

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2015 at 8.00 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 229.**

<b>Present:</b>	Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith and Mr. Ernest. <b>In attendance:</b> Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel and 1 parishioner.
<b>229/1</b>	<b>Election of Chairman:</b> proposed by Cllr. Mr. Ernest, seconded by Cllr. Mr. Smith and <b>resolved</b> that Cllr. Mr. Humphries be elected as Chairman for the ensuing year. Declaration and acceptance of office duly signed.
<b>229/2</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> Cllr. Mr. Holt (reasons accepted by Council), Dist. Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson and David Manning, Rural Communities Manager, Wychavon District Council.
<b>229/3</b>	<b>Election of Vice-Chairman:</b> proposed by Cllr. Mr. Ernest, seconded by Cllr. Mr. Humphries and <b>resolved</b> that Cllr. Mr. Smith be elected as Vice-Chair.
<b>229/4</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests. b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – nil declared. c) Other Disclosable Interests – nil declared.
<b>229/5</b>	<b>Written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation</b> (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – nil received.
<b>229/6</b>	<b>Co-option:</b> three vacancies remain. Posts re-advertised.
<b>229/7</b>	<b>Resolved</b> that Cllr. Mr. Holt must sign the declaration of office by the 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2015.
<b>229/8</b>	<b>Documents reviewed:</b> a) Terms of the Finance Group and appoint 2 members (Preferably not cheque signatories). NB: Chairman and Vice –Chair are ex-officio members. <i>Deferred to July meeting.</i> b) <b>Resolved</b> that urgent decisions required between scheduled meetings of the Council are delegated to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council. c) Terms of the Staffing Committee and appoint 2 members. <i>Deferred to July meeting</i> NB: Chairman and Vice –Chair are ex-officio members. d) Standing Orders 2013 (amended). e) Financial Regulations 2014. f) Agendas/and associated papers – if member wishes to receive all documents by email to sign agreement. g) Risk Assessment. h) Asset Register. i) Worcestershire CALC subscription 2015-16 £73.90. j) Insurance policy for 2015 -16: <b>resolved</b> to take out a further 3 year policy through Broker Network Ltd. Payment for 2015-16 £265.
<b>229/9</b>	<b>Members agreed to serve/take on responsibility of the following:</b> a) Inspect assets owned by the Council and to report to Council quarterly. <i>Cllr. Mr. Ernest.</i>

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	<p>b) Wychavon CALC representative x 1 2015/16. <i>Cllr. Mr. Ernest.</i></p> <p>c) Abbots Morton Parish Plan Steering Group (2 members). <i>Deferred to July meeting.</i></p> <p>d) Village Hall Committee x 2. <i>Deferred to July meeting</i></p>
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<b>229/10</b>	<b>Short presentation from David Manning</b> , Rural Communities Manager, Wychavon District Council regarding the use of the Telephone Box. <i>Deferred to July meeting.</i>
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<b>229/11</b>	<p><b>Reports from District Cllr. and Police.</b></p> <p>Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel reported the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Following the elections the District Council Cabinet is made up of 45 members (38 Conservative, 1 UKIP, 5 Liberal Democrats – 1 conservative vacancy).</li> <li>• Linda Robinson is the new Leader and Lynn Duffy the Deputy. Paul Middleborough is the Chair of the Planning Committee. The Localism and Communities Advisory Panel has been split into 3 sections to deal with rural areas, other areas and funding i.e. New Homes bonus applications.</li> </ul>
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**Public Question Time:** meeting suspended at 8.29pm reconvening at 8.30pm, notes appended to these minutes.

<b>229/12</b>	<b>Minutes: resolved</b> that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 26.03.15 and the Planning meeting held on 05.05.15 confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.
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<b>229/13</b>	<p><b>Clerk's report:</b></p> <p><u>Parish Lengthsman</u> – signed contract received from the Lengthsman.</p> <p><u>External Audit</u> to take place on the 1<sup>st</sup> June 2015.</p> <p><u>Inkberrow First Responders</u> – letter received thanking the Parish Council for the donation towards providing and updating their medical equipment.</p> <p><u>Wychavon Area CALC meeting</u> – to take place on the 3rd June 2015 at Pershore Library commencing at 7.30pm.</p> <p><u>11th Parish Conference</u> taking place at County Hall, Worcester on Thursday 4th June 2015. The main conference starts at 6.30pm and the theme of the conference is 'Digital Parishes'.</p> <p><u>'Strong Communities' event</u> on the 9th June 2015, 6pm to 8.15pm in the Council Chamber at the Civic Centre, Pershore. The event will include a presentation on community renewable energy, an update on the New Homes Bonus and information about the Rural Communities Programme. There will be an opportunity to hear from the Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Ambassador. Places will be limited to two per Parish Council so contact the Clerk to book a place if you want to attend.</p> <p><u>Worcestershire County Association for Councils</u> training programme for June 2015:</p> <p>The 4 'P' cover People, Place, Powers and Planning to be held on 8th June, 15th June and 22nd June.</p> <p>The 4 'M' cover meetings, management and money to be held on 10th June, 17th June and 24th June.</p> <p>Each session lasts 2 hours at a cost of £25 each.</p> <p><u>New Homes Bonus application</u> – following consultation project approved by Wychavon District Council.</p>
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<b>229/14</b>	<p><b>Reports received from representatives:</b></p> <p>a) <u>Village Hall</u> – full report can be obtained from the Clerk. In summary: Following funding received phase 1 of the paving and the painting of the exterior walls would commence shortly.</p>
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	Funding received for the purchase of two directional signs. Update on forthcoming events, and recent maintenance. b) <u>Parish Paths Warden</u> – nil to report.
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<b>229/15</b>	<b>Correspondence received:</b>
15.1	Sun & Soil Solar Farm Community Fund: response received following questions raised in regard to the community fund in order that the Council could have the full facts before asking the Parish for their opinion for how any funding should be used. Summary of response: a) 'Sun & Soil' would fund installation of solar panels to the Village Hall. b) Community Energy Organisation – new legislation launched in April 2015. c) 'Sun and Soil' unable to give the amount of funding available to the community due to the threat of litigation. Following a lengthy discussion it was agreed that the Council would request further information before consulting with the residents of the Parish.
15.2	Response from Countryside Access Mapping Orders Officer to County Cllr. Mr. Holt regarding private vehicular use on Abbots Morton bridleway AM-555 who in summary are of the opinion that the application has been comprehensively considered for the safety of the bridleway users and that if necessary a temporary closure of the bridleway can be applied for which would not affect private rights of access. It does not answer concerns that passing bays were identified on private land, none of the owners being asked permission and that the bridleway is the centre of access into Warwickshire and surrounding villages. Cllr. Mr. Smith to forward correspondence received to the Clerk in order to respond to County Cllr. Mr. Holt.
15.3	Letter received from the Village Hall Committee stating that: 1) The Village Hall Committee expresses their interest to the Parish Council in benefitting from any Community Fund set up by Sun and Soil Ltd. 2) The expression of interest to be included in any parish survey the Parish Council carry out. This was duly noted.

