

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 6th February 2017

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Dave Hosking

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor V McLean and Ward Councillors Keith McLean and Peter Geary. A discussion took place regarding Councillor V McLean's leave of absence from the parish council for personal reasons. It was agreed to allow Councillor V McLean a six month sabbatical from parish council duties and to appoint a Vice Chairman at each meeting.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 9th January 2017 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for meetings were noted. Councillor Gibson commented that Councillors needed to think what they would report on at the Annual Assembly.

254 – Clerk's Report – The Clerk's report was previously circulated.

214 – EPFC – Meeting held 17/1/17. Councillor Gibson reported that a discussion about Field 13 had taken place regarding its potential use by Olney Town Colts. The resignations were discussed; Angela Laval had agreed to take on the role of events booking secretary and Councillor Gibson commented that if the playing field came back under the management of the parish council, Councillors would have to put plans in place and would have to notify the community to see who wanted to run the pavilion. If no one came forward to run it, the parish council would have to put people in place and put up the precept between £6,000 and £10,000. Councillor Flowers commented that the workload could be reduced by reducing the number of bookings taken.

2.1 215 – Olney Ward Forum – Meeting held 25/1/17. This meeting was unattended.

2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.13 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk received an email from Michael Wadham, Passenger Transport Assistant at MKC regarding bus service 21 which travels through Emberton. He referred to the difficulty the driver of the bus was having passing through Emberton on Thursday (26th January) due to parked vehicles particularly around the left hand bend from Olney Road, near the Bell & Bear. Mr Wadham asked the parish council to include an item in the village newsletter to remind residents to take consideration of the local bus service when parking in the village. The clerk emailed EUC to make them aware of this as the Institute is booked on a Thursday evening by the Bridge Club. The clerk commented that she had also contacted Thames Valley Police who responded that they would ask a PCSO to attend to monitor the situation on a Thursday evening. Councillor Flowers suggested that the clerk contacted the Bridge Club.

KG

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Update from Andy Burton as follows; “As you know, the DCC agreed that I can make the Order which will kick start the official claim. However, the land owners have made an objection to the process so far used. This claim is being looked into but is only delaying the process, not stopping it. However, if there is weight to the landowner’s objections then at a later stage such as public enquiry, this could potentially put the claim back a substantial amount of time, so we are dotting the I’s etc whilst we can.”

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Nothing to report.

2.1.73 Confidential item

Update from Ward Councillor

Olney Ward Forum – Councillor Hosking reported that there was a presentation from Martin Smith regarding broadband but this did not affect Emberton. There was a presentation from Tom Blackbourne-Maze regarding public realm. Ravenstone raised the issue of litter and a working group was discussed, together with Weston Underwood and Olney. The clerk to contact the clerk at Ravenstone regarding this.

KG

Budget – This will go to full Council on the 15th February. The grit bins and weed spraying were still in the budget but the Ward Councillors would be trying to amend the budget.

Neighbourhood Plans – Councillor Hosking reported that Neighbourhood Plans were becoming more and more important with what was going on with Plan:MK.

PLUG – Councillor Hosking reported that there were moves to get PLUG and the Steering Group restarted but there were issues with officer’s time and whether or not OTC would clerk the meeting. It was agreed that the clerk would be able to clerk one meeting if Olney clerked the other 3.

Plan:MK – This will be going out to consultation on the 21st February for a period of 8 weeks. It was noted that the satellite villages had been dropped from the consultation.

Olney Neighbourhood Plan – A discussion took place regarding the infrastructure for traffic with Councillor Hosking commenting that there were no

plans for traffic infrastructure.

Councillor Hosking left the meeting at 8.40pm

3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Nothing to report.

3.2 **Parish Partnership Fund** – Nothing to report.

3.6 **Parish related**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** - The SIDs have been up for the most of January in two locations in Olney Road. One SID was in the usual location, opposite 67 Olney Road monitoring traffic heading in a northerly direction through Emberton to Olney and the other was opposite the junction to Hulton Drive, monitoring traffic heading in a southerly direction from Olney through Emberton. The clerk reported that the results had proved startling, with more vehicles exceeding the speed limit (25.5%) coming into Emberton from Olney as opposed to those travelling to Olney. There did not seem to be any significant difference when the SID was used covertly. At both locations the maximum speed was 59mph and 60mph. The clerk reported that the data had been forwarded to Thames Valley Police, Milton Keynes Council and the Ward Councillors.

