

Abbots Morton Parish Council



Parish Council meeting on Thursday 23rd March 2017 at 8.00pm at
Abbots Morton Village Hall

MINUTES

Present: Nick Humphries, Will Hill, Clive Holt

In Attendance: David Hunter-Miller (Clerk), District Councillor Audrey Steele, District Councillor David Wilkinson, Colin Pemberton (PRO Abbots Morton Village Hall), members of the public

1. To consider apologies and to approve reasons for non- attendance.

Apologies received from Richard Whitlow.

2. Declaration of Interests: with reference to items on the agenda members are reminded of their responsibility to declare interests as defined in the Code of Conduct and to update their Register of Interests as required.

Nil received.

3. Dispensations: to consider any written dispensations from members who have declared an interest but wish to stay in the meeting during that time to aid discussion / speak / vote. Requests to be with the Clerk at least 4 clear days prior to a meeting (S33 Localism Act 2011).

Nil received.

4. Casual vacancies: update on co-option.

No enquiries or applications had been received by the Clerk or Chairman.

5. Open Session:

1. To receive reports from County Councillor, District Councillor and Police

Cllr Steel gave an update on Wychavon District Council's review of Planning Enforcement.

Cllr Wilkinson gave an update on the council tax levels set by Wychavon District Council.

Cllr Holt announced that he would not be standing in the County Council elections on the 4th May 2017, he confirmed that Anthony Hopkins would be the conservative candidate for the Harvington Division.

2. Public Question time. At the discretion of the Chairman members of the public will be invited to speak and/or question the Parish Council on issues relating to this agenda or raise issues for future consideration.

Colin Pemberton confirmed that it would soon be the 20th anniversary of the village hall and that this would mark the last payment to the Public Works Loans Board. Plans for a celebration party were underway.

6. To consider the adoption of the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 2nd February 2017.

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting on the 2nd February were approved and signed by Cllr Humphries as a true record.

Abbots Morton Parish Council



7. Clerk's report:

1. Website

The Clerk confirmed that the current Abbots Morton website would be abandoned. Use of the County Council's website would continue so as to fulfil the Parish Council's obligations for transparency. A new website, potentially using the old website domain, might be possible using a grant from the Transparency Fund. The Clerk would obtain further information on this for the next meeting.

2. Lengthsman Scheme

The County Council would continue with the Lengthsman Scheme and the budget available would remain the same at £1655. The Clerk to renew all contracts accordingly.

8. To receive reports from representatives:

1. Village Hall

A written update from the Village Hall Committee was communicated by the Clerk.

9. Financial Matters

1. Clerks Salary £351.38, £367.23
2. HMRC PAYE £146.40
3. Allen Farnsworth, Lengthsman £192.00
4. Bank account mandate change

The Council agreed the payments as listed. The mandate variation forms were signed by the Council to allow the Clerk access to the bank statements and to add Cllr Hill as a signatory.

10. Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.

1. Smartwater signs and training

The placement of the Smartwater signs had been agreed with WCC Highways. The Police were to deliver the sign fixings to the Clerk who would then install the signs. The Council agreed that the sign for Radford would be placed at the village gateway sign. The Council agreed to distribute the kits at the Annual Parish Meeting.

2. ARCH Messenger information sheet

The Council debated the usefulness of an information sheet for residents. Concern was raised that the information may become out of date quickly. It was agreed that if it goes ahead the Council may offer to assist with funding. Cllr Wilkinson suggested that funding may also be available from Wychavon District Council.

3. Defibrillator training

The Clerk would confirm the process for commissioning and registering the unit. The Council agreed that training on the use of the defibrillator could be done at the Annual Parish Meeting to ensure that it reached a wider audience.

4. St Richard's Hospice

The Council agreed to invite St Richard's Hospice's Engagement Officer to the Annual Parish Meeting to give a presentation.

5. Chairman's Committee

The Council discussed the proposal to join the Chairman's Committee. It was felt that due to other commitments that the Chairman and Clerk would not have time to attend regularly but would ask to be kept updated on meeting dates.

Abbots Morton Parish Council



11. Planning

1. 17/00445/FUL - Morton Wood Farm, Morton Wood Lane, ABBOTS MORTON, WR7 4LU

The Council considered and approved the variation to the conditions in this planning permission.

2. Update on Woodfield, Morton Speart

An update was given on the latest position. The Clerk would write to the Planning Enforcement Team to understand timescales for enforcement.

12. Parish Councillors report

It was noted that a 'superfast' broadband cabinet would be coming online shortly in the parish.

13. To consider date and format of Annual Parish Meeting

It was agreed that four items would be added to the regular agenda items; Parish Council vacancies, Smartwater kits, St Richard's Hospice and Defibrillator Training. The Clerk would check availability and confirm the most suitable date with the Council, ideally May 11th.

Refreshments would be tea/coffee and wine.

A flyer to advertise the meeting would be circulated alongside the usual means of publication.

14. Items for future agenda

An update on 'superfast' broadband was requested.

15. Date of the next meeting

Thursday 25th May at 8pm.

The meeting closed at 20:54.

David Hunter-Miller
Clerk and RFO
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