

## LITTLE ABINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Tuesday 29 March 2016 at 7.15pm in the Abington Institute, Great Abington.

**Present.** Mr Brunning (Chair), Mr Adams (from 8.15pm), Mr Chesham, Mr Ellis, Mrs Gunning, Mr Wigley.

**In attendance.** Cllr Orgee, Cllr Topping (from 7.40pm). Cllr Hickford.

1. **Apologies for absence.** Mr Pritchard, Mrs Dalton (Clerk).
2. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 22 February 2015.** Agreed.
3. **Actions from previous meetings and any matters arising.**
  - **Lights, roads and pavements.** The faulty light outside the Old House (SC9) in the High Street has been repaired. We have been notified of a reduction (for the period Oct-Jun) for the time that a light on the High Street was not working (Invoice 10659653 to be cancelled, and new invoice issued for 29 lights for the full 12 months, and for PC8 from 1st October 2014 to 8th June 2015).  
Still no action on dangerous footway outside 54 High Street. **PB**
  - **Transparency Code.** CAPALC reports that it sent a grant for £257.37 on 24 March.
  - **Finance and compliance.** e-payment. PP is chasing - further update on progress required. **PP**
  - **Condition of fence in Sluice Wood.** The barbed wire is still a hazard and if anything is worse as a result of a fallen tree. PB to contact the landowner again. [*post meeting note: the fence was promptly repaired but the barbed wire is still close to the path*] **PB**
  - **Recreation Ground Committee Constitution.** PB and the Clerk are still progressing this. Nearing completion. **PB/CLERK**
  - **Abington Open Day (2 April):** Mr Adams will represent LAPC for part of the day. **EA**
  - **Parking at Fourwentways:** Mr Brunning (with Cllr Orgee and possibly Mr Ellis) will meet with Anna Chylinska-Derkowska on 30/03/16 to assess the problems, brought about by lorry parking, which have led to traffic negotiating the roundabout in the wrong direction. Police have identified this as a priority at February's Police Panel Meeting. **PB/JE**  
PB had reported the litter problem, which had since been vastly improved, to SCDC.
  - **Mobile phone signal:** Still variable. Mr Chesham reports that the provider is 'still waiting for parts' to repair the mast.
4. **Declarations of interest.** None
5. **Public Participation.**
  - **A1307 Parish Forum** Cllr Hickford raised two issues. Firstly, he questioned a view recorded in the A1307 Parish Forum notes which had been attributed to Mr Brunning. Mr Brunning acknowledged that the comment could be taken as a personal attack on Cllr Hickford and apologised. Secondly, Cllr Hickford produced a copy of a letter sent on behalf of the A1307 Parish Forum dated 25 March 2016 which stated that the contents had been 'agreed' by the parish councils present at the forum meeting, including Little Abington Parish Council. He pointed out that a number of parish councils had not yet met and minutes (a legal document) did not show that agreement had been made. Mr Brunning explained that the letter, which followed the last meeting of the Forum on 24 February, had been emailed to all members of the parish council and that no-one had questioned its contents. Cllr Hickford felt that the letter's author may have been involved in political manoeuvring. He would welcome the Forum being widened to include others who have a contribution to make. He said this view was supported by CAPALC.

Cllr Hickford left the meeting.

**6. Finance and Compliance****6.1 Receipts to current account.**

GAPC - ford maintenance, contribution to cost of Abingtons web site	£ 73.14
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**6.2 Payments**

Abington Recreation Ground youth Shelter S106	£ 1,411.17
Mrs G Dalton Clerk salary, STO March 2016	£ 163.35
CGM village maintenance STO March 2016	VAT £33.85
CGM	£ 158.34
Friends of the Roman Road and Fleam Dyke subscription	£ 20.00
LCPAS Finance course	£ 25.00
Mrs G Dalton Clerk expenses Q4.	£ 14.90
Abington Parochial Church Council. Contribution to cost of replacing Churchyard fence	£ 330.00
Cambs County Council Street lighting Oct14 - Sep15	Awaiting new invoice
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£2,325.86</b>

**6.3 Finance Report.****Balances year to date**

Balance	TOTAL	Current	Cambs B'ding Society
Opening per bank statement	£21,446.35	£ 6417.17	£ 15,029.18
Closing balance	£17,523.62	£ 2494.44	£ 15,029.18

Note: Bank statement does not include uncleared payments

**6.4 2015-16 Audit Arrangements** Mike Gutteridge has offered to carry out the work at the same hourly rate as last year. Mrs Gunning proposed that we accept this. Seconded Mr Chesham. Passed nem con. The Clerk's notes from a recent finance course were received. There were a few points for consideration. . It was agreed the Compliance Working Group would review.

**6.5 Local Council Award Scheme.** Work on this will be completed after the Clerk's return in time for the June deadline.

**7. Planning****7.1 Planning applications/consultation:**

- S/0258/16/FL Grounds storage container, Perse playing fields. No objection.

