

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 9th January 2017

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton

Mr Brett Leahy – Head of Development Management, MKC

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mr Phillip Pickwick – resident (part meeting)
 Mr Chris Tierney – resident (part meeting)
 Mr Colin White – resident (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor White and Ward Councillors David Hosking and Peter Geary.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

Update of Register of Members' Interests – The clerk reported that some information was omitted from the previous Register of Members' Interests completed by Councillor V McLean. Councillor V McLean completed the Register of Members' Interests, which the clerk will return to MKC.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 5th December 2016 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING

The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 19th December 2016 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

4. PLANNING

Mr Leahy explained that key changes had taken place in 2016 and further changes were going to happen in 2017 with fundamental changes to the service and the need to make financial savings. The savings for 2017 would be £200,000 which will be made through restructure so that planning was area based. Each area team will consist of a Manager, 3 or 4 Senior Planning Officers, 3 or 4 Planning Officers and 2 Enforcement Officers. The admin support team had a backlog of 180 planning applications and it took four weeks to turn them around. After the backlog had been cleared, turn around is now 24 hours and officers have more time for notification. The admin team are now given performance management targets and there will be the same for officers. The planning department was

looking to generate more income. Councillor V McLean asked how income was generated. Mr Leahy responded that MKC would try and promote better pre application for developers and would act as facilitators and developers would pay for this service. Councillor Flowers asked about the five year plan for housing. Mr Leahy responded that every authority had to have a five year housing supply and Milton Keynes Council could not demonstrate this. Mr Tierney asked who was looking at the shortfall. Mr Leahy replied that the key constraint was the Local Plan which would set where development was going to be. It was anticipated that a plan would be ready by the end of this year.

The clerk asked about the pre application advice process. Mr Leahy commented that there would be more discussions with town and parish councils during the pre application process. The clerk asked whether the parish council would be asked to comment if there had been changes to an application during the consultation period. Mr Leahy responded that the parish council would be only asked to comment further if the changes were fairly significant.

Councillor V McLean stated that the parish council had a previous planning application where the conservation officer commented that he had not had time to look at the application properly but still made a judgement on the application. Mr Leahy responded that the conservation team and planning officers were in the same office and should this be the case, the conservation officer could ask for more time to respond.

- 4.178 Emberton House Farm** – Mr Leahy commented that pre application advice was sought in 2011 and one of the issues was the design. Mr Leahy went on to state that planning was working with the conservation officer on the size of the dwellings and the enabling development issue. The application would be determined by panel in February.

Mr Leahy and the residents left the meeting at 8.05pm.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for meetings were noted. Councillor Hall commented that she would be unable to attend the next EPFC Meeting. Councillor Gibson to attend in place of Councillor Hall.

254 – Clerk’s Report – The Clerk’s report was previously circulated.

127 – Parishes Forum – Meeting held 8/12/16. Meeting not attended but Minutes previously circulated.

214 – EPFC – Meeting held 13/12/16. Councillor Hall reported that a stock take had been undertaken and thanked Sue Harris and Karen Goss. Field 13 was on going. A card machine had been installed. The premises certificate had been discussed with the committee acknowledging that the doors and windows needed to remain closed after 11pm if music was being played and a TEN would be required for any deviation from this. Councillor Flowers responded that the parish council had been hearing how good the pavilion was but at the AGM, if there had not been significant changes within the committee, four key members would be resigning and he would have no option but to hand the keys back to the parish council. Councillor Flowers commented that he would be sending out an email to

the committee members asking them to consider their position on the committee. Councillor V McLean asked about the possibility of paying volunteers to run the pavilion. Councillor Gibson responded that he did not believe the money was there to do this and commented that if the pavilion were to be taken over by the parish council, the precept would have to be increased. Councillor Flowers responded that the pavilion was very labour intensive and the people doing all the work did not want this as an option; it was more volunteers that would solve the issue.

Plan MK – Meeting held 15/12/16. Councillor V McLean and Councillor Horton attended this meeting and the notes had been previously circulated.

2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Awaiting order from MKC.

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Nothing to report.

