

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 7th December 2015

Present: Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor David Hosking (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Flowers, Ward Councillor Peter Geary and Ward Councillor Keith McLean.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 2nd November 2015 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

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 10/11/15 - The clerk reported that work had started on the bi fold doors on the 30th November.

Update from Ward Councillor

Plan:MK – Councillor Hosking reported that Cabinet met on the 2nd December where it was agreed not to call the decision in. The decision of the Cabinet was 1) The decision did not get referred back to Cabinet and would go out to Consultation and an engagement plan would be brought forward. 2) The blobs on the map would be taken out, 3) There was a referral back to Cabinet that the Vision Workshops held in the Spring that the attendance was not representative.

The consultation would be going out the second or third week in January.

Budget – Councillor Hosking reported that the draft budget for the Council was out and there were challenging times ahead. He commented that Council tax would be going up again by 3.95%, 2% for adult social care and 1.95% to MKC.

2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.1 **Village Design Statement/Village Questionnaire** – Councillor McLean noted that

this had been on the agenda for 10 years and that little progress had been made. Councillor Cheney stated that she was concerned that Emberton might be the only rural area that did not have a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Cheney to find the file for the next meeting.

CC

- 2.1.13 **High Street footpath (opposite Cedar House)** – The clerk wrote to David Hall on 27th October stating that his response was disappointing and that the parish council was keen to establish what the criteria for repair was when it came to footpaths. The parish council also wanted to ascertain whether the footpath was deemed a safety issue. Response received on the 20th November from David Hall stating that an inspection had been undertaken and it did fall under the intervention level of 20mm for a footway. Revenue budgets for repairs were heavily constrained but the footpath would be put on a regular monitoring regime. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda and to undertake a village walkabout in March 2016 and look at this then.
- 2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Report from consultant due on the 20th November. The clerk requested an update on the 1st December. Response email that the report had been received and was being reviewed by Andy Burton (MKC).
- 2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Raised as a potential project. Rock Foundry produced signs for Weston Underwood and Signs of Times produced them for Olney and Lavendon. Councillor Hall reported that she had spoken to Haversham Parish Council and they had used Signs of Times to produce their sign. The clerk to speak to the Well & Towers History Society regarding a design for the sign.
- 2.1.73 **Confidential item**
- 2.1.85 **Kerb stones, West Lane** – The clerk reported the dislodged kerb stones opposite the cottages in West Lane on the 5th November. These kerb stones as well as others in West Lane were marked for repair some of which was undertaken on the 1st December. The kerb stones opposite the cottages in West Lane remain dislodged and the clerk to monitor this.
- 2.1.86 **Directional signage to Emberton Country Park** – Sign has now been obtained. The clerk to write to Mr Wibaut to see if he would be willing to put the sign up during the summer months.
- 2.1.91 **Damaged fence around Field 13** – Nothing to report.
- 2.1.92 **Security for residents** - The clerk circulated an email regarding the legalities of having CCTV in the village and an article was put in the Well & Towers taken from the TVP website providing advice for residents. It was agreed that the parish council would take no further action regarding this matter and the item could be removed from the agenda.
- 2.2 **High Street, resurfacing** – The clerk commented that the latest update was that the High Street would be resurfaced in the 2016/2017 financial year.
- 3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**
- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – An email had previously been received from Councillor McLean regarding the fly tipping in the caravan park and it was agreed to refer this to PLUG.

KG

KG

KG

3.2 **234 – Local Government – Awaiting decision.**

3.6 **Parish Related**

3.6.1 **Website** – Estimate received for building website in the sum of £400 plus a hosting fee of £100 per year. There would be an additional cost of £200 per year for an optional updating service and year on year the maximum cost would be £100. The clerk reported that Alan Price had the domain name embertonparishcouncil.co.uk and it would be preferable to keep this and ask Alan to invoice the parish council for the renewal. Councillors commented that the Lavendon website was good and the clerk to ask their provider for an estimate.

KG

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Nothing to report.

3.6.16 **Clock tower – upgrade of time side** – The clerk received an estimate from Smiths of Derby to upgrade the time side of the clock in the sum of £1518 plus vat. A 5amp fused spur point was also required which was excluded from the estimate. The clerk to speak to Matthew Boddy and Duncan Sands to obtain an estimate for this. The clerk commented that she had spoken to Ken Harris who was in agreement that the clock should be upgraded. It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that the clock tower upgrade should be undertaken within the 2015/2015 budget.

KG

3.6.83 **Raised footpath, Olney Road (opposite number 49)** – The clerk wrote to David Hall on 20th November to establish whether the footpath was a trip hazard. It was understood that David Hall was no longer with MKC. It was agreed to take this item off the agenda and to look at it again in March 2016 when a village walkabout would be undertaken.

3.6.90 **Speed Indicator Devices** – Nothing to report. It was agreed to only have this item on the agenda when the data from the deployments had been received.

3.6.94 **A509 crossing – pedestrian crossing** – Nothing to report. This issue was discussed and it was agreed that no further action would be taken as there was no budget available from MKC for improvement at the cross roads. It was agreed that this item could be removed from the Agenda.

