

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF
Emberton Parish Council**

Held on Monday 19th March 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillor Steve Gibson (Chairman)
Councillor Vicki McLean
Councillor Mike Horton
Councillor Harry White

Mrs K Goss (Clerk & RFO)

Ward Councillors Peter Geary, David Hosking and Keith McLean
PCSO Martinson – Thames Valley Police
12 residents

1. **Apologies** were received from Councillor Flowers, Councillor Hall, Councillor Laval, Warwick Clarke, Mr & Mrs Proud, Mrs Ellis and Mrs Cheney
2. **The Minutes of the last Annual Assembly** held on 20th March 2017 were agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman.
3. **Thames Valley Police**
PCSO Kirsty Martinson introduced herself and gave the crime figures for Emberton for 2016/2017 which were as follows; 1 theft from person, 1 theft from vehicle, 2 burglaries, 2 assaults, 1 burglary (other than a dwelling) and she stated that someone had been arrested for one of the burglaries.

Operation Drover had recently been undertaken which was a Police initiative undertaken every 3 months aimed at dealing with rural crime. The ANPR were linked to the control room and officers were able to react to reports very quickly. PCSO Martinson commented that the ANPR cameras were able to check on vehicles with no insurance and those also wanted in connection with a crime. It was noted that Emberton Parish Council had purchased bottles of Smart Water at a discounted rate of £8.95 and these were available through the clerk.

Speed Watch – PCSO Martinson reported that the parish council were looking for volunteers to help with Speed Watch and stated that Emberton would still be getting the SIDs.

Councillor White – asked how many crimes were in Emberton Park?

PCSO Martinson – reported that there were a couple of domestic violence crimes in Emberton Park but these were not included in the figures given.

Mr McGrandle – stated that there was an incident with a vehicle and a delivery van in West Farm Way and it was noted that the van's number plate was not registered. Mr McGrandle asked whether this should have been reported.

PCSO Martinson – responded that this should have been as the ANPR cameras would pick up the vehicle and it would go directly to the team.

The clerk – asked about the burglary workshop and Neighbourhood Watch referred to at the last Annual Assembly.

Mrs Gamlen – made reference to the hatched white lines at the entrance to the village and stated that drivers were confused as to whether they could enter them. The clerk had put an article in the Well & Towers stating that as the white lines were broken, vehicles were permitted to enter the area. **PCSO Martinson** – to take this up with MKC highways.

PCSO Martinson – reported that there was a lady camping in Prospect Place who was not homeless but wanted some time away from her family.

4. **Matters Arising**

Nothing to report.

5. **Report of Emberton Parish Council**

Councillor Gibson gave the **Report on behalf of Emberton Parish Council** which is attached to these Minutes.

Councillor Gibson took questions from the floor.

Mr Tipper – asked whether there was the possibility of moving the Bridge Club to The Pavilion. **Councillor V McLean** responded that there was a clash with Thursdays and the parish council needed to go back to the Institute to say that they were responsible for the Bridge Club. **Mr Harris** stated that the PCSO had spoken to the Bridge Club and that there were no restrictions on parking outside the Institute. **Councillor Geary** commented that it was important to understand that Emberton might lose the bus service; sorting out parking was an issue and it was a Police issue.

Councillor V McLean – Councillor K McLean was talking about the impact on a parish not having a Neighbourhood Plan when MKC did not have a five year land supply, was this still the case. **Councillor K McLean** responded that MKC did not have a five year land supply and Neighbourhood Plans would still hold. **Councillor V McLean** stated that this would help to reinforce how important the Neighbourhood Plan was. **Mr McGrandle** asked how the five year land supply would affect the Emberton Plan. **Councillor K McLean** responded that if you had a development of over 11 homes, 30% had to be affordable housing.

6. **Milton Keynes Councillor Report**

Councillor Keith McLean presented his report as follows:-

Emberton School – Councillor K McLean stated that Emberton School was now federated with a number of other schools in the rural area and could possibly expand in the future if there was affordable housing.

Council Tax – Councillor K McLean reported that Council tax was going up 6% as administration took 1% over the 5% that was planned.

Crime – Councillor K McLean reported that he was concerned regarding the number of burglaries and it was the number 1 priority for Police in MK and asked residents to be

vigilant.

Emberton Park – Councillor K McLean reported that the Ward Councillors met with the senior manager responsible for the park last month and put forward the statement that the park should remain as it is. The park is self financing and the surplus does not get spent on the park so the Ward Councillors have asked for some plans to bring the spend back up to how it was 10-15 years ago. **Councillor Hosking** stated that a Motion was taken to Cabinet in the Autumn to ask that a different ownership for Emberton Park be looked at. The park needs money spending on it and MKC does not have that money long term. **Mr McGrandle** asked whether the park had an appeal to the Council. **Councillor Geary** responded that the park did make more money than it cost and the salaries of the officers that have an overall responsibility for the park are not taken into account. **Councillor K McLean** stated that parking should make the park more attractive and officers have taken this on board. **Councillor Gibson** asked what would happen if there was no investment. **Councillor Geary** responded that the static caravan park had to close as the power went and if there was no investment things would start breaking down. **Mr Mann** stated that the idea of the park was to protect the flora and fauna of the area which was extremely important and not a money making project. The only organisation to manage the park would be the Parks Trust. **Councillor Geary** responded that the Parks Trust would not be spending money on Emberton Park.

Mr Mann asked what was happening with Field 13. **Councillor Geary** stated that it was commercially owned land by the Council and there was no plans to do anything with it. **Mr Mann** responded that Andy Hudson was coming towards the idea of leasing or giving Field 13 to EPC. **Councillor Geary** stated that Andy Hudson was never responsible for Field 13 and it was a commercial asset of the Council run by the Estates Team and he never had the responsibility or decision on that.

A509 – Councillor McLean reported that there were problems with the recent resurfacing of the A509 and people were getting annoyed as it wasn't advertised very well. The new signs were part of the whole. **The clerk** asked about the laybys being closed. **Councillor K McLean** explained that the areas did not meet the guidelines as they were too narrow and suggested writing to the head of highways asking where vehicles should go. **Mr Harris** asked why they couldn't be made wider. **Councillor K Mclean** suggested that this would have been more expense. **Councillor V McLean** commented about the amount of litter on the A509. **Councillor Geary** responded that the litter picks had been cut back and there would be one litter pick on the A509 in the year and that the Ward Councillors had put forward a request to increase this but it had not been accepted.

7. **A report from Mr Warwick Clarke on behalf of Emberton United Charity**, was read out and is attached to these Minutes.

There were no questions from the floor.

8. **Mr McGrandle presented the report for the Well & Towers History Society**, which is attached to these Minutes.

The clerk asked Mr McGrandle whether the History Society would like to contribute anything to the parish council website.

9. **Mrs Vicki McLean presented the report of the Emberton Playing Field Committee** which is attached to these Minutes.

Mrs McLean addressed the reasons behind the letter that went out in the Well & Towers to the village asking for volunteers and gave a summary of what the present committee hoped to achieve with some new fund raising ideas.

10. **Parish Related Matters**

Mrs Godber – commented that she was new to the village and was impressed with everything that went on in the village and has been interested in coming to the meeting and hearing that everyone worked so hard.

The meeting closed at 9pm