

**LITTLE ABINGTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on**

**Monday 12 September 2016 at 7.15pm in the Abington Institute, Great Abington**

**DRAFT FOR AGREEMENT AT NEXT FULL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL.**

**Present.** Mr Brunning, Mrs Simmons, Mr Chesham, Mr Adams (Skype), Mr Ellis (Skype), Mrs Dalton (Clerk).

**In attendance.** Cllr Orgee, No public representation.

**1. Apologies for absence.** Mrs Scoffings, Mr Pritchard.

It was noted that with only two Parish Councillors present the meeting was not quorate. Mr Chesham had resigned.

The Chairman agreed to change the order of the agenda to enable Cllr Orgee to attend another meeting

**2. Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2016.** Agreed.

**Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 15 August 2016.** Agreed

**3. Matters arising not on the agenda.**

- **Sluice Wood.** The barbed wire fence is still dangerous.
- **Greenacre, Bourn Bridge Road.** There have been more comments about the caravan parked there. An update on the planning application was requested. **CLERK.**
- **Transport hubs.** As agreed at the last meeting the Clerk replied proposing Whittlesford railway station
- **Ivan Clark's Corner.** Despite a prompt response from Anglia-Wherry residents have not been advised about parking. There is some concern about dangerous parking on the corner, obstructing the view into the High Street. Some brambles have been cut back but probably not by the Anglia-Wherry contractor. The Clerk has chased.
- **CGM attended to the verge in the High Street.** Invoice awaited.
- **Lights Roads and Pavements.** The missing bollard at Fourwentways has been installed.
- **Trees and hedges overgrowing the pavement in Linton Road.** **CLERK** to advise Great Abington Parish Council.
- **02 mobile signal.** There seems to have been some improvement. It was escalated to the NHS ICT team at the end of August.

**4. Declarations of interest.** Mr Adams for agenda item 8.1

**5. Parish Council vacancy.**

Mr Chesham's position has been advertised. The closing date will be 20 September. The District Council will advise if there are any requests for election

**6. Public participation.** None

## 11 Reports from local authority representatives

### 11.1 Cllr Orgee's (SCDC) report covered:

- **The City Deal.** Responses to the consultation on tackling peak-time congestion are due by 10 October.
- **Devolution.** MORI have undertaken an opinion poll. Results should be published soon. The seven local authorities involved in East Anglia will be holding special meetings. Cambridgeshire County Council will meet on 25 October and South Cambridgeshire District Council on 26 October.
- **Riverside Stables.** This site has been discussed by the SCDC Planning Committee.
- **The Scrutiny Committee** has received reports about the performance of the Planning Department and the Contact Centre
- **2017-18 Local Highways Improvement Scheme.** Cllr Orgee emphasised the importance of gathering evidence to support the case. PB confirmed that the Little Abington Speedwatch team would be able to support data gathering but it was proving difficult to engage Great Abington Parish Council and the school.

### 11.2 Cllr Topping (Cambs County Council)

Cllr Topping did not send a report.

## 7. Finance

### 7.1 Income

Balance of grant for Queens 90 <sup>th</sup> birthday event	£ 146.62
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### 7.2 Payments

Payments were noted and authorised by PB and SS.

Mrs G Dalton Clerk salary, STO September 2016	£ 237.34
CGM village maintenance, STO September 2016 VAT £89.52	£ 268.55
HMRC PAYE Q2	£ 177.80
Came & Co - Parish Council Insurance	£ 310.19
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£ 993.88</b>

### 7.3 Finance report:

Balances year-to-date.

	TOTAL	Current	Cambridgeshire Building Society
Opening per bank statement (5.9.2016)	£ 22,248.35	£7201.01	£ 15,041.22
Balances at close of meeting	£ 21,248.35	£ 6201.13	£ 15,041.22

Note. Bank statement does not include uncleared cheques

### 7.4 Annual Return to the Audit Commission

The Parish Council received a qualified audit because the value of assets was updated when the insurance policy was renewed. This was not in line with the Practitioner's Guide.

### 7.5 Quotations and options for maintaining PRVs

There were two options - to work with a private contractor or to rely on the local farmer to cut the PRVs when time permitted. Quotations from CGM and from Herts & Cambs

Grounds Maintenance were considered. Given the importance of scheduling grass cutting in line with recommended practice for maintaining PRVs it was agreed that working with a contractor was preferred. Mr Chesham suggested that because the grass was very long, on this occasion, a better option would be to delay cutting until late September/early October so that the seeds could drop and then to cut and collect on the same day. It was agreed to accept the lower cost quotation from CGM.

## 8. Planning

### 8.1 Planning applications:

- **S/2225/16/FL** Demolish existing dwelling and garage and replace with a new larger house. The Croft, 38 Church Lane.. The draft plans were discussed at the planning meeting in August. The parish council was not aware of any objections. No recommendation but no referral to SCDC Planning Committee.
- **S/2216/16/FL** Demolish conservatory and replace with single storey garden room. 53 Church Lane. The Parish Council was not aware of any objections. No recommendation but no referral to SCDC Planning Committee.

