

The Minutes Of Abberley Parish Council
Held At Abberley Village Committee Meeting Room at 7:30pm on 18th October 2017

Present: Cllr R T Nott (Chairman), Cllr C Knight (Vice Chairman), Cllr N Kedwards, Cllr K Andrew, Cllr J Gibson, Cllr A Juckes, Cllr A Eden, Cllr G Crompton, Cllr R Goodman

In Attendance: County Councillor K Pollock, District Cllr P Cumming, Mr David Manning South Worcestershire Rural Communities Programme (SWRCP), West Mercia Police Service PCSO Vanessa Snape, West Mercia Police Service representative Mike Simpson, Clerk.

94. Apologies. There were no apologies.

95. Declarations of Interest

- a. Register of Interests. Councillors were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b. Disclosable Pecuniary Interests. No pecuniary interests were declared.
- c. Other Disclosable Interests. Item 102a, Planning Item 17/01490/FUL. Cllr J Gibson drew attention to his interest in this item, as a resident at the proposed site. Cllr N Kedwards drew attention to the proximity of her home to the location of the proposed site and the fact that she had withdrawn from the Planning Sub-Committee deliberations of this item. As the sub-committee had already offered their recommendation to MHDC, no further action was required.

The meeting was adjourned for **Public Question Time**.

96. Minutes. The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September, 2017 were approved.

97. Progress Reports

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group (report given by Cllr N Kedwards). The initial analysis of the collected data showed an under representation of the teenager/young adult age group. The questionnaire was re-opened and further encouragement was given for this target group to take part, which proved to be a successful and gave the team a more satisfactory catchment in each of the identified age groups.

Initial drafting of the Plan sections is now underway and an application for grant monies from the relevant government backed agency is to be undertaken to support the use of an appropriate consultant if deemed appropriate. The next meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan Project will be on 1st November, 2017.

98. South Worcestershire Rural Communities Programme, Abberley Village

David Manning of South Worcestershire Rural Communities Programme (SWRCP) gave a presentation and then held a question and answer session on the support service(s) provided by his unit. The council decided to consider this matter at their next meeting.

99. West Mercia Police “We don’t Buy Crime” Initiative/Smart Water forensic property marking kit and data registration/recording system, Abberley Village

PCSO Vanessa Snape and Mike Simpson, representing the West Mercia Police Service (WMPS) gave a presentation and then held a question and answer session on the WMPS’s preferred forensic property marking kit and data registration/recording system. As this matter has potential links into the support service(s) being offered by the SWRCP (item 98 above), the council decided to consider this matter at their next meeting.

SIGNED

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100. Highways and Related Matters

- a. Cllr Kedwards had represented the Parish Council at the initial meeting of the Lindridge Parish Council led initiative to relating to the A443 Pressure Group, whose aim is to make the local section of the A443 between Little Witley, Great Witley, Abberley, Lindridge and towards Tenbury safer for all road users.

Lindridge Parish Council have purchased and installed Vehicle Activated Signs (VAS) at a cost of approximately £2,500 per unit and are currently looking at the data being collected by these warning signs.

100. Highways and Related Matters (continued)

Cllr Kedwards proposed that the Parish Council join this multi-parish council initiative and the proposal was **AGREED** unanimously.

- b. Update Clows Top B4202, A443, The Common, various traffic issues (Cllr Ning Kedwards).

Police Community Support Officer (PCSO) Vanessa Snape offered to attend the next meeting of the A443 Pressure Group.

She also confirmed that she would be liaising with the school and was able to supply the Abberley Parochial VC Primary School with some traffic cones so that they could use them to attempt to deter vehicle drivers who chose to park over the yellow road markings or to pull up on the verge, rather than using the Village Hall car park when dropping children off for classes. PCSO Snape asked the council to note that at Hallow Church Of England Primary School, photographs of offending vehicles were taken, printed and then publicly displayed (for a period of one week from the incident) as a further deterrent.

PCSO Snape clarified that, with regards to the question of vehicle drivers parking on the public footpath it was important that they leave sufficient room for pedestrians including those with child buggies, or mobility scooters to be able to pass.