3.6.98 **Drainage investigation at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

3.6.100 **Litter bins (High Street)** – The clerk reported that both litter bins in the High Street were overflowing on the 5th January and also made enquiries with MKC as to the frequency of them being emptied. The plastic bin at the stone bus shelter was owned by MKC and the wooden bin opposite the bus shelter was owned by the parish council. The clerk received a telephone call from Kevin Wilson MKC, advising that due to the cut backs, the frequency of the emptying was now 8 weekly and that if the bins needed emptying, then this could be reported in the usual way. It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed that the clerk contact Mr Wibaut to see whether he would undertake the emptying of the bins fortnightly and that this would be funded through the payment made for signing up for the Green Bin Campaign.

3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk contacted Andy Hudson who advised that he was meeting with Rod Aitken and would respond once the meeting had taken place.

3.39 **Olney Neighbourhood Plan** – To be carried forward to the March meeting.

3.62 **Plan:MK** – Reported on above.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Gibson produced the large maps that had been provided by MKC and examples of other Neighbourhood Plans which had been undertaken. It was agreed that the open sessions would be an opportunity to engage with residents to find out what their issues were and whether they would be willing to be part of a Steering Group.

- 3.78 **MK50** – Nothing to report.
- 3.79 **Green Bin Campaign** – The clerk reported that the December 2015 figures were down on the December 2016 figures and stated that the campaign information was available on the parish council website.
- 3.82 **MKC Draft Consultation Budget 2017/2018** – Reported on under Ward Councillors' update.

4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that the next meeting would be in March and that there would possibly be an application from All Saints' Church for heating.
- 4.109 **Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund** – The clerk reported that the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee were due to meet shortly and that a grant application had been received for a mower for the churchyard.
- 4.178 **16/02988/FUL** – Demolition of timber stable block and erection of two dwellings to enable repair/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer – **pending site visit**
- 4.179 **16/02999/LBC** – Repairs/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer - **pending**
- 4.180 **16/03054/FUL** – First floor side extension with front facing dormer window and alterations to front porch at 2 Stone Court for Mr Malcolm – **permitted**
- 4.182 **17/00080/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce in height by 2.4 metres and trim both sides to Beech hedge (A), to cut down to a height of 1.8-2.2 metres to 2 or 3 trees (within hedge A) (B), to cut down to a height of 1.8-2.2 metres to Beech tree (C) and trim lower branches of adjacent Cherry tree (C), prune and reduce branches to pear tree (D) prune cherry tree (E), reduce in height by 2.4 metres and trim sides to beech hedge (F), prune flowering apple tree (G), reduce in height by 2m and trim both faces of beech hedge (H), reduce overall height by 1 metre and prune old apple tree (J) at Chaff House, Church Lane. It was agreed to respond that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer.
- 4.183 **17/00189/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce crown to 4.5-5m to 3 x Cypress trees (C1, C2, C3), reduce crown to 4-4.5m to 1 x Cherry tree (CH), reduce to remove new growth to 1 x Silver Birch (SB), reduce and reshape crown to 2 x Holly trees (H1, H2) and 1 x Yew tree (Y) and reduce crown to remove new growth to 2 x Apple trees (A1, A2) at Manor Croft, Olney Road. It was agreed to respond that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer.
5. **ACCOUNTS** – to agree payments and items, as listed below

- 5.1 **RFO's Report** - The RFO's report for the 6th February 2017 was accepted. The clerk reported that the interest on the Deposit Account would be reducing from 0.06% to 0.03% with effect from the 1st April. The clerk commented that Tesco Bank were offering a 3% interest rate on their current account and she would look into this for the next meeting. **KG**

- 5.2 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**
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| Smith of Derby – service visit for clock tower | £258.00 |
| A H Contracts – emptying of dog waste bins for January | £77.47 |
| EUC – Hire of Institute and electric for defibrillator | £76.50 |
| Mrs K Goss –January salary | £405.16 |
| Mrs K Goss –January computer/telephone/expenses | £20.84 |

Payments proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- 6.1 Nothing to report. All correspondence circulated by email.

7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

- 7.1 **Village publicity** – Green bin campaign, SID Data, parking around Institute, Litter bins, defibrillator training **KG**

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor Horton reported that the verge was overgrowing the footpath in Newport Road. The clerk to look at this.

Councillor Gibson commented that it would soon be time to review the clerk's salary and he would email the other Councillors with his recommendations. **SG**

Councillor Gibson reported that there had been a recent burglary in Olney Road at which money and keys were stolen.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 6th March 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm