

LITTLE ABINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 25 January 2016 at 7.15pm in the Abington Institute, Great Abington.

Present. Mr Brunning (Chair), Mr Adams, Mr Chesham, Mr Ellis, Mrs Gunning, Mr Wigley, Mrs Dalton (Clerk).

In attendance. Cllr Orgee. Three members of the public attended.

1. Apologies for absence. Mr Pritchard, Cllr Topping.

The Chairman agreed to change the agenda order to enable Cllr Orgee to leave the meeting early.

2. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 23 November 2015. Agreed.

3. Actions from previous meetings and any matters arising.

- **Lights, roads and pavements.** The pavement in Church Lane has been repaired to good effect. There are still problems with the pavement in the High Street. The faulty light outside the Old House (SC9) in the High Street has not been repaired and the light missing from outside 22 High Street (SC8) has still not been replaced. **PB**
- **Public Rights of Way.** Contact names received. **CLERK**
- **Transparency Code.** The grant application to CAPALC has not been acknowledged. Awards were due to be made in December. **CLERK** will chase this up
- **Finance and compliance.** Setting up e-payment still in progress **PP**
- **Bus shelter maintenance.** Mr Brunning has visited the bus shelter on Cambridge Road. It needs cleaning and sweeping out. There is some damage is due to cigarette burns. In his view it does not need to be replaced.
- **Mobile phone signal.** This seems to have improved.
- **Householders contributing to the cost of maintaining the Snicket.** **CLERK** to write.
- **Flooding in Church Lane.** The problem seems to be related to drainage from the road onto land owned by Bancroft Farm. It is hoped that it will be possible to work with Highways and the executors of the estate to remedy it. **PB**

4. Declarations of interest.

Planning. Mr Adams and Mr Brunning would be directly affected by proposed housing developments in Little Abington. Cllr Orgee for planning applications in Bourn Bridge Road.

5. Public Participation.

- **Queen's 90th birthday.** Following discussions at the November meeting Ms Whitaker and Ms Ellis updated the Parish Council on their plans for the Queen's birthday celebrations. There was some discussion about insurance arrangements. As the event is to be held in Great Abington they were advised to discuss this with GAPC. The Parish Council agreed to offer a grant of a maximum of £1000 towards the cost of the event.
- **Mr Hood.** Mr Hood updated the Parish Council on the position with regard to management of land on the Nutt estate. Permissive signs have been erected for the established path in Sluice Wood. The Bancroft Farm garden has been fenced off and notices have been erected. There are still some issues with neighbours about gates and fly tipping. The estate's lawyers will be writing to the residents concerned. Mr Brunning reported several complaints about the appearance of the garden fence and concerns raised about the use of barbed wire which is a hazard. Mr Hood agreed to address this.

All three members of the public left the meeting

12.1. Report from Cllr Orgee.

Cllr Orgee referred to his written report.

- **Developments at Hinxtton.** Proposals for expanding the site are being developed. The team at the Genome Campus will arrange a meeting with local parishes to explain their proposals in more detail. The publication of the final plan is not expected until 2018. There are already concerns about traffic volumes and it is understood that the proposals will include a “ring road” and changes to road layouts. It was noted that the associated housing development will include houses for sale rather than homes solely for the use of staff working on the campus.
- **Land Settlement Association.** It seems that a Local Development Order specifically for the LSA area in Great Abington will be developed
- **City Deal.** The committee will consider the A1307 soon. A briefing should be available in the near future.
- **SCDC Planning Committee Delegation Scheme.** The decision is expected in spring.
- **Electoral boundary review - South Cambridgeshire.** The consultation is open until 1 February. Current thinking is to reduce the number of district councillors from 57 to 45 and to change ward boundaries. It was likely that the Abingtons would be moved to the Linton Ward and it would become a two member ward. LAPC agreed it would support changes in boundaries that lead to closer alignment with communities with a shared interest that enabled SCDC to work effectively. It was noted that parliamentary constituency boundaries, county council boundaries and other administrative boundaries are not coterminous.

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

There was no income to report. Two invoices have been raised.

