

ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
Held on Wednesday 25th September 2019 at 7.00 pm
At the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs Dr C Whorwood (Chair); Mr K Baker, Mrs K Haywood, Cllr M Hobbs

In attendance: Mrs S Meads (Clerk),

Members of the Public Attending: 4

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102. Apologies for absence

Cllr N Taylor-Brown

103. Public Session

Mr Knight mentioned the mowing on the field behind the Village Hall and also the footpath from School House Lane and said that they were appreciated.

Mr Freeman said that he had come to the meeting as he was interested in being co-opted on to the Parish Council. He had been a member of the speed watch team and now that he was no longer on that group he would still like to contribute.

104. Co-Option of New Councillors

Members all agreed that Mr Freeman would be a great asset to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: that Mr Freeman be co-opted on to the Parish Council.

Mr Freeman signed the declaration of acceptance and then joined the meeting.

105. Declarations of Interests

Cllr M Hobbs declared an interest in the planning application at the Coach & Horses

106. Minutes of Previous Meetings

RESOLVED: that the minutes of meeting held on 31st July 2019 with one amendment.

107. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

- A.** Cllr Hobbs provided an update. He said that a huge amount of work had been done and thanked Cllr Baker, Mr T Wheeldon and Mrs J Wheeldon for all their work. There have been six public sessions, covering various matters. Information has been gathered, collated and minuted. The group agreed the appointment of Urban Vision and a meeting was held with the consultant on 13th August to discuss outline of policies. The Housing Needs Assessment has also now been done. Information leaflet produced with total community inclusions. Thanks to everyone who helped put out the leaflets, there have been 210 returns so far. The drop-in session worked well, 21 people attended and the session was used for explanation of detail.

This week a meeting was held with Urban Vision and was attended by Mr T Wheeldon, Mrs J Wheeldon, Cllr Baker, Cllr Mrs Haywood and ESBC. The meeting was a long, intense meeting with lots of questions. Draft plan has now moved forward quite substantially.

Two letters received questioning some of the contents of the leaflet. Cllr Whorwood said that it is important that the details come back and feedback has been received.

Mrs J Wheeldon said that Mr Dave Chetwyn (Urban Vision) would feedback on policies. This has been the first opportunity for 'look and see'.

The Clerk mentioned the letter received from Rev B Payne and this had been forwarded to the NDPG.

Cllr Hobbs said that it is important that the community tells us what they want and then the group writes the policies.

Members also discussed letters from Mr Brown and Mr Fenwick at Pegasus. Mr Baker suggested that Pegasus should make direct contact with ESBC and this was supported by Mrs J Wheeldon who suggested that they should be re-directed to ESBC.

Mr Brown's letter was discussed and it was agreed that a response should be sent from Cllr Hobbs as Chair of the NDPG and Cllr Whorwood as Chair of the Parish Council. Cllr Whorwood said that there were a few errors in the leaflet and some concerns raised regarding public use of the land. A suggested response was that the plan was still under consultation and review and that there would be a further opportunity for consultation at Regulation 14. The Clerk to circulate a letter of response for approval after the meeting.

Cllr Whorwood proposed a vote of thanks to the NDPG for their commitment and hard work.

B. Information Booklet to Owners of Listed Buildings/Buildings on Conservation Area.

Cllr Baker suggested that an information booklet is produced and sent to owners of listed buildings and properties in the conservation area advising them on what they can and can't do and what needs permission for. The Clerk mentioned that the previous council had discussed producing a welcome pack for all new residents which would include this type of information along with details of local clubs and activities.

Cllr Bakers asked if this could be put on the agenda for the next meeting.

108. Parish Council Objectives – moved earlier in the meeting

Members discussed what the PC's objectives should be. Cllr Baker said that the PC should have two or three objectives as follows:-

- to support the Neighbourhood Plan and see it through to completion.

- to support Staffordshire County Council declaration of an environmental emergency
- focus on health and wellbeing of the whole community

Cllr Hobbs said that the Parish Council should have a vision or mission statement.

Vision – community led evolution. Cllr Baker to look in to possible mission statement for the village.

Parish Council open to suggestions for objectives, ask via an article in the next Parish Council Bulletin.

109. Matters of Report

i. **Outdoor Fitness Equipment**

The Clerk reported that the equipment had now been installed. A member of the public did comment that she felt that she found some of the equipment was suitable for taller people.

ii. **Abbots Bromley School**

Members discussed the new stiles and gates at the school. The caretaker at the school had said that the stiles had been installed for insurance purposes. The Clerk said that she had been contacted by several residents with concerns over the stiles as these were difficult to climb for the elderly and those with children.

RESOLVED: *that a meeting should be arranged with Woodard. The Clerk to contact Woodard to arrange this, ideally evenings.*

iii. **War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that she is trying to arrange a meeting with the contractor so that the resurfacing work can be planned. Awaiting a call back from the contractor.

iv. **Wild Flower Planting**

Cllr Baker said that wild flower planting had been discussed at the Village Hall Committee meeting. He asked if the Parish Council would be willing to fund the cultivation and seeding of wild flower areas in Gallimore's field. Councillors agreed that this may be possible if the Village Hall committee could also contribute to this.

v. **Best Kept Village Presentation**

The Clerk confirmed that the presentation will take place on Saturday, 5th October, followed by refreshments at Church House. All those that have helped with the campaign will be invited to the presentation.

vi. **Poppy Wreath**

RESOLVED: *that Cllr Whorwood would lay the Parish Council Wreath*

vii. **Community Speed Watch**

Cllr Freeman said that police officers witnessed the speed of traffic on Lichfield Road. Cllr Whorwood has asked for information from the police following the meeting held on 4th September and as yet hadn't received anything back. Cllr Whorwood desperate that Speed Watch didn't fail and would like to reinvigorate it and hope that the parish Council will support him to re-establish the group. Cllr Hobbs asked if the Parish Council cannot write to the police to ask how they are going to deal with the speed in Abbots Bromley. Cllr Whorwood said that he had asked for a statement of support from the police and as yet has not received anything.

Cllr Whorwood said that he would continue to communicate with M Shaker and ask her to come and visit the Parish Council. Mrs Wheeldon said that for the record she would be involved again but has stated what she would require to be involved again.

110. Planning

1224 - P/2019/00881: 2 Old Dolphin Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3BQ

Erection of a single storey side extension.

Received: 07/08/19 Replied: 02/09/19 No Objections

1225 - P/2019/00848: Hurst Farm, Pinfold Lane, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AF

Conversion and extension to two existing barns to form a boarding kennel and a cattery (Sui Generis) and installation of septic tank

Received: 07/08/19 Replied: 30/08/19 No Objections

1226 - P/2019/00849: Radmorewood Farm, Radmorewood Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AS

Conversion of existing barns to a 2 bedroom dwelling with attached garage and stores, installation of septic tank and erection of 1.2 metre high gates

Received: 12/08/19 Replied: 02/09/19

The Parish Council would ask that strict conditions be applied if the barn is retained (ie no alteration to the structure, and a condition that it cannot be converted in the future to residential accommodation).

1227 - P/2019/00945: Mickledale Cottage, Port Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DX

Removal of 47.7m of hedgerow

Received: 12/08/19 Replied: 02/09/19 No Objections

1228 - P/2019/00902: Meadow View House, Lichfield Road, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DN

Outline application for the erection of one dwelling including details of access and layout

Received: 16/08/19 Replied: 10/09/19

The Parish Council objects to this application. The village has more than met its ESBC requirement for new homes as identified in the local plan. A recent housing needs assessment has also identified that this type of market-led unit is not meeting any local need. The Parish Council also believes that this is over development of the plot. In this area of the village many of the homes benefit from large gardens and further development of this site would be out of character with the area.

1229 - P/2019/00881: 2 Old Dolphin Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3BQ

Erection of a single storey side extension.

Received: 13/09/19 Reply due: 27/09/19 No Objections

1230 - P/2019/01043: Grain Store at Yeatsall Farm, Yeatsall Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire

Continued use of former grain store for Storage and Distribution (Class B8)

Received: 20/09/19 Reply due: 11/10/19 No Objections

1231 - P/2019/00121: Land at Coach And Horses PH, High Street, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3BN

Erection of two detached dwellings and associated vehicular access (Revised Plans)

Received: 23/09/19 Reply due: 07/10/19 Parish Council to reinforce previous objections. Cllr Baker to do further research and forward further objections to the Clerk prior to submission.

Agreed

1167 - P/2018/01390: Sycamore House, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AT

Felling of 3 leylandii trees

1209 - P/2019/00022: Poplar Farm, Poplar Farm Road, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AY

Change of use of land from agricultural to form part of domestic curtilage and erection of a detached garage

1210 - P/2019/00684: The Counting House, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3AT

Erection of a two storey front and side extension, erection of a single storey side extension and dormer extension on the west elevation.

1211 - P/2019/00631: Leacross, Bagot Street, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3DA

Erection of a single storey rear extension, installation of four conservation area rooflights on rear and replacement window on front elevation

1212 - P/2019/00635: Leacross, Bagot Street, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DA

Listed Building application for the demolition of existing rear single storey extension and erection of a replacement single storey rear extension, installation of four conservation area rooflights on the rear elevation, replacement window and re-pointing of brickwork on the front elevation, and internal works to include removal of stud walls and installation of bathroom

1215 - P/2019/00715: Radmore View House, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3AT

Erection of a single storey front and rear extensions

1216 - P/2019/00738: The Willows, Hobb Lane, Marchington Woodlands, Staffordshire, ST14 8RG

Erection of an agricultural building for the storage of machinery and implements, hay and straw and for the housing of livestock

1217 - P/2019/00709: 2 Ivy Close, Abbots Bromley, Rugeley, WS15 3FB

Overall crown reduction of up to 5% and crown lifting of up to 4.5m from ground level of 1 Ash tree (T1 TPO 353).

