

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 13th April 2015

Present: Councillor Harry White – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs Debbie Geary – Resident
 Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Cooper, Flowers and Gibson and Ward Councillors Peter Geary and David Hosking.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

1.0 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 9th March 2015 were agreed and initialled by the Vice Chairman.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY (PRE MEETING)

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly (Pre Meeting) held on the 16th March 2015 were agreed and initialled by the Vice Chairman.

- 4.138 15/00574/FUL** – Change of use of land to create an outdoor riding arena, and the installation of three timber stables and tackroom at land north of Chaff Barn, 2 Manor Court. Mrs Geary explained that she had applied for permission to build three stables and a riding school solely for personal use and that she would be receiving instruction in the arena. Mrs Geary confirmed that the arena would not be lit as it would not be used outside daylight hours and she would be happy to accept any planning conditions that might be imposed.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

Allotments – The clerk reported that a refund of £11.00 had been made to the allotment holder and he was advised that he would be kept on the waiting list and offered the plot in October. In the meantime, other allotment holders would work the plot.

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for meetings were noted.

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

214 – EPFC - Meeting held 10/3/15. The clerk reported that the AGM had taken place and the Committee were without a Chairman. A Vice Chairman was elected who will stand in for the Chairman until someone steps in. An architect has been appointed to draw up plans for bi fold doors and associated building work. The Grand National Lunch raised £1,100. Councillor McLean commented that the

parish council should consider appointing a representative to attend the committee meetings.

127 – Parishes Forum - Meeting held 19/3/15. – The clerk reported that a presentation on planning review had previously been circulated.

Update from Ward Councillor

High Street resurfacing - Councillor McLean commented that Councillor Hosking had been pushing officers at MKC as to why the last third of the High Street hadn't been completed.

SIDs – Councillor McLean reported that a number of villages have had concerns about the calibration of the equipment and that he had referred this back to the head of the department concerned.

CMK Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor McLean commented that this would be put to vote in May.

Local Council Elections – Councillor McLean reminded the parish council that Councillor Hosking would be up for election in May and would also be running the MK marathon on the 4th May on behalf of the Royal British Legion and was looking for sponsorship.

2.1 **Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes**

2.1.1 **Village Design Statement/Village Questionnaire** – Nothing to report on this matter.

2.1.13 **High Street footpath (opposite Cedar House)** – Nothing to report.

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Nothing further to report.

2.1.24 **Weeds** – Nothing to report.

2.1.73 **Confidential item**

2.1.86 **Directional signage to Emberton Country Park** – The clerk contacted Ringways on the 12th March and advised that their estimate was acceptable. No response received.

2.1.88 **Water trough at allotments** – Councillor White commented that it might be better to have a stand pipe and asked if this could be undertaken by volunteers. The clerk to find out.

KG

2.2 **High Street, resurfacing** – Reported on under 2.0 above.

3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Councillor McLean reported that there was nothing further to report on the transfer of the park to the Parks Trust as the National Badminton Centre did not have the funds.

Static Caravans – Councillor McLean commented that he was surprised to find the static caravan site open a week earlier than normal and wrote to the officer to query this. The officer stated that authority was not required to open the site earlier than the 1st April.

Councillor McLean left the meeting at 8.05pm

3.2 **234** – Local Government – The clerk confirmed that the application to the PPF was due by the 29th May.

3.6 **Parish Related**

3.6.81 **Stone bus shelter, guttering and roof tiles** – The guttering has been replaced, windows have been painted and the pillars have been given a coat of sadolin. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

3.6.82 **Pothole, entrance to Emberton Park** – Nothing further to report.

3.6.83 **Raised footpath, Olney Road (opposite number 49)** – Nothing to report.

3.6.90 **Speed Indicator Devices** – Data from previous deployment has been circulated. Also see Councillor McLean's comments under item 2.0.

3.6.93 **Action plan from village walkabout** – See attached sheet. The clerk reported that an inspection of Newport Road and Prospect Place had taken place and a list of issues had been included in the action plan.

3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk reported that although a formal decision had not been made, it was felt by MKC that Field 13 would not be listed as an asset of community value. MKC's property services made a site visit and took photos and the site wasn't visible to properties and it was felt that Field 13 was ancillary to the playing field. Property services commented that there were no plans to develop the site in any way.

3.51 **Traffic management and local safety schemes**

Signage exiting Emberton Park – The clerk reported that she had emailed Steve Lain but had not received a response.