**7.2 Planning updates:**

- **SCDC decisions.** None
- **Planning Forum.** PB had attended the meeting on 22 March. There were no major revelations but it seems that the planning team is almost back up to strength. We are well briefed by our local members. There was concern from some parishes about the slow progress of the local plan, and the lack of a 5 year housing supply, which are causing an increase in speculative residential development proposals. SCDC would welcome topics for proposed planning training and future planning forums.

**7.3 Local Developments**

- **Local Development Plan.** SCDC has supported the Abingtons housing developments. High Street: retention of boundary trees and hedges and creation of 'soft edge'; Linton Rd: retention of allotments, creation of community orchrd on south side and retention of trees and hedges except for access; Bancroft Farm: enhancement of the Conservation Area with a high quality development of cottages

suitable for 'downsizers' with generous room sizes; retention of the flint boundary wall either as a boundary wall or as part of built development and except as required to provide access; creation of a landscape buffer along the rear of the site to provide a soft green village edge. This was all welcomed by the parish council.

- **Housing development in the Abingtons.** A consultation event was held regarding the proposed development of 8 houses at Strawberry Form, Pampisford Rd., Great Abington. LAPC will respond once a planning application has been made
- **City Deal.** Cllr Orgee updated the meeting. The board is now more receptive to longer distance cycleways. LAPC was asked to think of how and where cycleways could be extended or developed locally e.g. by using the disused railway line, linking all the local science campuses, improving the Babraham-Abington-Linton links.

## 8. Highways and traffic

- **Speedwatch.** Ongoing. Nothing to report.
- **Cycleways.** A planning application has been made for the new route through Babraham Research Institute.
- **2014-15 Local Highways Improvement Scheme.** Work is now complete. A new 50mph stretch of road between Abington and the dual carriageway has been introduced.
- **2015-16 Local Highways Improvement Scheme.** Our application was not successful. We scored between 33 – 50% of the way down the list of projects. We can now consider working on individual elements of the plan e.g. approaching the International School regarding payment for school signs. PB: contact school regarding their traffic plan. **PB**  
Cllr Topping advised that the application round for 2016-17 will begin earlier than previous years. He agreed to chase up replacement of the A1307 village / 40 sign. **PT**

Mr Adams joined the meeting at 8.15pm.

## 9. Village environment

- **Abingtons Open Day:** 2 April. EA will attend for part of the day.
- **Parish Council Liaison Meeting:** 28 April 2016. Agenda items to be sent to PB asap
- **Annual Litter Pick:** 30 April. LAPC to organise **CLERK and PB**
- **Building noise at Granta Park:** A complaint has been received; however the problem seems to have gone away. [*Post meeting note: another complaint arrived during meeting*]

## 10. Parish Council Meetings:

Mr Wigley advised that he had resigned from the parish council (with effect from the meeting) as he was due to move away from the village within a few weeks. PB thanked him for his many contributions, including taking notes for this meeting.

### 10.1 Annual Meeting of the Parish Council.

It was agreed to invite the International School to outline their proposed developments and parking solutions as at a previous meeting with PB and GW the school had indicated it would have formulated a plan by April. **PB to contact**

### 10.2 Parish Council meeting dates:

September 12 and November 21 were the preferred dates.

## 11. Reports from local authority representatives

### 11.1 Receipt of report from Cllr Orgee (SCDC)

Cllr Orgee's written report was discussed.

- He reported on Local Plan developments and the City Deal/A1307
- The District Council's has decided to increase Council Tax by 5% for 2016-17.
- He confirmed his intention to attend the meeting at Fourwentways on 30/03/2016 to consider parking problems.

### **11.2 Receipt of report from Cllr Topping (Cambs County Council)**

- Cllr Topping's report contained advice on making a Minor Highways Improvement grant bid
- A website which can be used when reporting difficulties with mobile phone signal/masts.
- He advised the parish council to be vigilant at this time of year and on the alert for unlawful trespass.
- He reported pressure on numbers at Great Abington Primary School is unlikely to cause problems for September 2016, but is likely to in September 2017. The meeting welcomed the news that the Head Teacher has been active in attending meetings which alert the county to the likelihood that additional provision will almost certainly be needed.

### **12. To receive reports from representatives**

**12.1 Village maintenance.** Nothing to report. CGM expected in the village soon.

**12.2 Lights, roads and pavements.** Discussed earlier in the meeting.

**12.3 Trees.** Three poplar trees have been removed with permission because they were unsafe at 54 High Street. Work on trees on the Recreation Ground is complete.

**12.4 Police.** The Police Panel met on 25 February. Notes from the meeting have been circulated. The meeting identified Fourwentways as the priority issue.

**12.5 A1307:** covered elsewhere in the meeting.

**12.6 Other meetings attended by LAPC reps.** None

### **13. To acknowledge receipt of minutes from committees**

- **Institute Management Committee.** Minutes received and circulated.
- **Recreation Ground Committee.** Next meeting in May
- **Committee for Abington Housing.** Meeting imminent. Notes from it to be sent to all parish councillors.

### **14. Correspondence.**

'Local Councils Explained' book still doing the round of councillors.  
Audit forms have been received.

### **15. Any other business.** None.

The meeting closed at 9:50pm

**Next meeting Monday 25 April 2016 starting at 7.00pm**

**Followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8.00pm**