1219 - P/2019/00337: Unit 2, Grange Farm, Ashbrook Lane, Bromley Wood, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AL

Demolition of part of the existing agricultural building to facilitate the conversion of existing barn to form dwelling including rear extension to form porch and garage and installation of septic tank.

1222 - P/2019/00855: Plum House, High Street, Abbots Bromley, Staffs, WS15 3BL

Crown Reduction by 30% and cutting back of overhanging branches of 4 Holly trees

1227 - P/2019/00945: Mickledale Cottage, Port Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3DX

Removal of 47.7m of hedgerow

Refused

1214 - P/2019/00651: Orchard Farm, Ashbrook Lane, Bromley Wood, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AL

Alterations and conversion of existing detached garage block to form a dwelling

111. Finance Matters**A Record of payments made after discussion with Chairman or Vice Chairman**

| | | | |
|---------|----------------------|---------|---|
| 38/1869 | G McCulloch | 1125.00 | Grounds Maintenance – reissue of cheque due Bank error |
| 39/1870 | HMRC | 395.58 | PAYE |
| 40/1871 | G McCulloch | 500.00 | Grounds Maintenance |
| 41/1872 | Mrs S Meads | 576.89 | Salary For August |
| 42/1873 | SCC Pensions | 219.72 | Pension contributions |
| 43/1874 | Fresh Air Fitness | 5998.50 | Fresh Air Fitness, outdoor gym |
| 44/1875 | S Meads | 11.80 | Expenses |
| 45/1876 | Reprotec Connect For | 41.83 | Photocopy costs |

B Record of payments for which authorisation will be sought at meeting

| <i>Vch/Chq</i> | <i>Payee</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|----------------|---|---------------|--------------------------------------|
| 46/1877 | S Meads | 576.69 | Salary for September |
| 47/1878 | SCC Pensions | 219.52 | Pension contribution for June |
| 49/1879 | S Meads | 196.60 | Expenses |
| 50/1880 | D Meads | 75.00 | Repairs to The Nuttery Playground |
| 51/1881 | Hugh Harris Ltd/ta Fresh Air Fitness | 5998.50 | Final payment for outdoor gym |
| 51/1882 | Mazars LLP | 240.00 | Audit Fee |
| 52/1883 | Came & Company | 1135.71 | Annual Insurance Premium |
| | | 17,311.34 | |

C Record of payments received

| <i>Date</i> | <i>Amount</i> | <i>Details</i> |
|-------------|---------------|----------------|
|-------------|---------------|----------------|

| | | |
|----------|-------------------|---------|
| 09/09/19 | Horn Dance Stalls | £125.00 |
|----------|-------------------|---------|

RESOLVED: *Councillors approved these payments*

ii. Monthly Finance Report

The Clerk presented the monthly finance report.

111. Group Reports**i. Recreation**

The Clerk reported that the repairs on the Nuttery were holding out. More work needed on the surface and cutting back of trees. Some attention needed on equipment on Millennium Green in the near future.

ii. Village Property

Nothing to report

iii Traffic, Parking & Highways

Cllr Baker referred to "The Good Verge Guide" published by Plantlife. He made the point that 97% of our ancient flower meadows have disappeared since the 1930s, leaving verges as the only real refuge for many plants, bees, bugs, bats, birds and butterflies. 45% of our total flora grows on verges. In order to help verges to sustain plant and animal life they should be cut twice a year between mid-July and Christmas (the later the first cut the better as it allows more species to shed seed). On verges of low fertility, the first cut should not be until October.

It was agreed that the PC write to Highways to ask if the cutting of verges in our lanes could be arranged to fit in with the above.

This action would support the PC's mission statement, as well as the county council's declaration of an "environmental emergency"

Highways was also to be chased up over our question as to whether we had their consent to take steps to protect the verges in Radmore/Radmorewood Lane.

It was reported that Mr Male was going to have a meeting with Staffordshire County Council to discuss Quiet Lanes.

Feedback from The Surgery had been thanks for the footpath off School House Lane. Concerns also raised regarding an increase in HGVs using the village.

iv Competitions

v. Newsletter

Next issue out in November.

vi. Village Hall

Nothing to report

vii. ABSA

ABSA have requested a meeting in the near future. The Clerk to arrange.

112. Horn Dance

It had been noted that when the dancers left the village in the morning until they returned in the late afternoon, there was not a great deal to occupy visitors. Could a meeting be arranged with Horn Dancers to discuss potential activities in the village like a guided history tour or craft workshops taking place in the pubs/village hall as a means of engaging with visitors until the dancers return in the afternoon.

113. Correspondence, bulletins and reports

- SPCA Bulletins circulated
- Email from B Walters, replied to via email
- Letter from B Payne, contents noted and forwarded to NDPG
- Email from Staffordshire YFC regarding Tractor Drive at Christmas, councillors agreed support for the event
- Letter from Woodard – circulated to councillors

114. Agenda Items for the next meeting

PC Objectives, Horn Dance, AB School,

115. Date, time and place of future meetings

Wednesday, 30th October 2019, 7.00pm, Abbots Bromley Village Hall.

Signed _____ Date 30th October 2019