3.6.95 **Land at Westpits – path to left of number 20** – The clerk reported that no response had been received from the resident concerned. It was agreed that this item could be removed from the agenda.

3.6.96 **Footpath between Emberton Playing Field and Emberton Park** – The clerk reported that a request had been received from a resident regarding the state of the path between Emberton Playing Field and Emberton Park. The clerk reported that the land was owned by MKC. The clerk to make enquiries with MKC to ascertain whether permission could be given for the parish council to upgrade the footpath as it was inaccessible for residents during the winter due to it being so muddy.

KG

3.6.97 **Clean for the Queen** – An email had previously been circulated regarding a clean up campaign during March in preparation for the Queen's 90th Birthday. It was agreed that the clerk should register an interest in this for a clean up to be held in Emberton.

KG

- 3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk reported that she had been in touch with property services at MKC and they suggested that the clerk writes again in January 2016 to register an interest in Field 13.

Councillor Hosking left the meeting at 8.25pm

- 3.39 **Notice of Neighbourhood Plan Area – Hanslope Parish Council.** There were no objections to this. The clerk to respond accordingly. **KG**

- 3.62 **Site Allocations Plan** – The clerk commented that the site allocations for rural areas had been removed from the consultation as rural boundaries was going to be discussed and agreed within Plan:MK. It was agreed not to further respond to this.

4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton to make an appointment to see Jonathan Robinson. The clerk to send up to date emails to Councillor Horton. **MH**

- 4.109 **14/00407/FUL** – Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund. Councillor Hall commented that the Committee were expecting to meet at the beginning of January.

- 4.154 **15/02207/FUL** – Erection of a weathervane at All Saints Church, West Lane – **permitted**

- 4.155 **15/02401/FUL** – Single storey rear extension and two storey side extension with balcony and loft conversion to garage with dormer windows at 3 Battle Close - **permitted**

- 4.156 **15/02500/ANOT** – Creation of additional tractor tracks to provide access for commercial wood fuel and timber extraction at Hollington Wood, Newport Road – **permitted**

- 4.157 **15/2439/FUL** – Single storey rear extension at 14 Gravel Walk - **permitted**

- 4.158 **15/02660/MMAM** – Minor material amendments to planning permission 15/01709/FUL for revision of approved plans regarding rebuilding of southern end of existing property, changes to materials and fenestration, surface water drainage and bicycle parking at 32 Gravel Walk - **pending**

- 4.159 **15/02282/DISCON** – Condition 6 (external boarding) attached to planning permission 15/01394/LBC at 2 Gravel Walk – **refused**
Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 3 (windows and doors), 4 (rainwater goods) attached to planning permission 15/01394/LBC at 2 Gravel Walk – **approved**

- 4.160 **15/02325/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 3 (roof materials) and 5 (external boarding) attached to planning permission 14/01962/FUL at 17 High Street - **permitted**

- 4.161 **15/02862/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 1 (ground

conditions) attached to planning permission 15/00734/FUL at Rectory Farm, Newton Road. No comment.

4.162 **15/02789/NMA** – Non material amendment to application 14/00407/FUL for changes and reduction to footprint and scale at Emberton Solar Park, Newton Road. No comment.

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 7th December was accepted.

5.2 **Fixed Rate Deposit Account with Cooperative Bank** – The clerk reported that the application had been accepted and that she was waiting to receive further details.

5.3 **Draft budget and consideration of grant applications** – The draft budget was considered and the grant application to EUC discussed. It was agreed to provide EUC with a grant of £600 towards upgrading the toilets in The Institute. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that the draft budget be accepted. The clerk to advise EUC and other grant applicants accordingly.

5.4 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of November in the sum of £51.65. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.5 **Emberton Sports and Social Club** – Payment for PPF grant in the sum of £5,000.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.6 **Mr T P Wibaut** – Payment for bus shelter cleaning for September, October and November in the sum of £75.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.7 **Mr K Harris** – Payment for clock minding in the sum of £60.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.8 **SLCC** – Payment for annual subscription in the sum of £103.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.9 **BCW Office Products Ltd** – Payment for supply of directional sign in the sum of £104.96. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present. **KG**

5.10 **All Saints Church Emberton** – Payment for sponsorship of candle in the sum of £30.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.11 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's November salary in the sum of £456.62. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and

unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.12 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk’s telephone/computer and expenses for November in the sum of £19.24. Payment proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.13 **Pension Scheme for Clerk** – The clerk to seek advice from BALC.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE – is now listed in the Wallet**

7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 **Village publicity** – Solar farm community fund, Precept, Clean for the Queen **KG**

7.2 **Councillors’ Concerns**
Councillor White reported the bin lorry got stuck in West Lane because of a parked vehicle and the tree from Stone Court overhanging West Lane. The clerk to contact the resident in Stone Court. **KG**

8.0 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 11th January 2016 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute. The meeting closed at 10.05pm. **All**