<b>229/16</b>	<b>Financial matters.</b>
16.1	<b>Resolved</b> to approve accounts to 31.03.15.
16.2	Internal Auditor's report received and duly noted. No action required.
16.3	Documents for approval for the external auditor were approved by the Council, duly signed by the Chairman and Clerk. a) Statement of Accounts b) Annual Governance Statement.
16.4	It was <b>resolved</b> to transfer funds from under spend 2014/15 to the following: a) £1000 contingency. b) £233 remains in account.
16.5	<b>Resolved</b> to approve the 'Schedule of Payments' as listed and balances to 29.04.15.
16.6	The Parish Council is no longer eligible to use the General Power of Competence as following the Elections the criteria required was not met.
16.7	Grant applications: discussion took place to determine the procedure in regard to grant applications over the next 4 year term. <b>Resolved</b> to look at grant applications throughout the year instead of twice yearly; will request as in line with most grant providers that the organisation applying for a grant would put some funds towards the project that they are applying for.
16.8	A grant application from the Village Hall Committee for costs towards the Village Hall directional signs was considered. <b>Resolved</b> that the Council would be willing to pay for the purchase of the directional signs, Road

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	Traffic Regulation Act 1984 s72(1)(c), providing the following conditions were met: a) The Village Hall Committee donates £60 towards the purchase. b) Receipt of £200 from the County Council Divisional Fund. Correspondence received from Worcestershire County Council puts the full cost at £321.91.
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<b>229/17</b>	<b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas:</b> Clerk to inquire with the Highways department regarding planters being situated on the roadside verge by the entry name plate signs.
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**Meeting declared closed at 9.40 pm.**

Signed by the Chairman: .....Dated: July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2015

**Correspondence for distribution that does not require decision.**

1.	Parish Matters – Spring 2015.
2.	Clerks and Councils Direct – May 2015.

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*Public Question Time – 1 parishioner in attendance.*

*Solar Farm – ‘Sun & Soil’ not releasing amount of money for the community fund because of litigation so can the Parish Council discuss back up measure in case litigation takes place?*

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2015 at 8.00 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 230.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith and Mr. Ernest.  
**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), David Manning, Rural Communities Manager, Wychavon District Council, Dist. Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson and 1 parishioner.

**230/1 Apologies:** Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel and PC Tony Carter.

**230/2 Declarations of Interest:**  
a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – nil declared.  
c) Other Disclosable Interests – nil declared.

**230/3 Written requests from Councillors for the Council to grant a dispensation** (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) – nil received.

**230/4 Co-option:** two applications received. **Resolved** that Ms Owen and Mr. O’Boyle be co-opted onto the Parish Council. One further place to be advertised.

**230/5 Short presentation from David Manning,** Rural Communities Manager, Wychavon District Council. David first spoke on the Rural Communities Programme as in the Inkberrow Ward there is a projected increase of residents aged 50 and above. The programme is looking at building support in order for residents to stay independent by involving Parish Councils, in particular residents living in isolation, which has an effect on health and social aspects. David would like the Parish Council to nominate a person from the community to act as a liaison.  
With regard to the BT Kiosk potentially could assist with funding to turn into a community facility. Can assist with information to go inside i.e. maps. A community defibrillator could be funded through the new Homes Bonus scheme. Will email the Clerk with information on what other Parish Councils have done with their Kiosk in the County.

**230/6 Reports from County Cllr., District Cllr. and Police.**  
County Cllr. Mr. Holt reported:  
The numbers of claimants in Worcestershire continues to fall.  
The Worcester/Parkway railway station will not be affected by the proposed Government railway cuts.  
Dist. Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson:  
Introduced himself to the Council as the new District Council member. Advised the Council that a Neighbourhood Plan will carry far more weight than a Parish Plan.  
Police: email report:  
Vehicle broken into at Appletrees on 14/06/15 at approximately 04:45 hrs.  
Electric fencer stolen from field in Inkberrow overnight.

**Public Question Time:** Nil.

**230/7 Minutes: resolved** that the minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 21.05.15 confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.

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<b>230/8</b>	<p><b>Clerk's report:</b></p> <p><u>Code of Conduct training</u> – to take place on the 28th July at 7pm. The session will be taken by Ian Marshall, the Monitoring Officer and Richard Levett from CALC will be in attendance.</p> <p><u>Invitation to attend training session</u> locally in relation to Wychavon Local Enforcement Plan and Planning Compliance Officer Role. If members interested venue to be arranged.</p> <p><u>New Homes Bonus funding</u> – currently available for this year £1166.</p> <p><u>Cllr. Mr. Holt</u> – signed 'Declaration of Acceptance of Office' form.</p>
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<b>230/9</b>	<p><b>Reports received from representatives:</b></p> <p>a) <u>Village Hall</u> – Painting of the outside of the Hall has been completed. Suggested that the phone kiosk could be used to store a community defibrillator.</p> <p>b) <u>Assets</u> – Cllr. Mr. Ernest reported that the Bench and Footpaths notice board required a coat of varnish.</p>
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<b>230/10</b>	<b>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</b>
10.1	Solar Farm Community Fund: Telephone message from Sun & Soil stating that the Community Fund was tied in with any finance offered to the Low residents and until that matter is finalised the amount of money for the Community Fund would not be known. Chairman to contact Andrew Allen at Sun & Soil.
10.2	Response from Countryside Access Mapping Orders Officer in regard to questions raised by the Council over the access to the Solar Farm was discussed. It was agreed to write to the Planning Officer dealing with the Solar Farm application and ask for confirmation on the following: The Proposed Right of Way Mitigation Strategy, produced by the applicant to discharge condition 16 of the application, still makes reference to passing places which are said to 'increase the width of the track to around 4.8 metres and provide a place for a car to wait for a larger vehicle to pass.' Since the applicant has failed to demonstrate they have any right to use passing places, which comprise mainly the driveways and parking areas of private dwellings, it is the Parish Council's opinion that they must be discounted when assessing if this condition is to be adequately discharged and the safety of the public maintained. Ms Flanagan, Countryside Access Mapping Orders Officer, responded on the 1st July 2015 stating that there is to be a further revision of the Bridleway Mitigation Strategy submitted to the Planning department that does not refer to passing places.
10.3	Abbots Morton Website usage: report from the PRO for the Village Hall Committee circulated to all members was taken into consideration. Cllr. Mr. Smith reported that information is being submitted by the Village Hall Committee, Parochial Church Council and the Parish Council on a regular basis. Review January 2016.
10.4	Flood Alleviation Support Grant Scheme: no project suitable in the Parish that fit the criteria required.
10.5	Planters to be sited by village name signs: no confirmation received from highways regarding permission. Chairman to ask resident to provide a quote for the cost.
10.6	Community defibrillator: Clerk to provide quotes and information on criteria required.

