

ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL
 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting
 Held on Wednesday 24th June 2020 at 7.00 pm
 Virtual meeting held via Microsoft Teams, pursuant to notice having been given

Present: Cllrs Dr C Whorwood, (Chair) Mr K Baker, P Freeman, Mrs K Haywood, M Lockey

In attendance: Mrs S Meads (Clerk),

Members of the Public Attending: 0

Contents:-

20.	Apologies for absence	1
21.	Public session	1
22.	Declarations of interests	1
23.	Minutes of previous meeting	1
24.	Neighbourhood Plan Update	2
25.	Matters of report	3
26.	Planning	4
27.	Financial matters	4
28.	Correspondence, bulletins & reports	4
29.	Agenda items for next meeting	5
30.	Date, time and place of future meetings	5

20. Apologies for absence
 Cllr N T Brown, Cllr R Love

21. Public Session
 None

22. Declarations of Interests
 None

23. Minutes of Previous Meetings
***RESOLVED:** that the minutes of meeting held on 26th February be signed as a true and correct record with one amendment.*

24. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update

A neighbourhood planning update was provided by NDPG and this would be published in the forthcoming Bulletin and Annual Parish Report.

Cllr Lockey said that he had been surprised by the level of the professional fee and said that it really needed a specialist writer to complete the document. Cllr Freeman said that it did really need someone from outside to pull it all together.

Cllr Baker said that the whole draft document had been completed by different people and the secretary is currently pulling it all together. He stated that due to Covid-19 legislation had changed which means that the document can hold weight when it reaches draft stage.

Cllr Dr Whorwood said that a lot of work had been put in and it is now difficult not meeting face to face. A lot has been done by Mr Wheeldon. There is still a lot to do but may need to wait until everyone can meet together. He said that the group really need a new chair and he wondered if Cllr Freeman or Cllr Lockey would be interested in the role. Cllr Dr Whorwood said that the Vice Chair is also willing to step aside if someone else is interested in taking on the role. Councillors discussed. Cllr Freeman said that it is difficult to come in at this late stage and take it on.

25. Matters of Report

i. Highways Meeting

The Clerk and Cllr Baker reported on the meeting held with Staffordshire County Council Highways. Grass cutting to be reduced to just one cut in one or two lanes. SCC requested that the Parish Council select one or two lanes. It was agreed that Radmorewood Lane would be a trial lane for this. This should be communicated to residents.

The Clerk updated on lack of signs for passing places in Hobb Lane and the fact that people were using them as parking places. At the meeting SCC agreed to put passing places signs in the laybys.

Quiet Lanes were discussed at length at the meeting with SCC Highways. The Clerk and Cllr Baker reported that Highways were not keen on the proposal of having quiet lanes and felt that they gave lane users the feeling that they are safe to walk anywhere. The Clerk reported that Highways had recommended taking measures such as creating more passing places and safe places for people to walk out of the way of vehicles. Cllr Baker felt that Highways were very negative about the proposal.

ii. Wildflowers

Planting of wildflowers was discussed at length and this linked to the discussion about grass cutting in lanes. Cllr Mrs Haywood said that she could not understand why grass verges were cut. Councillors felt that people needed to be educated as to why verges are not being cut and how this benefits the environment. Cllr Baker asked if this could be progressed for next year.

RESOLVED: *that seeds would be purchased for next year and possibly plant on The Nuttery and Millennium Green as well as scatter on some grass verges.*

iii. Goat Car Park/EV Charging Point

Cllr Baker reported that a meeting had taken place with suppliers to ascertain costs for installing a charging point. Costs have come in around £15-20,000. Cllr Baker said that he was currently awaiting feedback from MP as to whether a grant would be available. Cllr Lockey said that he would be against putting it in the centre of the village. Cllr Baker said that this was his concern too and other areas could be considered such as the Village Hall or possibly the Fire Station. Feedback also awaited from Staffordshire County Council regarding potentially using the Goat Car Park as this is County Council land.

iv. White Lines on Main Road

The Clerk reported that a requested had been put into SCC Highways for lines not to be repainted on the main street. Cllr Freeman said that he was in favour of reinstating the white lines. Cllr Mrs Haywood proposed that white lines not be reinstated, Cllr Dr Whorwood seconded. Cllr Baker said that he was not sure whether it would work or not having no lines. Cllr Dr Whorwood asked the Clerk to check legal implications of removing the white lines with Staffordshire County Council Highways Department. Proposal to investigate further with Highways.

26. Planning

Dunstall Hall Farm, Dunstall Lane, Abbots Bromley Rugeley, Demolition of part of an existing agricultural building and extension to an existing building

No Objections

Bromley Cottage, Uttoxeter Road, Abbots Bromley, Erection of a single storey rear extension and installation of replacement windows

No Objections

Bromley Cottage, Uttoxeter Road, Abbots Bromley, Erection of a single storey rear extension and installation of replacement windows - listed building consent

No Objections

The Willows, Hobb Lane, Marchington Woodlands, Erection of greenhouse, formation of access and formation of concrete apron

No Objections

21 Paget Rise, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3EF Erection of a single storey rear extension

No Objections

Highfields House and Wheelright House, Bagot Street, Felling of one Sycamore tree (Wheelwright House) and felling of one Holly tree, removal of one branch on Sycamore tree and two branches on a Lime tree (Highfields House)

No Objections

Councillors asked if any progress had been made regarding planning permission for The Ruchi extractor fans and signage. The Clerk said that no feedback had been received from ESBC. Councillors requested that the Clerk contact Borough Councillor Hall in order to find out what is happening and why this hasn't been progress by ESBC.

27. Finance Matters

A Record of payments made after discussion with Chairman or Vice Chairman

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

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details
97/1928	S Meads	576.69	June Salary
98/1929	SCC Pensions	226.81	Pension contribution for June
99/1930	S Meads	17.30	Expenses
100/1931	Staffs PC Association	367.00	Subscription for SPCA
101/1932	Dr C Whorwood	139.99	Purchase of Mobile Phone for PC use

1327.79

C Record of payments received

Date		Amount	Details
24/04/20	ESBC	12,632.00	ESBC precept and grant payment
27/04/20	SCC	350.00	Staffs County Council Covid-19 grant
		<u>12982.00</u>	

RESOLVED: that the above payments be approved.

ii. Section 137 Grants

Potential grants for village organisations were discussed at length. However, Councillors did not feel that the requests were specific enough to make a decision at this stage and requested that the Clerk go back to those that had applied and ask for specific amounts that are required and what these would be used to purchase. The Council did agree to a grant of £500 for the mowing of the Church Yard. More details to be requested in time for the next meeting so that these can be agreed.

28. Correspondence, Bulletins & Reports

SPCA Newsletter

Email from Mrs Spratt – resignation as a Parish Councillor. Councillors thanked Mrs Spratt for her work as a councillor.

29. Agenda Items for the next meeting

Horn Dance,

30. Date, time and place of future meetings

Wednesday, 29th July 2020 , 7.00pm Virtual Meeting

Signed _____

Date 29th July 2020

Abbots Bromley Parish Council will do all it can to protect Abbots Bromley's heritage and village status and seek to enhance the well-being of the community by moving towards a greener and more sustainable environment.