GAPC - ford maintenance, contribution to cost of Abingtons web site	£ 73.14
Millennium footpath maintenance	£ 60.00

6.2 Payments

- There have been several burglaries in Little Abington in recent months. Victims have reported contact with the Bobby Scheme. The Parish Council agreed to make a donation of £100.00 to the Cambridgeshire Police Bobby scheme. This was included the 2015-16 budget plan.
- The Clerk reported that the cost of the Parish Councillor Training was £140.00 rather than £200.00 as agreed in November.
- JG proposed and RC seconded payment of all items on the agenda. This was agreed.

Mrs G Dalton Clerk salary, STO January 2016	£ 163.35
CGM village maintenance STO January 2016 VAT £33.85	£ 203.10
Abington Institute - Room hire	£ 24.00
Bobby Scheme donation	£ 100.00
Clerk Expenses Q3	£ 65.81
GAPC - shared cost of Family Bus trip	£ 153.20
TOTAL	£ 709.46

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

Balance	TOTAL	Current	Cambs B'ding Society
Opening per bank statement	£23,206.57	£8177.39	£ 15,029.18
Closing balance	£22,497.11	£7467.93	£ 15,029.18

Note: Bank statement does not include uncleared payments

- **Q3 finance report.** The Q3 finance report was reviewed. The budget is running close to plan and there are no adverse variances of concern. It was noted that the Clerk's hours are above plan. This is due to improved record keeping and the additional time required to implement the Transparency Code. The cost of the additional hours should be covered by the grant from CAPALC.

6.4 2016-17 draft budget plan and 2016-17 precept.

- The budget plan was agreed.
- The Parish Council agreed to set the precept at £16,490.00.

6.5 Contribution to Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. Discussed under public participation.

- #### **6.6 Funding for GAPS out-of-school club.** SCDC confirmed that S106 funding cannot be used for this development. The Clerk understood that amount required would be approximately £250.00. The Parish Council agreed to make a donation from unallocated reserves.

CLERK to contact the GAPS team

- #### **6.7 Request for donation to Parochial Church Council.** The Parish Council agreed to make a donation to the Parochial Church Council for repair of the churchyard fence for 1/3 of the cost up to a maximum of £400.00. It was expected that the PCC would obtain competitive quotes.

7. Planning

7.1 Planning applications/consultation:

- **S/3030/15/FL** Replacing polytunnels with glass houses, Greenacre, Bourn Bridge Rd. It was noted that work is already underway. The Parish Council was concerned that the site is untidy. There is no screening of the water tank and other constructions on the site.
- **S/2975/15/FL** New garage with bedroom above, replacement two storey porch, minor alterations to side and rear elevations, external render and roof lights, 33 Cambridge Road. The Parish Council recommended approval without any comments.
- **S/3220/15/FL** Single storey Dining Room/Garden Room, extension on the rear of the property. 1 Bourn Bridge Road. The Parish Council recommended approval without any comments
- **S/3225/15/FL** Rear single storey extension, New mono pitched zinc roof finish over existing flat roofed extension. First floor front & side extension. Replace existing fenestration & remove chimney breast, 5 Bourn Bridge Road. The Parish Council recommended approval without any comments
- **Tree works. 57 Church Lane.** For information. Application received December. The Parish Council raised one query and on receipt of a satisfactory response it did not make any comments.

Cllr Orgee left the meeting.

7.2 Planning updates:

- **S/2754/15/FL** Erection of three dwellings following demolition of existing dwelling. 27 Cambridge Road, Little Abington. Refused by SCDC.

7.3 Local Developments

- **Local Development Plan.** The Parish Council's response to the public consultation was submitted on time.
- **Committee for Abington Housing.** The Parish Council confirmed their agreement of the terms of reference of the committee.
- **Housing development in the Abingtons.** A small group met with the developers to discuss draft plans for developments in Linton Road, Great Abington and in Church Lane, Little Abington. The proposed development in Church Lane is for nine large houses. This is not in line with the principles set out in the Local Plan. Although the proposed development in Linton Road includes some smaller and some affordable homes it was for 46 dwellings compared to 33 in the Local Plan. PB confirmed that all of

the allotment plots have been retained and a Community Orchard is included. Further consultation with local residents is being planned.