<b>230/11</b>	<b>Financial matters.</b>
11.1	A grant application from the Parochial Church Council for costs towards the maintenance of the churchyard was considered. <b>Resolved</b> that the Council would grant the sum of £250 (LGA 1972 s214 (6)).
11.2	External audit report: Auditor reported that in their opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

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11.3	<b>Resolved</b> to approve the 'Schedule of Payments' as listed and bank reconciliation to 29.06.15.	
	Clerk salary & expenses.	369.57
	Abbots Morton Village Hall Hire	20.00
	Parish Lengthsman	202.00
11.4	Worcestershire County Council purchase of two 'Village Hall' directional signs: Council waiting on cheque from the Village Hall Committee for £260 which includes Cllr. Mr. Holt donation from the County Cllr. Divisional Fund and the invoice from Worcestershire Highways. It was explained to the Council that VAT cannot be claimed on the amount given by donations.	

<b>230/12</b>	<b>Planning Matters</b>
12.1	Correspondence received from the Planning Authority duly noted: a) W/15/00891/PP - Morton Wood House, Morton Wood Lane, Abbots Morton. <b>Permission granted with 5 conditions/reasons.</b>

<b>230/13</b>	<b>Transparency Code:</b> The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) issued the Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities in December 2014. The Code is a requirement for smaller authorities to make information available for local people to increase democratic accountability. The requirement is that certain information must be published on a web site which is publicly available free of charge. Smaller councils are those where the greater of annual receipts or payments is £25,000 or less therefore this applies to Abbots Morton Parish Council who agreed to adopt the Code.
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<b>230/14</b>	<b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas:</b> Community Defibrillator.
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**Meeting declared closed at 9.25 pm.**

**Correspondence for distribution that does not require decision.**

1.	Clerks and Councils Direct – July 2015.
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**Signed by the Chairman: .....Dated: 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015.**

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at 8.00 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 231.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith, Ms Owen, Mr. Holt and Mr. O'Boyle.  
**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel and 2 parishioners.

**231/1** **Apologies:** Cllr. Mr. Ernest (reason approved by Council).

**231/2** **Declarations of Interest:**  
a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – nil declared.  
c) Other Disclosable Interests – nil declared.

**231/3** **Written requests received** from Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Holt, Mr. Smith and Mr. Ernest for the Council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) to be allowed to take part in a discussion and vote in regard to the budget to form the precept until May 2019. This also applies to those members of the Finance Group.

**231/4** **Co-option:** one application received. **Resolved** that Richard Whitlow be co-opted onto the Parish Council.

**231/5** **Members agreed to serve/take on responsibility of the following:**  
a) Abbots Morton Parish Plan Steering Group – Cllrs. Ms. Owen and Mr. Smith.  
b) Village Hall Committee - Cllr. Mr. Whitlow.

**231/6** **Members appointed to the following:**  
a) Finance Working Group – *Cllrs. Mr. Ernest and Mr. O'Boyle.*  
b) Staffing Committee – *Cllrs. Mr. Ernest and Mr. O'Boyle.*  
*NB: chairman and Vice-Chair ex-officio members.*

**231/7** **Reports from County Cllr. and District Cllr.**  
County Cllr. Mr. Holt reported:  

- Slight increase in the unemployment figures for August. Since August 2009 figures have fallen by over 9,000.
- Over the past 5 years the annual budget for the County Council has been reduced by £100 million without seriously impacting on front line services.

Buildings owned by the County Council have been reduced by disposing of Leases, selling of Freehold properties including some farm holdings. This has resulted in savings of £2.5 million. It has been so successful that other public bodies i.e. Hereford & Worcester Fire Service, West Mercia and Warwickshire Police, Worcester City have set up a limited company with the County Council.  
Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:  

- New Homes Bonus scheme – advised to apply for funding as unsure whether this scheme will continue in future years.
- Talks ongoing regarding devolution and to whether the 5 District Councils should merge with the County Council.



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**Public Question Time:** meeting suspended at 8.25pm, reconvening at 8.27pm.

**231/8** **Minutes:** resolved that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 23.07.15 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.

**231/9** **Clerk's report:**  
Declaration of Acceptance of Office signed by two new members.  
Invitation to attend the Malvern Hills meeting of the Worcestershire CALC on Tuesday 13th October at 7.30pm at County Hall. Speakers will be Duncan Rudge, Head of Development Control, and Rosie Murray, Senior Planning Officer, both from Malvern Hills District Council. Will be presenting the latest position on the SWDP with the Planning Inspectorate and with the SWDP Local Authorities; and they will also discuss S106 payments, and how they are administered. Question and Answer session will be held after their presentation.  
Jubilee Tree Commemorative Plaque is now in position alongside the tree. If members feel it ought to be cemented in the Tree Warden is happy to do, but there is no particular value in the plaque itself.  
New Homes Bonus funding - £1166 available for community use up until March 2016.

**231/10** **Reports received from representatives:**  
 a) Village Hall written report received from PRO, Village Hall Committee duly noted.  
 b) Assets – deferred to next meeting.