### 8.2 Planning updates:

- **S/1880/16/FL.** Extension to existing dwelling house. Beech Tree Cottage, 10 Hildersham Road, Little Abington. SCDC granted planning permission.

### 8.3 Local Developments

- **Local Development Plan.** No update
- **Granta Park.** There is a proposal to build a nursery near the entrance.
- **Proposed housing developments in the Abingtons.** No update since the Planning Committee Meeting on 15 August
- **City Deal. A1307 Tackling Peak-Time Congestion in Cambridge.** It was noted that Cambridge has dismissed the option of congestion charging. It was felt that the existing system for limiting access to the city centre works well. Closing more roads might create rat runs. The Clerk was asked to draft a response for agreement. **CLERK**

## 8. Highways and traffic

- **2016-17 Highways Improvement Scheme.** Final plans are awaited. Options are constrained by guidance and there was some discussion about what could be enforceable. Mr Brunning felt it was unlikely that it would be possible to extend the 30 mph speed limit in Bourn Bridge Road as far as the International School.
- **2017-18 Highways Improvement Scheme application.** Closing date 30 November. As discussed there is very little engagement from the Parish Council, residents or the school in Great Abington. This will be discussed at the parish councils' liaison meeting.
- **Litter bins on A1307.** The bins in the lay bys between Abington and Haverhill are frequently overflowing. **CLERK** to contact Environmental Services team
- **Speeding.** Speedwatch continues and volunteers are still needed. The aim of the scheme, which is sponsored by the police, is to re-educate drivers and to remind them of the speed limits in the village. Some drivers regularly speed through the village particularly along Church Lane. There have been some reports of speeding to such excess that it might constitute dangerous driving.

## 9. Village Environment

- **Parking.** Some residents park on the pavement, which is illegal. The possibility of asking the PCSOs to advise them was discussed. The parish council would need to

ensure a consistent approach throughout the village, for example, in the High Street where parking on the pavement can reduce traffic congestion, without hampering pedestrian access and in other parts of the village where parking on the pavement is unnecessary. PB suggested there could be locally agreed guidance and/or marking.

- **Noise from Granta Park** There has been some helpful information from local residents. The parish council chairmen met representatives from Granta Park who are working hard to solve the problem. There was some concern about piling for the new Gilead building. The chosen technique should minimise noise and vibration. It was noted that access to footpaths might be restricted at times during construction.
- **Big Lottery Funding.** Grants of £300-£10,000 to support community coherence projects was noted. Mr Chesham suggested considering it to improve the quality of the football pitch.
- **Parish Energy Day.** 29 October. A draft agenda is available. The organising committee is looking for volunteers.

**10. GAPC/LAPC Liaison meeting 26 September.** The draft agenda has been circulated. PB suggested SS and PP should attend

## 12. Reports from representatives

### 12.1 Village maintenance:

CGM is not sending checklists. They forgot to do the verge in the High Street but came back after a reminder. The Snicket is overgrown. It was agreed to ask CGM to flail it. There was some discussion about the responsibility of the landowner to maintain the top part of the path.

**CLERK** to follow up.

### 12.2 Lights Roads and Pavements

- The bridge at the ford needs a minor repair.
- The mess left in Church Lane following a water mains leak was noted.
- The street light outside The Old House seems to be out of action again

**CLERK**

**12.3 Trees.** Trees and hedges overgrowing pavements already discussed.

**12.4 Police.** Nil.

**12.5 A1307 Committee/Local Forum.** The next meeting will be at the Abington Institute on 23 September. LAPC has two places. PB will attend.

### 12.6 Receipt of reports on meetings attended by LAPC reps.

- The Clerk is still waiting for follow-up from the SCDC Cabinet and Parish Council Liaison meeting held in July.
- PB has circulated the notes of parish council chairmen's meeting with the Granta Park Management team

### 12.7 LAPC representation at forthcoming meetings/events.

- 21 September Devolution workshop. Clerk and a parish councillor;
- 23 September A1307 Local Forum. PB and another representative;
- 26 September GAPC/LAPC Liaison Group. SS, PP (if available) and PB.

## 13. Committee Reports

**13.1 Institute Management Group.** No update received. JE reported that a new boiler has been installed and that ceiling fans and an additional Velux window were on order.

**13.2 Recreation Ground Committee.** Draft minutes received 12 September.

**13.3 Committee for Abington Housing.** Has not met since 10 August.

**14. Correspondence.**

Items requiring action have been circulated.

**15. Any Other Business/ Items for next agenda.**

The Chairman thanked Mr Chesham for his valuable input to the Parish Council over the last 7 years. The Parish Council wished him well for his house move.

Items for village newsletter-:

- Request for householders to cut back trees and hedges that overgrow public footways to allow pedestrian access and to ensure they are not obstructing streetlights. Suggested guidance is footway width of 1m wide and height 2m.
- Request NOT to park on grass verges or on pavements
- Volunteers for Speedwatch

The meeting closed at 9.25 pm

**Next meeting Monday 24 October 2016 starting at 7.15 pm  
Abington Institute, igh Street Great Abington.**

**Signed Parish Council Chairman**

**Date**