2.1.73 Confidential item

Update from Ward Councillor

MKC Head of Highways – Councillor K McLean reported that Sean Rooney had been appointed Head of Highways for MKC. Councillor K McLean reported that the highways manager, David Hall, would be making a Ward visit and asked whether Emberton Parish Council had any issues that required addressing. The clerk responded that the only issue was the drainage investigation at Petsoe End and she would forward the details. The clerk also asked that thanks be passed to highways for the recently completed work in the High Street and West Lane. The clerk also commented that a highways inspection by Ringway was made last week and some areas had been marked for repair such as the raised footpath in Olney Road (opposite 49) which had previously been reported but did not meet the criteria for repair.

KG

MKC Budget – Councillor K McLean commented that MKC were looking to withdraw filling the grit bins but it could be that the parishes fund it but it still comes from the same source. Councillor K McLean went on to reiterate that the parish council might have to look at the precept for next year if there were cuts to the landscape service.

Councillor K McLean left the meeting at 8.20pm

3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Nothing to report.

3.2 **Parish Partnership Fund** – Nothing to report.

3.6 **Parish Related**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Awaiting SIDs.

- 3.6.50 **Dog fouling – We’re Watching You Campaign** – Nothing to report. It was agreed that this item could be removed from the agenda.
- 3.6.98 **Drainage investigation at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report. The clerk to forward the details of this issue to Councillor K McLean for his visit with highways. **KG**
- 3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – It was noted that a response had not been received from MKC.
- 3.39 **Sherington Neighbourhood Plan** – No response to this.
- 3.62 **Plan:MK** – Reported on above.
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – The clerk to request large maps of the designated area and smaller maps which could be used as handouts from MKC. The clerk had produced a draft leaflet and would send this to Councillor V McLean to make any changes before it being circulated to all residents. Councillor V McLean reported that she was not available on the 4th February and asked that the date of the open session be changed. **KG**
- 3.78 **MK50** – Nothing to report.
- 3.79 **Green Bin Campaign** – The clerk reported that an initial payment of £119.00 had been received from MKC which equated to 35p per household for signing up to the Green Bin Campaign.
- 3.82 **MKC Draft Consultation Budget 2017/2018** – Reported on under Ward Councillors’ update.
- 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**
- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that the next meeting would be in March and that one application had been received from Astwood village hall.
- 4.109 **Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund** – The clerk reported that the grant application forms were now available to download from the website.
- 4.177 **16/02988/FUL** – Demolition of timber stable block and erection of two dwellings to enable repair/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer. Reported on previously.
- 4.178 **16/02999/LBC** – Repairs/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer - **pending**
- 4.179 **16/03054/FUL** – First floor side extension with front facing dormer window and alterations to front porch at 2 Stone Court for Mr Malcolm – **pending**
- 4.181 **16/03110/TCA** – Notification of intention for the crown reduction of 1 x Ash (T1) by 2.5m at 11 High Street for Mrs Pauley – **no objection**

5. ACCOUNTS – to agree payments and items, as listed below

5.1 **RFO's Report** - The RFO's report for the 9th January 2017 was accepted.

5.2 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**

A H Contracts – emptying of dog waste bins	£77.47
Anglian Water - supply at allotments	£10.01
Antrams Payroll Services – quarterly payroll	£39.00
ESSC – Hire of pavilion for open day (Neighbourhood Plan)	£72.00
Mrs K Goss – December salary	£539.00
Mrs K Goss – December computer/telephone/expenses	£19.92

Payments proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.

5.3 **2017/2018 Budget and Precept** – Following a discussion, it was proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present that the 2017/2018 budget be approved and that the precept be increased by £500 to £17,000 to allow for the parish council to take on the extra services that might be withdrawn by Milton Keynes Council. Councillor Gibson stated that it would be good to have some idea as to the cost of running the pavilion.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

6.1 Nothing to report. All correspondence circulated by email.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 **Village publicity** – Pavilion, Green bin, defibrillator sessions, open day.

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

There were no Councillors' concerns.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 6th February 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

The Meeting closed at 10pm.