**231/11** **Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.**

11.1	Planters being sited by the village name signs. It was agreed that the wooden planters measuring 4' x 2' would be situated underneath the Village name plate signs planted annually with bulbs. A budget of £200 was agreed to include the purchase of the bulbs, planters and soil.
11.2	Information received on providing a community defibrillator for the Parish previously circulated to members. It was agreed for the project to be successful that volunteers from the Village would be required to run the scheme and receive appropriate training. Information to be sent out to parishioners. Members to visit areas where BT Kiosks have defibrillators located in them.
11.3	Adoption of the Listed BT Kiosk. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact BT for the adoption paperwork.
11.4	Update on the progress of the 'drop in event' in the Village Hall. (Deferred to next meeting).

**231/12** **Financial matters.**

12.1	<b>Resolved</b> that the Clerk attends the 'Transparency Code' seminar on October 14th 2015.	
12.2	<b>Resolved</b> to approve the 'Schedule of Payments' as listed and bank reconciliation to 18.08.15.	
	Clerks salary and expenses	357.66
	Abbots Morton Village Hall Hire	15.00
	Parish Lengthsman	202.00
	St. Peters Church – grant churchyard	250.00
	Public Works Loan Board	954.78

**231/13** **Planning Matters:** Correspondence received from the Planning Officer in relation to the Solar Farm application duly noted. The Clerk was asked to write to the Planning Services Manager at Wychavon District Council to request that the Council be given 28 days notice of any intrusion of crossing of the access to the Solar Farm site on land that does not belong to the Highways.

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231/14	Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas: BT Kiosk; Community Defibrillator.
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Meeting declared closed at 9.30 pm.
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**Correspondence for distribution that does not require decision.**

1.	Clerks and Councils Direct – September 2015.
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Signed by the Chairman: .....Dated: 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

Public Question Time.

2 parishioners in attendance.

Parish Plan – the present document is well presented. Only a supplement would be required to update the document.

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 8.05 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 232.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith, Ms Owen, Mr. Holt, Mr. Whitlow, Mr. Ernest and Mr. O'Boyle.  
**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel and 2 parishioners.

**232/1 Apologies:** Dist. Cllr. D. Wilkinson.

**232/2 Declarations of Interest:**  
a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith re item 232/8.6 as are responsible for the private drive affected by the solar farm development company.  
c) Other Disclosable Interests: Cllr. Ms Owen re item 232/8.2, as member of Diocesan Committee advising on disabled access.  
All members left the room whilst the items were under discussion.

**232/3 Dispensations:** Nil received.

**232/4 Reports from County Cllr. and District Cllr.**  
County Cllr. Mr. Holt reported:

- Economy in Worcestershire is booming.
- Claimant numbers fallen again in October by 181. Numbers have fallen in total by 9,386 since August 2009 when claimants were at their highest.

Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:

- District Council waiting on the Government's autumn statement before finalising the budget.
- Senior Management Team to be reduced from 10 officers to 7 by April 2016 by offering voluntary redundancy. Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils will increase shared services which will be a saving of £140,000 per Council per year.
- Devolvment – No Councils in Worcestershire have made any decision over this process.

Police:  
Two incidents reported during period 17th September to the 25th November.  
22/10 - Suspicious vehicle attended an address in the Parish asking for asbestos from the occupier of the house then stated they had the incorrect address.  
11/11 - Morton Wood Lane: Poachers on land.

**Public Question Time:** meeting suspended at 8.13 pm, reconvening at 8.15 pm.

**232/5 Minutes:** resolved that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 17.09.15 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.

**232/6 Clerk's report:**  
New Homes Bonus funding - £1166 available for community use up until March 2016.  
Maintenance to churchyard – letter thanking the Council for the grant towards the maintenance cost of the churchyard received from the Church Warden.

**232/7 Reports received from representatives:**  
a) Village Hall – two events recently held, funds raised split between the Village Hall and other

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	<p>charities. Residents encouraged registering as an 'Easy fundraiser' to earn cash for the Village Hall when shopping online. <a href="http://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall">www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/abbotsmortonvillagehall</a></p> <p>b) <u>Assets</u> - all in satisfactory condition. Bench on the Village Green will require a coat of oil over the winter.</p> <p>c) <u>Superfast Broadband</u> – update to members circulated. At a stage where BT will be offering a minimum of 2 megabyte to the area which was scheduled to be in place for 2017 but hopefully this will be brought forward to the middle of 2016. It is hoped that the replacement green box will be positioned as close to Abbots Morton as possible. Cllr. Mr. Ernest was thanked for all his hard work in this matter.</p>
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<b>232/8</b>	<b>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</b>
8.1	<p><u>BT Kiosk:</u></p> <p>a) Two responses received from consultation on the adoption of the BT Box to replace with a community defibrillator and two volunteers for training in its use were received.</p> <p>b) Adoption of the BT Kiosk: it was agreed that at this time the Council would not adopt the Kiosk as no beneficial use to the community at this time. The Kiosk is registered as a listed structure so therefore cannot be removed or altered as likely will need Listed Buildings consent.</p>
8.2	<p>A request from a parishioner to purchase 2 directional signs for the Church was considered. Signs proposed to be placed on existing footpath signs on the Village Green and in the Village by property known as 'April Cottage', further along Main Street. The following was agreed:</p> <p>a) Clerk to write to the Parochial Church Council for their comments on the proposal.</p> <p>b) Contact Rights of Way Officer regarding adding heritage signs to their fingerposts.</p>
8.3	Update on the progress of the 'drop in event' in the Village Hall. Due to time constraints this project has not yet started.
8.4	<u>Tree Warden:</u> Resignation received from Mr. Pemberton to take effect immediately. Chairman thanked Mr. Pemberton for all his work as Tree Warden over the past 3 years. Post to be advertised in the next issue of the Arch Messenger.
8.5	<u>Smart Water</u> – notification received from the Business and Rural Crime Co-Ordinator at Wychavon District Council regarding the purchase of Smart Water kits at a cost of £8.99 per household ideally through the New Homes Bonus scheme. Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel wished to obtain further information on the scheme.
8.6	<p><u>Solar Farm:</u></p> <p>a) It was agreed to write to the new developer of the site regarding the availability and amount of funds for the community fund supported by the previous owner.</p> <p>b) Consultation response from organisations in relation to suitable projects for use with funding for the community from the solar farm developers duly noted. The Village Hall Committee had responded that they would be happy to receive financial support for the installation of solar panels on the south facing roof of the Village Hall. Abbots Morton Residents Association suggested a booklet to be published to all residents giving the history of the village. The Parochial Church Council and Morton Wood Farm Association had no projects in mind.</p>
8.7	Nominations for the WDC Diamond Jubilee Community Recognition Award 2015/16 discussed. <b>Resolved</b> to nominate Mrs. V. Oddy and the Abbots Morton Bell Tower Committee.