When residents witnessed incidents of vehicles blocking the public footpaths and not leaving sufficient room for safe passage by pedestrians, then any photographs they felt able to take could be passed on to West Mercia, either via Neighbourhood Watch nwatchabberley@gmail.com or directly to the Safer Neighbourhood Team using mt.snt@westmercia.pnn.police.uk

101. District and County Councillors Reports.

- a. District Council Paul Cummings brought to the Parish Council's attention the Liquid Petroleum Gas (LPG) scheme that he had previously set up. Residents in the Malvern Hills district could save up to 30% on their heating bills with [Lister Gases Limited](#). The deal has seen many local residents already benefit from the competitive and fair pricing offered by Lister Gases through their discounted bulk purchasing of LPG scheme. Information can be obtained by contacting Lister Gases Ltd on 0121 556 7181 quoting LGMHDC or accessing <http://www.malvern hills.gov.uk/energy-efficiency>

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- b. County Councillor Dr Ken Pollock reported to the meeting that various developments had been put in train to improve the village's roads and pavements. These will take place over the coming year and include; filling potholes in Bank Lane (this year) and surface dress long sections of the lane next season and improving the footpath outside of the school.

The Tenbury Public Realm project was proceeding and the future of the Velo Birmingham Bike Event would be discussed by County Officers and relevant councillors in the coming weeks.

Dr Pollock confirmed his awareness of the concerns about broadband speeds in the village and he requested that queries be directed to him personally so that he can pursue them with the relevant officers. He also confirmed that 10Mbps in the UK is due to be delivered by 2020.

Cllr Jim Gibson asked for specific help with the ongoing problems that he believes result from poor infrastructure and reducing capacity within BT (provider) / Openreach (engineering). These issues include engineering tickets reportedly being left open in the Kidderminster area due to unresolvable issues linked to overstretching.

Cllr Trevor Nott, Chairman, raised his concerns about Western Power's claims that they cut back from their own delivery infrastructure trees/foilage every 5 years or every 2 years in sensitive and vulnerable areas. Dr Pollock will act on firm information as he receives it.

102. Planning and Related Matters

- a. 17/01490/FUL – Old Yates Farm, Stockton Road WR6 6AT
 Installation of Photovoltaic Array to power 2 x domestic dwellings.
 Sub-committee advises decision 'No Objection'
- b. 17/01199/HP – Apostles Oak House, WR6 6AD
 Demolition of attached garage and rear porch and construction of single storey kitchen extension
 MHDC advise permission granted.

103. Finance and Related Matters

- a. The council noted the payments made.

Mins	Item	Description	Payee	Amount £
20/09/2017	92.c.1	Clerks Salary (Month 6)	Kym Wild	-298.26
20/09/2017	92.c.2	Clerk's Office Allowance (Month 6)	Kym Wild	-16.00

- b. The council **noted** receipt of the following monies.

Mins	Item	Description	Payor	Amount £
18/10/2017	103.b.1	Precept Payment (Final instalment)	Malvern Hills District Council	4,350.00

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c. The council **confirmed** that the following payments should be made.

Mins	Item	Description	Payor	Amount £
18/10/2017	103.c.1	Clerk's Salary (Month 7)	Kym Wild	-298.26
18/10/2017	103.c.2	Clerk's Office Allowance (Month 7)	Kym Wild	-16.00
18/10/2017	103.c.3	Lengthsman Claim	Andy Johnson	-144.00
18/10/2017	103.c.4	External Audit, agreed fee for external audit of Abberley Parish Council's account for the financial year ended 31/03/2017.	Grant Thornton	-120.00

d. The council **noted** the comments of Grant Thornton the external auditors of the parish accounts for the financial year ended 31 March 2017.

104. Councillors' reports and items for future agenda

a. Neighbourhood Watch Update (Cllr Ning Kedwards)

It was agreed that items relating to crime incidents in the village been extensively covered under item 99.

1. An additional item was brought to the Council's attention by Cllr Kedwards, which related to a referral she had received from Mr Andrew Mawby the current editor of the Parish Magazine. He was in receipt of an article authored by a parishioner, which gave advice on a range of security issues. It had been referred back to Cllr Kedwards in her capacity as the Neighbourhood Watch liaison for the village, because of the nature of the piece. The Clerk affirmed that the Parish Council does not have any editorial control over the Parish Magazine, as it is not a publication produced on their behalf.

Due to the fortunate timing of having West Mercia Police Service representatives PCSO Vanessa Snape and her colleague Mike Simpson they were able to review the article and suggest alternative options for the Parish Magazine to include, which they would be able to source from their own internal library of citizen advice. Cllr Kedwards would be liaising with PCSO Snape on this issue.

b. Reports from other Councillors

Cllr Richard Goodman advised the Parish Council that, in the event of the non-formation of a Village Hall Committee, management of the Village Hall passes on to the Parish Council. This situation highlights the issue faced by voluntary groups across many operational areas of public life in our society, that of finding effective routes by which younger members of communities can be approached, engaged and motivated to become an active part of such groups. This particular issue relating to Abberley village is to be discussed at a future meeting.

105. Date of next meeting. Wednesday November 15th, 2017, 7.30pm Abberley Village Hall.

SIGNED
 CHAIRMAN

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