

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes Of Meeting – 12th January 2015

Present: Councillor Doreen Cooper – Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Steve Gibson
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Mike Horton

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Hall and White and Ward Councillors Peter Geary and David Hosking. Councillor Cooper commented that before the meeting started, she would like Councillors to observe a moment of silence to remember Alderman Edward Ellis. The clerk to send a letter of condolence to Caroline on behalf of the parish council.

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 1st December 2014 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. Councillor Cooper commented that local parish council elections were going to be held on the 7th May. The clerk to advertise the parish council elections in the Well & Towers. Councillor Cooper asked Councillor Gibson if he would be willing to prepare the report for the Annual Assembly on the 16th March as per the format for the previous year. Councillor Gibson to undertake this with the help of the clerk.

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

215 – MK NE Area Forum – Meeting held 3/12/14. Councillor Horton reported that the main speaker was unable to attend. The clerk reported that the Minutes had previously been circulated.

214 – EPFC – Meeting held 9/12/14. The clerk reported that Glenda had stood down from the Committee and the attendees were now down to 12. The clerk reported that the grant application for £6,000 from the wind farm community benefit fund committee for the installation of solar panels had been agreed and that the committee were looking at other projects.

127 – Parishes Forum – Meeting held 18/12/14. This meeting was unattended. The clerk reported that the Minutes were in the correspondence wallet.

Update from Ward Councillors

Councillor McLean reported that the consultation response to the budget would be determined on the 18th or 19th February and that other parish councils were concerned about the bus reduction subsidies, which may result in a reduction in service. Olney Town Council were concerned that funds would be withdrawn for the CAB service as well as funding for the Youth Club.

Field 13 – Councillor McLean commented that MKC were undertaking an appraisal of all land and recommended that the parish council make an application under Community Right to Bid.

Councillor McLean commented that Sherington Parish Council would be holding a ballot to vote on a planning application for a possible 36 houses and were also looking to develop a Neighbourhood Plan.

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)** – MKC advised that the highways list of issues was being worked on at the moment and MKC would advise a date for when the work was to be undertaken.

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Update from MKC on 27th November stating that there was nothing 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 emailed Ringways for a second estimate, which is awaited.

2.1.88 **Water trough at allotments** – Councillor White to ascertain the views of allotment holders regarding re-siting the current water trough.

2.1.95 **Overgrown vegetation between A509 barrier and Newport Road fence** – The clerk requested an update from MKC on 27th November stating that although the grass was dying back, it still needed cutting back. (Update ref 453275). MKC advised on 22/12 that this work had now been undertaken. It was agreed that this item could be removed from the agenda.

2.1.96 **Confidential item**

2.2 **High Street, resurfacing** – Nothing to report.

3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Councillor McLean commented that the developer could not reach an agreement with the Parks Trust or MKC.

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- 3.2 **234** – Local Government – The clerk commented that the playing field committee would more than likely wish to utilise this grant to develop facilities at the pavilion.
- 3.6 **Parish Related**
- 3.6.80 **Defibrillator** – The clerk emailed Zurich to request that the defibrillator and cabinet is included on the insurance. Response received stating that the additional cost to add these items would be £9.36 plus tax. However Zurich have added this from 5th January until the renewal at no extra charge to the Council.
- 3.6.81 **Stone bus shelter, guttering and roof tiles** – The clerk advised Stuart at Sorted Property that the parish council no longer required him to undertake this work and spoke to Mr Sinfield asking him to do so.
- 3.6.82 **Pothole, entrance to Emberton Park** – The clerk requested an update from MKC on 27th November stating that the pothole was filling up with water in the rain. (Update request 453268).
- 3.6.83 **Raised footpath, Olney Road (opposite number 49)** – MKC advised that the highways list of issues was being worked on at the moment and MKC would advise a date for when the work was to be undertaken.
- 3.6.85 **Blocked surface water drain (4 Gravel Walk)** – The clerk requested an update from MKC on 27th November asking what action had been taken to resolve the issue.
- 3.6.90 **Speed Indicator Devices** – SIDs due in Emberton in December.
- 3.6.93 **Action plan from village walkabout** – See attached sheet.
- 3.7 **Minerals Local Plan** – The clerk reported that an email from MKC had been received stating that land owners could put forward sites for consideration.
- 3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk reported that she had received an email from MKC stating that Field 13 could not be listed as a Community Asset Transfer as the land had been classed as “land of value to MKC with development potential”. The clerk to make enquiries with Paul Davey for Community Right to Bid.
- 3.39 **Wolverton Town Centre Neighbourhood Plan – Submission and Publication** – The clerk to respond no comment.
- 3.45 **Provisional Parish and Town Council Tax Base and Funding Allocation 2015/2016** – The proposals were noted.
- 3.51 **Traffic management and local safety schemes**
Signage exiting Emberton Park – Nothing further to report.
- Bus stop in Olney Road – Confidential item**
- 3.61 **Site Allocations Plan Issues & Options Paper** – The clerk reported that a response