<b>232/9</b>	<b>Financial matters.</b>								
9.1	<p><b>Resolved</b> to approve the 'Schedule of Payments' as listed and bank reconciliation to 30.09.15.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 80%;">Clerks salary and expenses</td> <td style="text-align: right;">361.24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abbots Morton Village Hall Hire</td> <td style="text-align: right;">20.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Parish Lengthsman</td> <td style="text-align: right;">202.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Worcestershire CALC (Training)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">10.00</td> </tr> </table>	Clerks salary and expenses	361.24	Abbots Morton Village Hall Hire	20.00	Parish Lengthsman	202.00	Worcestershire CALC (Training)	10.00
Clerks salary and expenses	361.24								
Abbots Morton Village Hall Hire	20.00								
Parish Lengthsman	202.00								
Worcestershire CALC (Training)	10.00								

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

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9.2	A new arrangement for external audit for smaller authorities from 2017 was considered. The current contracts for external audit for parish and town councils will terminate in 2017 as the Government has abolished the Audit Commission. Councils have to appoint an external auditor or subscribe to a sector led body who will procure audit services for when this happens. The National Association of Local Councils, Society of Local Council Clerks and Association of Drainage Authorities have set up a body to do this. The Council have been asked whether they wish to participate in the scheme or make their own arrangements, response due 31 <sup>st</sup> January 2016. The Council agreed that they would not opt out of the scheme however more detailed information on costs and requirements to set up independent audit panel and services needs to be forthcoming.
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<b>232/10</b>	<p><b>Planning Matters:</b> Warwickshire County Council – members considered the consultation document on the Warwickshire Draft Minerals Plan for 2017 – 2032. It was agreed to respond to the consultation to remind Warwickshire County Council that when planning permission was granted for sand and gravel extraction in the Dunnington area in 1989 the contractors of that site had a formal “section 52” agreement with Warwickshire County Council that the C103/C2010 would not be used by their vehicles. The Parish Council formally requests that this agreement is applied to the new sites and is recorded so that the new sites are aware of the agreement and its covenants. The reasons for this being:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The HGV’s are totally unsuitable for the C class rural roads in the area.</li> <li>• The Council has major concerns regarding the safety of the public along the C103/C2010 and it is felt that the potential use by heavy vehicles associated with the proposed quarries would greatly increase the risk factor.</li> </ul>
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<b>232/11</b>	<b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas:</b> Budget/Precept; Speeding vehicles on C2010.
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<b>232/12</b>	<b>Date of next meeting:</b> Thursday January 28 <sup>th</sup> 2016.
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**Meeting declared closed at 9.25 pm.**

**Signed by the Chairman: .....Dated: 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016.**

**Correspondence for distribution that does not require decision.**

1.	Clerks and Councils Direct – November 2015.
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*Public Question Time - 2 parishioners in attendance.  
Information given on proposal for two directional church signs.*

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2016 at 8.00 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 233.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith, Ms Owen, Mr. Whitlow, Mr. Ernest and Mr. O'Boyle.  
**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllrs. Mr. Wilkinson and Mrs. Steel, PCSO's Vicky Elliott and Kathryn Hearnden-Fellowes and 4 parishioners.

**233/1** **Apologies:** Cllr. Mr. Holt (reasons accepted by Council).

**233/2** **Declarations of Interest:**  
a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.  
b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith re item 233/8.3 as all share a responsibility for the private drive leading to the solar farm development.  
c) Other Disclosable Interests: Cllr. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith in item 233/8.3 as members of Morton Wood Farm Association who are in talks with Solarig regarding a financial benefit to the Association.  
Cllr. Ms Owen in item 233/10 as member of Worcester Diocesan Advisory Committee advising on access for disabled people.

**233/3** **Dispensations:** four dispensations received. Clerk advised Council that as item 8.3 is in regard to a controversial planning issue that a dispensation request to participate on a vote not be given. The reason being that the members concerned all have an interest which the ordinary person is likely to think would affect their judgement.  
The Council **resolved** to grant dispensations to:  
Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith to enable them to speak on any item of business concerning the solar farm community fund in as this is in the interests of persons living in the area because it enables the Council to be full informed as possible in a wider debate.  
The Council decided **not** to grant a dispensation which would allow the 3 members to vote. The dispensation was granted for this meeting only.  
Cllr. Ms Owen to enable her to speak on any item of business concerning the universal access to the Church as in the interests of persons living in the area to be fully informed and enable wider debate. Granted for this meeting only.

**233/4** **Reports from Police and District Cllrs.**  
Police:  

- Recent burglaries Gooms Hill. Residents asked to be observant and report any suspicious activities/vehicles. There are various ways you can try and deter incidents by use of Smart Water, security lighting, CCTV, tack marking for stables/horses, padlock outbuildings. Money is being invested in rural crime. Good Neighbourhood Watch scheme in place.

Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:  

- Budget process underway.
- Advice at present is that New Homes Bonus funding will remain.

District Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson reported:  

- Simon Geraghty has been appointed as the new Leader of the County Council.
- Various consultation exercises out for comment i.e. Superfast Broadband, National Planning Policy Framework to which anyone can respond to on the Government website and internal consultation on rural affordable housing at Wychavon District Council. If anyone wishes to comment on the rural affordable housing please send the comments to Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson.

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Public Question Time:** meeting suspended at 8.25 pm, reconvening at 8.30 pm.