Bus stop in Olney Road – The clerk emailed Steve Lain to ascertain whether the application for funding had been successful for improvement to the bus stop in Olney Road. Response awaited.

3.65 **Transparency Code for smaller authorities** - The clerk reported that the code which came into effect on the 1st April, applied to parish councils with a turnover of less than £25,000 and that the parish council must publish details of all items of expenditure over £100, end of year accounts, Annual Governance Statement as per Annual Return, internal audit report, list of councillors responsibilities and which committees they are members of, details of public land and building assets, Minutes, Agendas and meeting papers of formal meetings. The clerk commented that some of the above information was already published on the website such as Agendas, Minutes and the Annual Return.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that Your Energy was sold to AES and AES have subsequently been sold to Platina. Councillor Horton commented that MKC had received £20,000 for three years from Your Energy and that the money had been put in the community benefit fund in error and it was not known whether the committee would now be able to honour the grant applications received, due to MKC's accounting errors. Councillor Cheney commented that it was good to note that the money from the solar farm was being paid directly to the parish council.

4.109 **14/00407/FUL** – Solar farm – Nothing to report.

4.131 **14/02513/FUL** – Garage conversion to create a kitchen with the insertion of a new door at Stone Court Cottage, West Lane for Mr Wheldon – **permitted**

4.136 **15/00366/FUL** – Variation of condition 4 (construction of new access) attached to application 14/407/FUL for retention of existing access at land to the east of Rectory Farm, Newton Road. It was agreed that the clerk should write objecting to the retention of the existing access as it was made clear in the original response to the application that the parish council wished for the road to be return to the original state.

4.137 **15/00502/FUL** – Two storey side and rear extension to existing property and subdivision to create two 3 bedroom dwellings with gardens and parking at 32 Gravel Walk. It was agreed that the clerk write to the object to this planning applications for the following reasons; 1. The parish council believes that the design and appearance from changing a semi detached property to terraced properties is not in keeping with the properties in Gravel Walk. 2. Gravel Walk is a small cul de sac and the existence of a further property will have an impact on the number of vehicles in this area. 3. The proposed dwelling would lie outside of the infill boundary.

4.138 **15/00574/FUL** – Change of use of land to create an outdoor riding arena, and the installation of three timber stables and tack room at land north of Chaff Barn, 2 Manor Court. There were no objections to this application. The clerk to request that planning conditions be applied stating no lighting and no commercial use.

5. **ACCOUNTS** – to agree payments and items, as listed below

5.1 **RFO's Report and discuss banking arrangements with National Westminster Bank** – The RFO's report for the 13th April and for the year ending were accepted. The clerk reported that the National Westminster Bank application was being processed. The clerk reported that she had looked into the Charities Commission in more detail and they only provided advice. It was proposed by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that the clerk set up a Fixed Rate Deposit Account with the Cooperative Bank for 1 year (interest rate 1.12%).

KG

5.2 **Internal Auditor** – It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that Mr Chris Davies be appointed as internal auditor.

- 5.3 **Clerk's salary review** – It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and agreed by Councillor Cheney, that the clerk's hourly rate be increased to £14.05 per hour. Councillor White commented that he would prefer that the matter be deferred to the next meeting when there would be a full council.
- 5.4 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of March in the sum of £51.65. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.5 **Mr A Sinfield** – Payment for repair to stone bus shelter, bench, noticeboard and ornamental lamppost in the sum of £167.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.6 **Al Pay Ltd** – Payment for quarterly payroll in the sum of £24.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.7 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's March salary in the sum of £747.49. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.8 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's holiday pay for 2014/2015 in the sum of £702.03. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.9 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's telephone/computer and expenses for March in the sum of £37.23. Payment proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE – is now listed in the Wallet**
The clerk reported that an email had been received from MKALC offering membership. It was agreed not to take this up.
7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**
- 7.1 Village publicity – High Street resurfacing, Transparency Code **KG**
- 7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**
Councillor Hall reported that the Three Shires Way sign at the entrance to Old Orchard was unable to be seen due to the vegetation and also needed a bit of attention. The clerk to report this. **KG**
- Councillor Hall** commented that she was aware that an enquiry about letting the field for horse grazing had been refused by one of the owners.
- 8.0 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 12th May 2015 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute. The meeting closed at 9.10pm. **All**