c. Lengthsman.

Cllr Knight had received requests for the lengthsman's attention in a few areas of the village, to enable mobility scooter(s) and pushchairs/prams to pass with greater ease. A list was provided to the Clerk to pass on to the Lengthsman.

81. Date of next meeting. Wednesday September 20th 2017, 7.30pm Abberley Village Hall.

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Appendix 1

Public Question Time (Aide Memoire for the meeting held on Wednesday 19th July, 2017)

Parishioner Mrs Sue Coley raised her concerns about safe passage in the village for large/wide vehicles, such as buses, coaches, farm vehicles and 4x4's, due to the way in which some hedges are protruding either toward or on to the Highway. In addition, smaller vehicles using the pavements, such as mobility scooters and individuals with pushchairs or prams may also find their progress impeded.

In particular Mrs Coley referenced properties along The Common and in Suffolk Lane, although she did not claim these to be the only areas of problems.

Cllrs Knight and Goodman referenced previous instances when the parish council used their standard letter of request to ask individual properties to be aware of potential problems, especially during rapid periods of growth in the Summer and ask them to manage their property hedge boundaries considerately.

The observation was made that poor driving behaviours: speeding, driving down the centre of roads, etc. were an issue just as much as the encroachment of vegetation. This is most noticeable along The Common (a notorious road for broken wing mirrors, damaged walls and near misses). As a result of the wide range of issues faced by residents and road users it was suggested that the Parish Council again push to get The Common designated as a 20mph speed limit in an attempt to slow traffic and hopefully reduce the instances of damage and danger.