<b>233/5</b>	<b>Minutes:</b> proposed by Cllr. Mr. Smith seconded by Cllr. Mr. O’Boyle and <b>resolved</b> that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 26.11.15 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.
<b>233/6</b>	<p><b>Clerk’s report:</b></p> <p><u>Superfast Broadband</u> - Superfast Worcestershire has recently secured additional funding to extend coverage of superfast broadband even further across the county. If residents and businesses in your area are not able to access Superfast Broadband under the current programme then complete a short survey returning it to us by 31 January 2016. <a href="https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=144959149352">https://www.snapsurveys.com/wh/s.asp?k=144959149352</a></p> <p><u>Abbots Morton Bell Tower Appeal</u> – the Committee have written to thank the Council for nominating them for the Wychavon Diamond Jubilee Community Recognition Award. Wychavon District Council has confirmed that Viv Oddy has been awarded as this year’s winner and the Abbots Morton Bell Tower Committee has been awarded a certificate of commendation. Two members of the Council are invited to attend the presentation.</p>
<b>233/7</b>	<p><b>Reports received from representatives:</b></p> <p>a) <u>Village Hall</u> – Cllr. Mr. Humphries reported:          New Homes Bonus application submitted, which approved, would be advantageous to residents as the more the Hall is hired out i.e. Weddings etc more revenue is invested in the building.          Windows replaced; adult dance and children’s tap dance classes are proving to be popular.          Annual General meeting to be held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016.          It was asked if the Village Hall Committee would consider applying for wifi access through the New Homes Bonus grant.</p>
<b>233/8</b>	<b>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</b>
8.1	<p><u>Directional signs for the Church:</u></p> <p>a) Parochial Church Council have written to the Council and are happy for the Council to consider purchasing signs to be placed on the rights of way existing fingerposts at the turning to ‘April Cottage’ and on the Village Green. They have requested a heritage style sign with wording ‘Grade 1 Listed Ancient Church of St. Peter’.</p> <p>b) Wychavon District Council Planning Department has confirmed has said that the proposed placing of a sign in a Conservation Area would fall under Part 12 ‘Development by Local Authorities’ of the General Permitted Development Order 2015 and therefore would not require planning permission. Materials should be sympathetic to the landscape character and match the material used on the existing post.          The Council discussed the above and <b>resolved</b> to obtain a quote for one brown heritage style sign to be fixed on the fingerpost at the turning of ‘April Cottage’.</p>
8.2	<p><u>Speeding traffic along the C2010:</u> following discussion from information raised by resident on 4 incidents on the part of the Alcester Road that lies in between the two loop entrances to the Village it was agreed to:</p> <p>a) Refer to County Cllr. Mr. Holt.</p> <p>b) Request for speed survey along the Alcester Road past the turning for Morton Wood Lane before you get to the bend and outside Lower Barn Farm.</p> <p>c) Request extension of the 40 mph limit from Gooms Hill. The Council would argue that there are a similar number of properties at Gooms Hill that are in a 40 mph.</p>

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

8.3	<p><u>Solar Farm:</u></p> <p>a) Correspondence received from ‘Solarig’ re the possibility of installing solar panels on the Village Hall with an offer to meet and discuss the project.</p> <p>b) It was agreed to invite ‘Solarig’ to a meeting, following a request from the Village Hall Committee, to discuss with Parish Councillors and Village Hall Trustees about what could be provided for the Village Hall through a Community Fund provided by ‘Solarig’. Clerk has written to ‘Solarig’ requesting suitable dates but no reply received.</p> <p>c) To canvas residents opinion on the use of the community fund was deterred until more information is known.</p>
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<b>233/9</b>	<b>Financial matters.</b>
9.1	<p><b>Resolved</b> to approve the budget to form the precept for 2016-17 at £5764 (LGA 1972 s.150). This should show an increase of 0.90% on the Parish Council element of the Council Tax, even though the request for the precept amount has not altered, rise is due to increase in the Band D tax base which is to be approved by the District Council. It was also agreed to allocate monies in the reserves account as follows:</p> <p><u>Earmarked reserves</u> for replacement of assets: £900.</p> <p><u>Unearmarked reserves</u>: £5,000.</p> <p><u>Contingency</u>: £4,000.</p>
9.2	<p><b>Resolved</b> to approve the ‘Schedule of Payments’ as listed and bank reconciliation to 15.12.15. See appendix 1.</p>
9.3	<p><u>External Audit arrangements</u>: further information received on new arrangements for audit for smaller authorities from 2017 duly noted.</p>
9.4	<p><u>New Homes bonus application</u> for £1166 on behalf of the Village Hall Committee to purchase 84 cutlery placements was discussed at length. Cllr. Mr. Ernest proposed to approve the application, seconded by Cllr. Mr. Whitlow. <b>Resolved</b> by a vote of 3 for, 2 against with one abstention that the motion be carried. As the proposal is over £1000 a consultation by way of a flyer will be sent out with the March edition of the Arch Messenger. Feedback from that consultation will be submitted to the District Council along with the application once the closing date for responses has passed.</p>

<b>233/10</b>	<p><b>Correspondence received duly noted :</b></p> <p>a) Letter received from the Parochial Church Council and an update from the Rector giving details on its progress with plans for universal access to the Church. Clerk to request that members of the Parochial Church Council meet informally with 2 members of the Parish Council so that a better understanding of the problems involved can be provided.</p>
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<b>233/11</b>	<p><b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas:</b> Bridleway closure, the Low; Smart Water signage.</p>
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<b>233/12</b>	<p><b>Dates of 2016 meetings:</b></p> <p>a) March 31st, May 26th, July 28th, September 29th and November to be arranged.</p> <p>b) Annual Parish Meeting to be held on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2016 at 7.30pm. Clerk to invite the Rural Crime Officer as a Guest Speaker and Cllr. Mr. Whitlow to give a small presentation on ‘Farming in the Village’. Invitations to be sent out to all households, refreshments to be provided.</p>
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**There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.30 pm.**

**Signed by the Chairman: ..... Dated: March 31<sup>st</sup> 2016.**



# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

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## Appendix 1 – Payments.

<u>Payee</u>	<u>Details</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>VAT</u>
Clerk	Salaries & Expenses	361.56	0.00
Lengthsman	Highway maintenance	192.00	0.00
Village Hall	Hire Fee.	15.00	15.00

## Correspondence for distribution that does not require decision.

1.	Clerks & Councils Direct – January 2016.
2.	Worcestershire County Council has launched a final consultation on its draft Local Flood Risk Management Strategy to ensure every resident and business has the opportunity to express their views. The consultation is open until Monday 29 February 2016, and the Local Flood Risk Strategy will be formally adopted in July 2016. The strategy, and supporting documents can be viewed on our Flood Risk Management pages at <a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/flooding">www.worcestershire.gov.uk/flooding</a> Email forwarded to members 20.01.16.
3.	Weekly CALC Updates forwarded by email.
4.	<u>Worcestershire County Council.</u> If you want to be part of the budget consultation you can access a brief on line survey hosted on the Act Local website. Sean Pearce, Chief Financial Officer has produced a short video covering the headlines of the budget and you will also find associated documents, presentations and reports. Closing date for the survey is 27th January register views on <a href="http://www.actlocalworcestershire.org/actlocal/info/5/parish_and_town_council/36/tell_us_what_you_think">http://www.actlocalworcestershire.org/actlocal/info/5/parish_and_town_council/36/tell_us_what_you_think</a> and scroll down to 'register your views'. <u>Parish Conference</u> on 24th February start time 6.30pm in the County Chamber at County Hall. <b>Emailed 22.01.16.</b>

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Public Question Time - 4 parishioners in attendance.

Smart Water – request that the Council looks into providing 5 new Smart Water signs to be placed at the entrances of the Parish. Police advised that there are special packs for farmers that can be obtained through the Rural Crime Officer.

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 31st March 2016 at 8.05 pm  
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 234.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith, Ms Owen, Mr. Whitlow, Mr. Ernest, Mr. O'Boyle and Cllr. Mr. Holt (234/4).

**In attendance:** Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllrs. Mr. Wilkinson and Mrs. Steel, and 3 parishioners.

**234/1** Apologies: Nil.

**234/2** **Declarations of Interest:**

- a) Register of Interests: Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
- b) Disclosable Pecuniary Interests – Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith re item 234/8.1 as all share a responsibility for the private drive leading to the solar farm development.
- c) Other Disclosable Interests: Cllr. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith in item 234/8.1 as members of Morton Wood Farm Association who are in talks with Solarig regarding a financial benefit to the Association.
- Cllr. Ms Owen in item 234/10 as member of Worcester Diocesan Advisory Committee advising on access for disabled people.

**234/3** **Dispensations:** four dispensations received. Clerk advised Council that as item 8.3 is in regard to a controversial planning issue that a dispensation request to participate on a vote not be given. The reason being that the members concerned all have an interest which the ordinary person is likely to think would affect their judgement.

The Council **resolved** to grant dispensations to:  
Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith to enable them to speak on any item of business concerning the solar farm community fund as this is in the interests of persons living in the area because it enables the Council to be full informed as possible in a wider debate.

On the matter to allow 2 members to participate in a vote the Council decided **not** to grant a dispensation following a vote. (2 members against a vote, 1 member to allow a vote with 3 abstentions). The dispensations were granted until December 31st 2016.

Cllr. Ms Owen to enable her to speak on any item of business concerning the universal access to the Church as in the interests of persons living in the area to be fully informed and enable wider debate. Granted until December 2016.

County Cllr. Mr. Holt arrived.

**234/4** **Reports from County Cllr. and District Cllrs.**

County Cllr. Mr. Holt:

Budget approved - increase of 3.9% (2% extra for care of the elderly/children + £35).

Education Secretary is to introduce new plans for school funding.

Highways - Over the past 3 years 75,000 potholes repaired in Worcestershire at a cost of £2.2 million. New infrastructure improvement programme underway called 'Driving Home'. £24 million allocated to improve 'C', unclassified roads and footways raised from £12 million capital expenditure, £2 million unallocated New Homes Bonus, and £10 million to borrow.

Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:

Neil Pearce, who was a Senior Planner at Wychavon District Council is now practicing full time as an independent planning consultant principally for the public sector. He will be attending Inkberrow Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm on the 20th April 2016 in the Sports Pavilion in

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

	<p>Inkberrow to give a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans. All welcome to attend.  <u>District Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson reported:</u>                  South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) has now been adopted. Recently 2 planning applications have been granted on land not allocated in the SWDP.</p>
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**Public Question Time:** meeting suspended at 8.30 pm, reconvening at 8.50 pm.

<b>234/5</b>	<p><b>Minutes:</b> proposed by Cllr. Mr. Ernest seconded by Cllr. Mr. Smith and <b>resolved</b> that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 26.01.16 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.</p>
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<b>234/6</b>	<p><b>Clerk's report:</b>  <u>New Homes Bonus application Village Hall</u> – application submitted to Wychavon District Council following the closing date consultation of March 20<sup>th</sup> 2016. Clerk was requested to inform Wychavon District Council the number of responses received from outside the Parish.  <u>Wychavon Bursary Award</u> – Mrs Oddy wishes to say thanks to all members of the Parish Council for supporting the nomination and thinking her worthy of the award.  <u>Rural Communities Programme</u> – will be carrying out a door knock exercise on areas within the Parish of Abbots Morton sometime this year.  <u>Directional sign for Church</u> – Clerk/Chairman to meet Officer onsite on April 14<sup>th</sup> 2016 with the Chairman. Parochial Church Council to be asked if they wish to be in attendance.</p>
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<b>234/7</b>	<p><b>Reports received from representatives:</b>                  a) <u>Village Hall</u> - following Annual General Meeting all current members re-elected. Accounts are in a healthy position; income has increased along with bookings. The Committee has decided not to do anything for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. Requested that the Parish Council look at having a defibrillator in the Village as recently First Responders took 15 minutes to respond to a recent call out in the Parish.                  b) <u>Assets</u> - Bench to be cleaned over the next few weeks and varnish applied.                  c) <u>Wychavon area CALC meeting</u> - not attended.                  d) <u>Parish Paths Warden</u> - AM555 The Low severely potholed, endeavouring to resurface, footbridge repaired along the C2010. General clearance carried out. Noted that horse riders are placing jumps in Slade Wood across the bridleway.</p>
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<b>234/8</b>	<p><b>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</b></p>
8.1	<p><u>Solar Farm:</u>                  a) Notes from the meeting held between representatives of the Village Hall Committee, Parish Council and Solarig on the 9th March 2016 circulated. Solarig have confirmed that £10,000 is available for the community. Solarig have undertaken to provide more information on Solar Panels to the Village Hall Committee following the recent meeting. It is hoped that this will be provided to the Committee in time for their next meeting on the 18th April.                  b) <u>Process of consultation</u> – after a lengthy discussion it was agreed to use the Annual Parish meeting as an opportunity to have an informal discussion inviting residents to give ideas on how the community fund be spent. Invite to be sent to all parishioners in the Parish.                  c) Update on bridleway closure during proposed installation from Countryside Services is that closure notices will be placed on all bridleway/rights of access adjoining AM555 during works.</p>
8.2	<p><b>Resolved</b> to renew the following contracts for 2016-17:                  Internal Auditor.                  Parish Lengthsman.</p>