- **SCDC changes to Planning Committee scheme of delegation.** The updated details were more in line with the proposals that had emerged from the earlier consultation. It was agreed that the Clerk should write in support of them but emphasise the importance of SCDC's Planning Officers working more closely with parish councils. **CLERK**

8. Highways and traffic

- **Speedwatch.** The team has two new volunteers. It is spreading its catchment to include the High Street and the A1307.
- **Cycleways.** The agreement for the cycleway through the Babraham Institute is ready to be signed. A planning application has been submitted. There was some discussion about maintenance of cycleways, in particular, cutting back over growing trees and shrubs.
- **2014-15 Local Highways Improvement Scheme.** Most of the work has been completed and the junction is much improved. Speed limit signs should be erected soon.
- **2015-16 Highways Improvement Scheme.** Mr Brunning and a representative from Great Abington Parish Council attended a meeting to present the joint bid. The outcome is expected in spring
- **A1307.** No recent meeting. There was a consultation event about developments in Haverhill. Several local parish councils had attended. They continue to be concerned about developments in Haverhill without any consideration of the impact on the A1307.

9. Village environment

- **Footpath maintenance.** Snicket resurfacing. PB had inspected. He felt there was no urgent need to replenish the road planings.
- **Dog fouling.** Still a problem in some parts of the village. Posters have been put up in key locations. TWI and Granta Park would be interested in using any posters produced by the school
- **Annual Litter pick.** LAPC will organise the litter pick this year. There is a 'Clean for the Queen' initiative to celebrate her 90th birthday, with a suggested date of 4-6 March. This was thought a bit early so Saturday 9 April was suggested. **CLERK**
- **Potential community use of Abington Hall.** The invitation from TWI was welcomed. It was felt the hall and grounds could be used for large events such as an arts festival. The possibility of using for the village archive was also considered.
- **Abingtons Open Day 2 April.** It was agreed that the Parish Council should be represented possibly as a joint effort with GAPC. There should be some information about the role of the parish councils and their contribution to the community. **EA** offered to spend at least part of the time at the event.
- **Signage and village identity.** Agreed to carry forward to February meeting. **CLERK**
- **Parking on grass verges.** This has been a long-standing problem in the High Street. The grass verge is being damaged. Options are to stop parking on the verge by erecting bollards or fencing or to provide a lay-by. Carry forward to February meeting. **CLERK**

- 10. Recreation Ground Committee Constitution.** The draft constitution was discussed. It was agreed that if it is a subcommittee of the parish councils the committee should adopt parish council policies and procedures and governance arrangements. Some tailoring to reflect the function and joint membership of the committee would be required. **CLERK/Chair of RGC**

- 11. South Cambs electoral boundary review.** SCDC's approach as outlined by Cllr Orgee was supported. To respond to consultation on behalf of LAPC. **CLERK**

12. Reports from local authority representatives

12.2 Receipt of report from Cllr Peter Topping (Cambs County Council)

- Cllr Topping's written report was discussed.
- The consultation on the library service was noted.

13. To receive reports from representatives

13.1 Village maintenance. No problems reported. CGM's Cambridge office has closed. RC confirmed that the Recreation Ground Committee does not have a contract with CGM.

13.2 Lights, roads and pavements. The Highways Team has a new manager. PB has had contact on faults from Peter Taylor, who has been very responsive. Potholes were filled promptly and he plans to jet the drains outside Little Abington Church. PB will follow up Cllr Topping's suggestion to arrange a meeting.

13.3 Trees. There are trees across the river. PB has contacted landowners.

13.4 Police. There has been a spate of thefts from vans and sheds and a house burglary.

13.5 Other meetings attended by LAPC reps. None

14. To acknowledge receipt of minutes from committees

- **Institute Management Committee.** Minutes received
- **Recreation Ground Committee.** Minutes received. The Clerk noted that an invoice for the LAPC's contribution to the cost of the youth shelter was awaited. SCDC had confirmed that this is appropriate use of S106 funding.
- **Committee for Abington Housing.** No recent meeting.

15. Correspondence.

A summary of correspondence received is on circulation. Items requiring action have already been circulated.

16. Any other business.

- Nominations for the Buckingham Palace Garden Party. The Chairman was one option considered.
- 2016 - 17 meeting dates. The proposed meeting schedule was noted. It was agreed to hold the March meeting on Tuesday 29 March. The Clerk would be absent.

The meeting closed at 9:55

Next meeting Monday 22 February 2016