

ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL  
 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
 Held on Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 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, N Taylor-Brown, R Love

**In attendance:** Mrs S Meads (Clerk),

**Members of the Public Attending: 0**

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**31. Apologies for absence**  
None

**32. Public Session**  
None

**33. Declarations of Interests**  
None

**34. Minutes of Previous Meetings**  
**RESOLVED:** *that the minutes of meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> June be signed as a true and correct record with two amendments.*

**35. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update**

Cllr Lockey said that he would be willing to be considered as chair with of the NDPG with the proviso that Cllr Freeman becomes Vice Chair. He said that having read Mr Wheeldon's recent email he felt that it may still be necessary to get an external writer to prepare the draft plan. Councillors discussed the appointment of Cllr Lockey and Cllr Freeman and supported the proposal.

**RESOLVED:** The Clerk to write to the NDPG to advice the group of the proposal and ask to the group if they would support.

Cllr R Love asked if anyone had seen what stage the draft plan was at. Cllr Baker said that he had not seen anything. Cllr Taylor-Brown suggested that Mr Wheeldon should be asked for a timescale of when the document will be available.

**RESOLVED:** that the Clerk contact Mr Wheeldon and ask for a timeline.

Cllr Baker said that there seem to be a considerable difference of opinion between the consultant and East Staffs Borough Council planning department. ESBC suggested that we should be more adventurous and need to make sure that the document is not toned down. Cllr Love said that the meeting with ESBC was extremely useful, very positive and constructive.

Cllr Dr C Whorwood said that he was delighted that Cllr Lockey and Cllr Freeman had come forward to take on the roles.

### 36. Matters of Report

#### i. **Wild Flowers**

The Clerk updated councillors on a grant that is currently available with South Staffs Water. The Clerk confirmed that she would apply for the grant.

#### ii. **Goat Car Park/EV Charging Point**

Cllrs N Taylor-Brown and K Baker updated councillors on a meeting held with Staffordshire County Council regarding the possibility of locating an EV Charging Point on the Goat Car Park and also designated disabled parking spaces. The proposal is for two charging points and two disabled spaces near to the Butter Cross. Councillors discussed the proposal. Concerns were raised over the look of the charging units in the conservation area. Cllrs Taylor Brown and K Baker to continue to liaise with the County Council. Cllr Dr Whorwood thanked them for their work on the project so far.

#### iii. **White Lines on Roads**

The Clerk reported that she had been in contact with Staffordshire County Council Highways to ask whether consideration could be made for not repainting the white lines on the main street in Abbots Bromley and if there were any safety implications. The feedback that had been received from Highways was that not painting the lines back on the road would need to be taken to consultation. In the meantime the lines may be painted back on the road and potentially removed again at a later date.

#### iv. **Blithfield Reservoir**

The Clerk and Cllr M Lockey attended a meeting at Blithfield reservoir with representatives from SCC Highways, The Police, South Staffs Water, ESBC and Blithfield Parish Council. The meeting was held to discuss anti-social behaviour at the reservoir, littering and speeding on the causeway. It was reported that clarification has been requested on the ownership of the parking area and verges around the reservoir. Highways have agreed to put a speed monitoring device in on the Causeway to assess the speeding situation. A further meeting would be arranged for September to discuss findings of speeding survey and findings regarding ownership of land.

#### v. **Horn Dance**

Cllr Taylor-Brown reported that a decision had not yet been made as to whether the Horn Dance would go ahead due to Covid-19. The Horn Dance Committee were due to meet the following week to make a final decision.

### 37. Planning

**Victoria Cottage, Ashbrook Lane, Abbots  
Bromley,  
WS15 3DW**

Demolition of existing outbuildings to facilitate the erection of a two storey detached dwelling and alterations to exiting dwelling including associated car parking

No Objections. If trees removed then request planting of new trees

**The Warren, Uttoxeter Road, Abbots Bromley  
WS15 3EJ**

Erection of an agricultural building Phase 1  
Erection of an agricultural building Phase 2  
Erection of an agricultural building Phase 3  
Erection of an agricultural building Phase 4  
Erection of a slurry store

No Objections

**Coppice Farm, Hobb Lane, Marchington  
Woodlands,  
ST14 8RG**

Erection of 2 additional poultry sheds and associated control room, feed bins and hardstanding. Formation of a 1.5m high soil bund and expansion to existing drainage attenuation pond on an established poultry farm.

No Objections

### 38. Finance Matters

#### **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>
102/1934	S Meads	576.69	July Salary
103/1935	SCC Pensions	226.81	Pension contribution for
104/1936	S Meads	11.80	July
105/1937	Riverside Printers	356.00	Expenses Printing of Bulletin &
106/1938	G McCulloch	640.00	Chair's Report Grounds Maintenance &
108/1939	Toplis Associates Ltd	147.77	Narrow Lane Clearing Internal Audit Fee

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1959.07

**RESOLVED:** that the above payments be approved.

#### **C. Section 137 Grants**

Grants applications were discussed by councillors. Clerk confirmed that all applicants had provided written applications to the council with a breakdown of what funds would be used for. Details had been circulated to councillors prior to the meeting.

**RESOLVED:** that the following grants be awarded to village organisations:-

£551.00 awarded to Abbots Bromley Sports Association for the purchase of a portable scoreboard

£300 awarded to Abbots Bromley Bowls Club towards the purchase of a new mower.

£500 to ABPCC towards the mowing of the Churchyard

£500 to Abbots Bromley Friendship Group towards the future running costs of the club.

*Councillors discussed the request from ABPCC for the mowing of the churchyard and agreed that an increased grant could be considered in future if the mowing was put out to tender.*

**D. 2019/2020 Audit**

The Clerk presented the audit for 2019/20, this had been circulated prior to the meeting along with the Internal Auditor's Report.

**i. Annual Governance Statement**

Councillors approved the Annual Governance Statement, signed by the Chair Cllr Dr C Whorwood and The Clerk, Mrs S Meads

**ii. Accounting Statement**

The Clerk presented the figures within the account statement. Councillors approved. Signed by the Chair Cllr Dr C Whorwood and The Clerk, Mrs S Meads.

**iii. Internal Auditor**

Councillors discussed the appointment of the internal Auditor, Toplis Associates Ltd. The Clerk reported that she was very happy with the services provided by the auditor and that the audit had been done very effectively with the auditor providing a remote service due to Covid-19.

**RESOLVED:** *that the appointment of Toplis Associates Ltd be confirmed for the next financial year, 2020/21.*

**39. Correspondence, Bulletins & Reports**

SPCA Newsletter

**40. Agenda Items for the next meeting**

United Charities

**41. Date, time and place of future meetings**

Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup> September 2020 , 7.00pm Virtual Meeting

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date 30<sup>th</sup> September 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.**