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

8.3	<p><u>Smart Water</u>: a proposal to participate in “Smart Water” property marking scheme for all properties in the Abbots Morton area was discussed. Clerk to ask:</p> <p>a) The Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator for further clarification on households that responded to the survey.</p> <p>b) Police for the percentage of burglaries in the Parish.</p> <p>Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel reported that the Localism Panel has requested from Cropthorne Parish Council statistics on their project which she will present to the Parish Council at its May meeting.</p>
8.4	<u>Speeding traffic C2010</u> – waiting on speed survey to be carried out.
8.5	<p><u>Superfast Broadband</u>: Cllr. Mr. Ernest reported the following:</p> <p>Survey being carried out by the County Council in the first half of this year.</p> <p>Upgrade is due to be done between June 2016 to end of 2017.</p> <p>The Broadband Team have been asked to take into account where the cabinet is situated; ideal position would be at The Low crossroads. Upgrading the cabinet at Radford will not give much input to Abbots Morton. Letter to be written to Worcestershire County Council.</p>
8.6	<p><u>Abbots Morton website</u>: Cllr. Mr. Smith reported that information is regularly provided on behalf of the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Committee. Perhaps need to look at alternatives such as 'Face book' page. Clerk requested that contact details be added for the Parish Council as none appear on the contact page.</p>

<b>234/9</b>	<b>Financial matters.</b>
9.1	<b>Resolved</b> to adopt amended Financial Regulations.
9.2	<b>Resolved</b> to approve the ‘Schedule of Payments’ as listed and bank reconciliation to 26.02.16. (Appendix1).
9.3	<u>External Audit arrangements</u> : information received on new arrangements for audit for smaller authorities from 2017 duly noted.

<b>234/10</b>	<p><b>Correspondence received duly noted :</b></p> <p>a) <u>Parochial Church Council</u> re universal access to St. Peter’s Church. Public Meeting on this matter to be held in the Village Hall on Monday 11th April at 7.30pm. It was requested that this item be placed on the next agenda for review.</p>
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<b>234/11</b>	<p><b>Urgent decisions taken:</b></p> <p>a) <u>Reimbursement for Stand-in Clerk</u> for informal meeting held on the 9th March 2016 with representatives from the Parish Council, members of the Village Hall Committee and representatives from Solarig, Solar Farm Company was approved.</p>
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<b>234/12</b>	<p><b>Format of Annual Parish meeting.</b> Organisations involved in the Parish to be invited. Invitations to be issued to all households with a request to attend and put forward ideas on how best to spend the community fund made available by Solarig, Solar Farm Company for the benefit of the community. Refreshments to be provided - Cllr. Mr. Ernest to obtain.</p>
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<b>234/13</b>	<p><b>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas:</b> Parochial Church Council disabled access; Defibrillator.</p>
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**There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.10pm.**

**Signed by the Chairman: .....May 26<sup>th</sup> 2016.**

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

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## Correspondence for distribution.

<b>Correspondence.</b>
CALC Spring Training Bulletin circulated via email to all members.
Weekly CALC updates provided via email to all members.
Weekly Worcestershire Roadwork Report via email to all members.
Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2016 issue.
South Worcestershire Development Plan –on 24 <sup>th</sup> February 2016 Wychavon District Council resolved to adopt the South Worcestershire Development Plan. For the purposes of the six week High Court challenge period the Adoption date is 25th February 2016. <b>Emailed to members 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016.</b>
Wychavon Sports: Newsletter and details of events in 2015 <b>emailed to members 08.03.16.</b>
Response to parishioner in regard to meeting with representatives of VHC, Parish Council and Solarig circulated <b>to all members 24.02.16.</b>
<b>Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan</b> - Worcestershire County Council undertook a "Call for Sites" in 2014, and consulted on a suite of background documents alongside a second "Call for Sites, Resources and Infrastructure" in 2015. We have considered all of the comments we received in response these and have published a Call for Sites Response Document which sets out the comments we received and details of how we intend to take them into account as we develop the Minerals Local Plan. We are currently assessing all the sites which have been put forward by landowners, mineral operators and agents in response to the Second Stage Consultation, the 1st Call for Sites and the 2nd Call for Sites, and developing a full draft of the plan for a third stage consultation later in 2016. For more information please see our web pages at <a href="http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals">www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals</a> <b>Emailed to members 19.03.16.</b>
<b>Notification of South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) related Consultations in March / April 2016</b> <b>Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</b> <b>Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD)- Preferred Options</b> This letter is being sent to you as you have either made comments on the plan in the past or requested to be notified of its progress, or have been identified as a relevant consultee. Both of the above documents are being formally consulted upon for a six week period from 14 March to 25 April 2016. The Draft Affordable Housing SPD consultation is in line with Regulation 13 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, and the Travellers and Travelling Showpeople consultation relates to Regulation 18. Copies of the draft documents, any supporting background information and response forms are available to view online via the following websites: South Worcestershire Development Plan <a href="http://www.swdevelopmentplan.org">www.swdevelopmentplan.org</a> Malvern Hills District Council <a href="http://www.malvernhillsgov.uk">www.malvernhillsgov.uk</a> Worcester City Council <a href="http://www.worcester.gov.uk">www.worcester.gov.uk</a> Wychavon District Council <a href="http://www.wychavon.gov.uk">www.wychavon.gov.uk</a> Copies of the Draft Affordable Housing SPD, the Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD; background papers on the Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD, and its associated Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment reports can also be viewed at customer service centres and libraries as detailed below during their normal opening hours. <b>Emailed to members 19.03.16.</b>

# ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

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## Appendix 1 - payments.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Clerk	Salary & Expenses	290.42	0.00	290.42
HMRC	PAYE	67.00	0.00	67.00
Abbots Morton Village Hall	Hire of Hall for meetings	25.00	0.00	25.00
Lengthsman	Work February/March	192.00	0.00	192.00
Mr. J. Stedman	Administration of meeting 09.03.16.	60.00	0.00	60.00
PWLB (DD)	Repayment of Village Hall Loan	954.78	0.00	954.78

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Public Question Time - 3 parishioners in attendance.

Questions rose regarding:

- a) *The process of the meeting held between representatives of the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee and Solarig, Solar Farm Company.*
- b) *A meeting that was believed to have taken place, after the meeting mentioned in 'a', at a private residence between some members of the Parish Council, members of Morton Wood Farm Management Association and Solarig representatives. Resident queried the validity and transparency of such a meeting.*