

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

Held on Monday 21st March 2016 at 7.30pm

Present: Councillor Gibson (Chairman)
Councillor Cheney
Councillor Flowers
Councillor Horton
Councillor White

Mrs K Goss (Clerk & RFO)

Ward Councillor David Hosking
PS Andy Paulden – Thames Valley Police
19 residents

1. **Apologies** were received from Councillor V McLean, Councillor Hall, Ward Councillor Keith McLean and Ward Councillor Peter Geary
2. **The Minutes of the last Annual Assembly** held on 16th March 2015 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.
3. **Thames Valley Police**
PS Paulden commented that not much happened in Emberton with 30 reported crimes in the village in the last year. Three locations accounted for two thirds of the crime and the park accounted for the remaining third, mostly relating to the caravans. Of those 30 crimes, 6 have had positive outcomes (20% detection rate, which is under the force average).

The parish council uses the SIDs and had four deployments over the last 12 months, the first deployment the data was corrupt. The village had two SIDs, one in the High Street and one in Olney Road which took a speed as a vehicle passed a visual point. The High Street 85th percentile was 34/36mph with enforcement being taken at 10% plus two, so 35mph and above. For speeds recorded between 35 and 39mph, the driver of the vehicle would have the option of attending a Speed Awareness Course. The data from all parish councils was looked at and where the worse offending was taking place, TVP would take measures. If Emberton was one of the worse areas, TVP would look to put in mobile enforcement.

The Traffic Regulation Order was enforced in February with vehicles (in excess of 100) being turned around by the clock tower and directed back onto the A509. In order to prove an offence would require a police car following a vehicle into the village and back out onto the A509.

PS Paulden commented that there was a report in the Daily Mail regarding Olney being one of the worse places for burglary which was totally incorrect. Someone from Northampton was arrested and charged for the recent burglaries.

PS Paulden took questions from the floor.

Mr Mann asked if there were any other villages in the same situation as Emberton regarding the rat running?

PS Paulden responded that no other villages were as pro active in dealing with the situation.

The **clerk** asked how residents could report suspicious incidents.

PS Paulden responded that TVP relied on the public for help and incidents should be reported on 101 and 999 in an emergency.

4. **Matters Arising**

Nothing to report.

5. **Report of Emberton Parish Council**

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

Councillor Gibson took questions from the floor.

Mr Mann asked what was happening with Field 13.

Council Gibson responded that the parish council put in a Right to Bid under the Localism Bill and it was rejected but the parish council would continue to discuss it with MKC.

Mr Mann stated that he had heard that the village school was down on numbers.

Councillor Flowers responded as Chair of Governors that a group of dissatisfied parents decided to take their children out of Emberton and put them into Newton Blossomville School which therefore left the school with a serious problem regarding numbers. Councillor Flowers went on to state that a drop in school numbers would not just affect Emberton but the other rural schools over the next six years. Councillor Flowers commented that the solution would be partnering with another school. At present Emberton had 13 pupils and the school was considered full at 30/35 pupils.

Sue Clarke commented that there were cars parked outside school and asked if children came from other areas.

Councillor Flowers responded that only five children came from Emberton and school numbers for September would not be known until the 18th April. Councillor Flowers also commented that there were a couple of school governor vacancies.

Councillor Hosking commented that that there was a new policy regarding academies and this might help with pupil numbers.

Councillor Flowers responded that this might give Emberton School issues or might be a solution.

Following the questions from the floor, **Councillor Gibson** presented Mr Harris with a retirement gift for minding the clock tower.

6. **Milton Keynes Councillor Report**

Councillor David Hosking presented his report as follows:-

Plan:MK – Councillor Hosking commented that this was the main strategic planning document which dealt with development in Milton Keynes over the next fifteen years. There were four areas for development, one of which would affect Emberton and the rural areas with the possibility of 10,000 homes in Olney. Councillor Hosking reiterated the importance of residents responding to the consultation document.

Minerals Plan – Councillor Hosking reported that the Minerals Plan did not directly affect Emberton as one site was in Lavendon and two in Lathbury and the document was at a more advanced stage than Plan:MK. Councillor Hosking commented that the Minerals Plan might affect the traffic on the A509 for the site at Lavendon but the route was not yet clear.

Emberton Park – Councillor Hosking reported that there was a new owner of the café and the early signs were good. Councillor Hosking commented that there were no proposals on the table to transfer the park from MKC although there might be options coming forward and there might be alternatives after the elections in May.

Budget – Councillor Hosking reported that Council Tax would rise by 3.95%, 1.95% MKC could put up and 2% for adult social care. The Kitchener Centre in Olney would remain and be used as a hub for the north of MK. Clifton Court would remain manned. Pink sacks would continue for twelve months and the green waste collection service would also remain.

Councillor Hosking took questions from the floor.

Councillor Flowers reiterated the comments Councillor Hosking made for residents to respond to Plan:MK as comments from the parish council was only counted as one response.

7. **Mr Warwick Clarke presented the report of the Emberton United Charity**, which 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** thanked Mr McGrandle for the help that the History Society had provided the parish council in the past.

There were no questions from the floor.

9. **Mr Paul Flowers presented the report of the Emberton Playing Field Committee** which is attached to these Minutes.

Mr Flowers took questions from the floor.

Mrs Dench commented that she had picked up litter from the football pitch.

Mr Flowers responded that there was an issue with dog fouling and that a further dog waste bin had been installed at the playing fields.

10. **Parish Related Matters**

Mr Clarke asked what was involved in the village plan.

The **clerk** responded that the parish council were in the early stages of this and would be speaking to MKC.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm