

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Draft minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2017 at 8.00 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 240.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries (Chair), Mr. Whitlow, Mr. Holt and Mr. Hill.  
**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Mr. Hunter and Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel.

**240/1** **Apologies:** PC Tony Carter and PCSO K. Hearnden.

**240/2** **Declarations of Interest:**  
a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Nil.  
c) Other Disclosable Interests – Nil.

**240/3** **Written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation** (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – nil received.

**240/4** **Casual vacancies:** No bye-elections have been called. Three vacancies advertised for co-option.

**240/5** **Members appointed to posts following resignation.**  
Cllrs. Mr. Hill and Mr. Whitlow to Staffing Committee and Finance Group. Other vacancies to be filled when new members in post.

**240/6** **Reports from County Cllr and District Cllr.**  
County Cllr. Mr. Holt:  
a) Unemployment claimant count continues to fall for the Worcestershire area.  
b) The Cabinet has proposed a 0.9% increase in the budget with the addition of an extra 2% from government for care services.  
c) A report from Ofsted on the safe guarding of children in Worcestershire has been graded as poor.  
d) The cabinet is suggesting a capital expenditure of 1 million to increase the road budget; 6 million towards footways of the next 2 years; 5 million to cut congestion and 2 million for town centre improvements.  
e) Worcestershire has the 3rd fastest growth in the country.  
Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:  
a) Budget yet to be decided.  
b) Wychavon District is the 3<sup>rd</sup> best place to live in the country.  
c) Inkberrow will be the Village of Culture for a year starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.  
Police report via email: Incidents to note that have occurred since last meeting on 24th Nov - 3rd February are pressure washer stolen from farm yard overnight and Morton Wood Lane x 2 incidents unknown persons have walked through a number of gates and across fields and left the gates open. No offences.

**Public Question Time:** Nil.

**240/7** **Minutes:** proposed by Cllr. Mr. Whitlow, seconded by Cllr. Mr. Hill and **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 24.11.16 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman. Draft Staffing Committee minutes of meeting held on 05.01.17 circulated to members for information.

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

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<b>240/8</b>	<b>Clerk's report:</b> New Homes Bonus – currently available £583. <u>Parish Paths Warden</u> – Mr. Smith has resigned. Post advertised.
<b>240/9</b>	<b>Financial Matters.</b>
9.1	<b>Resolved</b> that the 'Schedule of Payments' be paid as listed. Summary of accounts and bank reconciliation to 30.12.16 approved. (Appendix 1)
9.2	<u>Finance Working Group</u> January meeting notes circulated to members. The following was considered and agreed: a) Adoption of Balances and Reserves Policy. b) Budget requirement for 2017-18. It was proposed by Cllr. Mr. Whitlow, seconded by Cllr. Mr. Humphries and <b>resolved</b> that the budget requirement to form the Precept for 2017/18 would be £5764.
9.3	<u>Signatory for accounts:</u> Cllr. Mr. Hill to be added and Mr. Smith to be removed from the signing agreement.
9.4	Internal audit of effectiveness for 2017/18 was considered and <b>resolved</b> to be adopted.
9.5	<u>Contracts for 2017-18:</u> a) <u>Internal Auditor</u> is happy for contract to be renewed to complete the accounts for 2016/17 but would resign from post once these were completed. b) <u>Parish Lengthsman</u> –agreed to renew contract for 2017/18 with no changes.
9.6	<u>Appointment Clerk:</u> Following interviews the Staffing Committee appointed Mr. Hunter as the new Clerk/RFO to take up post within the next couple of weeks. It was agreed to have a 2 week handover period.
<b>240/10</b>	<b>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</b>
10.1	<b>Resolved</b> to adopt Retention of Records/Data policy.
10.2	<u>Smart Water:</u> Clerk to liaise with Mr. Thompson from Wychavon District Council to see if the kits could be circulated weekend of 11 <sup>th</sup> February. Highways Officer has refused to allow the A2 signs to be placed on existing signage around the Village as the signs are too large. Mr. Thompson to meet with the Officer concerned to see if a way forward can be agreed.
10.3	<u>Defibrillator:</u> a) Three quotes in the process of being obtained for the cabinet to be installed on the outside wall of the Village Hall and connected to the electric supply. It was agreed to avoid further delays that an urgent decision be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and one member of the council on the acceptance of one of the quotes. b) Memorandum of Understanding to be completed.
10.4	<u>Earlier start time of meetings:</u> Following discussion it was agreed to keep the meetings at an 8pm start.
<b>240/11</b>	<b>Planning.</b>
11.1	<b>Resolved</b> to adopt a planning delegation policy for applications submitted in between meetings.
11.2	Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan consultation: no comments to be submitted.
<b>240/12</b>	<b>Annual Parish Meeting:</b> date to be confirmed at March meeting and ideas to be considered on the format of the evening.
<b>240/13</b>	<b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas.</b> Nil.

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

<b>240/14</b>	<b>There was no need to exclude the public and press for the following item: resolved</b> by all to pay the Clerk for extra hours worked this year.
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**Meeting declared closed at 9.15 pm.**

<b>Correspondence circulated not for consideration unless requested by member.</b>
<b>Clerks &amp; Councils Direct</b> – January 2017 issue.
<b>Worcestershire Road works Report</b> – weekly. <b>Circulated to members via email.</b>
<b>CALC weekly updates.</b>
<b>WDC - Council tax referendum principles for 2017-18.</b> Following careful consideration of responses, the Government has decided to defer the setting of referendum principles <b>New Homes Bonus:</b> In December, the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government made announcements about New Homes Bonus in his statement to parliament on the provisional local government finance settlement for 2017/18. These included confirmation that the Government will implement its preferred option of reducing the number of years for which New Homes Bonus payments are made from six years to five years in 2017/18, and from six years to four years from 2018/19. This will affect how much Years 2 to 5 New Homes Bonus that WDC will receive and therefore, the amount we are able to pass on to you. This means that parishes and towns with Years 2 to 5 allocations will not get the final year of payments for Years 2 and 3 and the final two years of payments for Years 4 and 5. These changes do not affect any New Homes Bonus that you currently have available to draw down, but they will affect your balance for future years.
<b>Worcestershire County Council Local Transport Plan</b> is available on line and is open to consultation until 17th MARCH, 2017. All details can be found here: <a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP">www.worcestershire.gov.uk/LTP</a>

**Appendix 1.**

**Payments authorised for payment to 30<sup>th</sup> December 2016.**

<b>V No.</b>	<b>REASON</b>	<b>INCOME</b>	<b>PAYMENT</b>	<b>VAT</b>
R16-9	Wychavon DC NHB defibrillator	500.00		N/A
R16-10	Worcestershire CC –Lengthsman payment.	211.20		N/A
P16-22	Hereford & Worcester First responders		500.00	N/A
P16- 23	Administration costs (LGA 1972 s.111)		482.96	N/A
P16-24	Lengthsman (LGA 1972 s.101)		192.00	N/A
P16-25	AMVH – Hire costs. (LGA 1972 s.111)		50.00	N/A
P16-26	Worcestershire CALC – Training.		30.00	5.00
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>711.20</b>	<b>1254.96</b>	<b>5.00</b>