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to this had been sent. Agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

- 3.62 **Plan: MK** – A response to this had been sent and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
- 3.63 **CMK Parking and Infrastructure Consultation** – The clerk to respond no comment. **KG**
- 3.64 **Schools Admissions Policy 2016 and Consultation on Primary and Secondary Co-ordinated Schemes for Admission 2016** – The clerk to respond no comment. **KG**
- 3.65 **Corporate Property Strategy 2014-19** – The clerk to respond no comment. **KG**
- 3.66 **Loughton Conservation Area Review** – The clerk to respond no comment. **KG**
- 3.67 **Local Flood Risk Survey** - It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that Councillor Cheney’s comments regarding this survey be accepted and the clerk complete the questionnaire. **KG**
- 3.68 **MKC Budget Consultation 2015 – 16** – The clerk to respond that the parish council has concerns regarding the loss of subsidised bus routes as this will affect the rural parishes where the elderly rely on public transport. **KG**
- 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**
- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillors Flowers commented that EPFC had been awarded £6,000 for solar panels and that an application had been received from Chicheley. Councillor McLean commented that OTC might wish to make an application as they wanted to change their Christmas lights to LED.
- 4.79 **12/02611/FUL** – Erection of one 500kw wind turbine at Dovecote Farm, Turvey Road, Astwood – **pending consideration (appeal permitted)**
- 4.109 **14/00407/FUL** – Solar farm – The clerk reported that she had received a complaint from a resident regarding mud on the Petsoe road and had passed the comment to MKC. **KG**
- Community Fund – Councillor Cooper stated that the parish council would need to set up a sub-committee to administer the fund. Councillor McLean suggested that the clerk contact Stephen Gerrard at MKC for general advice.
- 4.114 **14/00178/COND** – Stone Court Cottage, West Lane – See application **14/02513/FUL** below.
- 4.130 **14/02356/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 3 (external materials), 5 (contamination report) and 7 (landscape scheme) attached to application 13/00427/FUL at Clay Farm House, Petsoe End for Mr & Mrs Duncan – **approved**
- 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. Councillor Horton commented that the planning conditions had been breached and made a nonsense of

the whole system. Councillor McLean stated that the parish council could ask that the application be taken to DCC which will then be heard by five officers.

Councillor Gibson remarked that the parish council needed a legal argument to object to the application. Councillor Horton commented that no provision had been made for any natural light when the plan was submitted. Following a brief discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Cooper and agreed by Councillor Gibson (Councillors Flowers and Cheney abstained) that the clerk write to MKC stating that the application had no provision for any natural light and to also highlight the fact that the parish council was extremely disappointed that an email to the enforcement department of MKC in January 2011 raising concerns of the possible use of the garage as living accommodation was ignored. At that time, the parish council had been made aware that there were kitchen units and a boiler installed in the garage.

- 4.132 **14/02640/FUL** – Two storey side/rear extension at 32 Gravel Walk for Mr D Martinez. There were no objections to this application provided that materials were as specified and there were no objections from neighbouring properties.
- 4.133 **14/02836/FUL** – Prior notification of change of use from agricultural building to 2 x residential dwellings (use Class C3) at Rectory Farm, Newton Road for Mr J Croxford. There were no objections to this application provided that materials were as specified and there were no objections from neighbouring properties.
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 was accepted. The clerk reported that National Westminster Bank had returned the application form for further completion, which was undertaken.
- 5.2 **Draft Budget** – The clerk presented the draft budget. It was proposed by Councillor Flowers, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that the grant for the Senior Citizens' party be increased to £500. It was proposed by Councillor Flowers, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed that the grant to the Well & Towers be increased to £500. Councillor Cooper commented that the Chain of Office needed updating. The clerk reported that this expense had been allowed for under Chairman's expenses. It was therefore proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed that the draft budget be accepted and the clerk apply for a precept of £16,500 from MKC, there being no increase on the previous year.
- 5.3 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of November in the sum of £51.65. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.4 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of December in the sum of £64.56. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.5 **A1 Pay Ltd** – Payment for quarterly payroll in the sum of £24.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.6 **Anglian Water** – Payment for supply at allotments in the sum of £10.34. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.7 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk’s December salary in the sum of £344.50. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.8 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk’s telephone/computer and expenses for December in the sum of £38.08. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Cooper and unanimously agreed by all those present.

6. CORRESPONDENCE – is now listed in the Wallet

6.1 Letter from Olney Town Council regarding Citizen’s Advice Bureau – Nothing to report.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 Village publicity – The clerk to compile a report.

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7.2 Councillors’ Concerns

There were no Councillors’ concerns.

8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 9th February 2015 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute. The meeting closed at 9.53pm.

All