

## Emberton Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting – 9<sup>th</sup> March 2015

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

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

#### **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Hall 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 9<sup>th</sup> February 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.

**255 – NAG** – Meeting held 4/3/15. The clerk reported that the SIDs had recorded a reduction in speed and whilst it was understood that this was a good thing, it was believed that the equipment needed calibrating. SIDs were currently in Chicheley and would be in Emberton in two weeks. There are 10 SID units in total, 6 are in the rural area and a question has been raised with MKC as to whether the other 4 were in use. TVP have trained two neighbourhood officers in speed guns and will report back to the next NAG with the results from the deployments. It is understood that the two officers will liaise with the parish councils to ascertain the best areas for deployment within their parish. The NAG is looking into obtaining a VAS sign to use alongside the SID. The cost of one unit is £1,350. Possible grant from SNDG and might look to Ward Councillor grant.

**215 – MK NE Area Forum** - Meeting held 5/3/15. – Councillor Cooper reported that there was a talk from MKC regarding how to report issues. Councillor Cooper also commented that Moulsoe and North Crawley were very worried that there would be an increase in traffic if Cranfield University expanded.

## Update from Ward Councillor

**Hollington Wood** - Councillor McLean reported that he had received an email from Phillip Solt of Hollington Wood who wanted to draw up a ten year plan for the wood. Councillor McLean put him in contact with John Price and he might make contact with the parish council.

**Budget** – Councillor McLean reported that quite a few things that were taken out of the budget have been put back in such as changes to the bus service. There is currently a review underway of the library service; hours may change and might be shared use of libraries. The CAB service has been given a grant for a further year and the YMCA will be getting a grant to keep them going.

**Ousedale School** - Councillor McLean commented that the Ward Councillors took exception to being told that they had done something illegal. The decision will go to the governing body this coming week. It was agreed that the clerk would write to the school stating that the parish council were disappointed not to receive notification of the proposed admission policy change.

KG

**Sherington** - Councillor McLean reported that the outline planning application for the development of houses in Sherington went before a DCC meeting last Thursday night and it was voted 5:1 against the development. Councillor McLean stated that he did not know if it would be taken to appeal.

**Site Allocations Consultation** - Councillor McLean commented that this had been delayed as MKC put forward sites that they themselves owned and reported that the policy may come into effect in 2016.

### 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** – The consultant has been provided with some maps showing footpaths in Petsoe End by the History Society. The clerk made contact with Bill Lyons via his nephew, Peter Mesney, to see if he would be able to provide some further information. The clerk also contacted the clerk at Astwood & Hardmead and Charles Mitchell from Hardmead has now been put in touch with the consultant.

2.1.24 **Weeds** – Nothing to report.

2.1.73 **Confidential item**

2.1.86 **Directional signage to Emberton Country Park** – An estimate has now been received from Ringways in the sum of £196.45. One other estimate has been received from Fast Signs for a laminated poster in an A frame at a cost of £135 + vat. It was proposed by Councillor Flowers, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that, as Ringways was the preferred supplier for MKC, that the

HW

clerk places an order through them for the sign.

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

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

### 3.0 **SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Councillor White reported that he had taken a photo of the litter on the railway embankment. Councillor McLean stated that this could be reported to Environmental Services and the photo attached. Councillor McLean commented that there was no news regarding the Parks Trust. **HW**

3.2 **234** – Local Government – The clerk to ascertain whether the PPF grant would be available for this year. **KG**

### 3.6 **Parish Related**

3.6.81 **Stone bus shelter, guttering and roof tiles** – Repair underway.

3.6.82 **Pothole, entrance to Emberton Park** – The clerk requested an update from MKC on 27<sup>th</sup> 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)** – An email was received from MKC on the 9<sup>th</sup> January stating that this was now on the list of planned works.

3.6.90 **Speed Indicator Devices** – Reported on under NAG.

3.6.93 **Action plan from village walkabout** – See attached sheet. The clerk reported that an inspection of Newport Road and Prospect Place would be undertaken by the next meeting. **KG**

3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk reported that an application for Field 13 had been made under Community Right to Bid.

3.51 **Traffic management and local safety schemes**  
**Signage exiting Emberton Park** – The clerk to chase this. **KG**

### **Bus stop in Olney Road – Confidential item**

3.69 **Ousedale School Admission arrangements from September 2016** – The clerk reported that a response to this had been sent stating that the parish council welcomed the proposal to swap the criteria so that children in catchment were given priority over children out of catchment with a musical aptitude when assessing applications for admissions.

#### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Flowers reported that communication from MKC had been received stating that the committee had made grants for more monies than had been received. It was felt that this was an accounting error on the part of MKC but that a meeting would be called. Councillors Flowers reported that there were at least two applications that were pending. The clerk to provide Councillor Flowers with a copy of the Unilateral Undertaking. **KG**
- 4.79 **12/02611/FUL** – Erection of one 500kw wind turbine at Dovecote Farm, Turvey Road, Astwood – **permitted**
- 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**
- 4.132 **14/02640/FUL** – Two storey side/rear extension at 32 Gravel Walk for Mr D Martinez - **permitted**
- 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 – **approval required and refused**
- 4.134 **14/02650/CLUP** – Certificate of proposed lawful use or development for the installation of a new window into an existing wall at Hill Farm, Petsoe End for Mrs L Winstanley – **permitted**. The clerk reported that as this was permitted development, notification to the parish council was not required.
- 4.135 **15/00071/TCA** – Notification of intention for the removal of existing overgrown yew hedge and replacement with new hedge plants at All Saints’ Church, Church Lane – **no objection**.

Councillor McLean left the meeting at 8.40pm

#### 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 the National Westminster Bank application was being processed. The clerk stated that she would advise the parish council to consider setting up an account with a higher interest rate and transferring funds across. The clerk to look into this to ascertain the best rates; Councillor Horton suggested contacting the Charities Commission. **KG**
- 5.2 **Internal Auditor** – Councillor Cooper reported that the internal auditor, John Kent, had sadly passed away and it was noted how well Mr Kent had previously undertaken the internal audit. The clerk reported that she had made enquiries with other parish councils and a recommendation made by two other parish councils of Chris Davies. The clerk commented that she had contacted Chris Davies who had agreed to undertake the internal audit at a fee of £100.

- 5.3 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of February in the sum of £51.65. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.4 **Mr P Wibaut** – Payment for bus shelter cleaning for December, January and February in the sum of £75.00. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.5 **Bespoke Media** – Payment for website hosting and updates in the sum of £240.00. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.6 **Zurich Municipal** – Payment for insurance for 2015/2016 in the sum of £572.81. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.7 **Well & Towers** – Payment for Ward Councillor grant in the sum of £80.00. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.8 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk’s February salary in the sum of £404.12. Payment proposed by Councillor White, 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 February in the sum of £69.06. Payment proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed by all those present.

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

**7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 Village publicity – The clerk to compile a report. **KG**

**7.2 Councillors’ Concerns**

**Councillor Cooper** made reference to the Annual Assembly. Councillor Gibson to do the presentation on behalf of the Chairman.

**Councillor White** referred to the allotment plot that was no longer being worked due to the illness of the tenant. Councillor White suggested refunding the rent and advertising the vacant plot. The clerk to look into this. **KG**

**8.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2015 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute. The meeting closed at 9.10pm. **All**