

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 2nd October 2017

Present:

Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Paul Flowers (part meeting)
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs Maddi Forrester – resident (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

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

Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – Councillor Flowers Declared an Interest in item 4.197 on the Agenda.

Councillor Vacancy – Due to the resignation of Councillor Cheney, a vacancy for a Councillor had been advertised on the noticeboard and on the parish council website. The clerk reported that if there was no call for an election, the parish council could co-opt after the 6th October. It was noted that there had been two applications but one applicant had withdrawn. It was therefore proposed by Councillor V McLean and seconded by Councillor Flowers that, subject to there being no other applicants and subject to no call for an election after the 6th October, that Richard Laval be co-opted to enable him to attend the next parish council meeting.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 4th September 2017 were agreed and initialled by the Vice Chairman.

- 4.197 17/02334/FUL** – Proposed front extension incorporating new entrance with three dormers to the front elevation and one to the rear and a detached garage at 21 High Street for Mr P Flowers. Mrs Forrester addressed the meeting and stated that she was objecting to the proposal for a detached garage to be sited at the front of the property as she felt it affected the street scene as the height of the garage would be above the boundary wall. Mrs Forrester stated that the window in the proposed garage would overlook her property and if the applicant looked out of their window, they would see a brick wall which they might regret following the development.

It was agreed to send a response to MKC stating that the parish council had no objection to the proposed front extension incorporating new entrance with three dormers to the front elevation and one to the rear but wished to object to the proposal for the detached garage as follows; 1) The garage would overlook Cedar House, resulting in a loss of privacy. 2) The garage would affect the quality of Cedar House, a listed building. 3) The garage was in an unduly prominent

KG

location adjacent to the front boundary wall adversely affecting the street scene.

Mrs Forrester left the meeting at 7.40pm

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for meetings were noted.

214 – EPFC/ESSC – Meeting held on 12th September. Councillor Hall reported that an issue had arisen with World Pay as the banks were not accepting responsibility if a fraudulent transaction took place and it was agreed that cards would only be accepted with pin. It was proposed that there would be a flat rate cleaning of £10 per hour. An email had been received from UK Astronomy stating that they would not be using the pavilion any more. Security was discussed and it was agreed that there should be more than one person closing up after dark. The Secretary offered her resignation.

The clerk commented that the parish council needed to ensure that a representative was sent to future meetings.

Councillor Flowers joined the meeting at 8pm

Update from Ward Councillor

Emberton Park – Ward Councillor McLean reported that he had received an email from Maurice Barnes to say that the company that was running the café were looking to expand the building and would like to take on the meeting room and tidy up the back. They could possibly take on the maintenance of the toilets but this must be transparent. Councillor K McLean stated that there should be a consultation on the future of the Park following a response to Cabinet.

Skate Park – Councillor Flowers commented that there was a distinct lack of young people in the village and stated that it should be pointed out that most people using it would come from Olney.

Footpath, Petsoe End – Ward Councillor McLean commented that work was still on going.

12 The Forge – Ward Councillor McLean commented that MKC housing were aware of the condition of the garden at 12 The Forge and it was an open case. Councillor K McLean suggested writing to the Head of Housing at MKC.

2.1 **Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes**

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Reported on above.

2.1.24 **Weeds** - The clerk met with Marcus Young Landscapes who advised that weed spraying the footpaths and kerb stones in Emberton would take two days and would cost £150 per day plus vat. If agreed, the spraying would be undertaken at the end of September/beginning of October. It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed to go ahead with the spraying for two days work.

2.1.52 **No waiting signs, Olney Road** – The clerk made enquiries with Environmental Services on 26/9/17 to ascertain what action had been taken. It was agreed that nothing could be further progressed until a report had been undertaken of Emberton Park and short term parking given consideration. It was therefore agreed to remove this item from the Agenda.

]

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Awaiting response from MKC as to whether a vector drawing would be sufficient to design the sign.

2.1.82 **Residents' parking, Hulton Drive and Olney Road** – The clerk made enquiries with Environmental Services on 26/9/17 to ascertain what action had been taken. Telephone call received from MKC stating that any scheme for residents' parking would have to be agreed by every resident in that area and permits would have to be paid for annually. It was agreed that nothing could be further progressed until a report had been undertaken of Emberton Park and short term parking given consideration and that the item could be removed from the Agenda.

2.1.101 **Bus stop, triangle at Petsoe End** – Awaiting confirmation from MKC that funding will be made available for the signs.

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – An email was received from Olney Town Council regarding the possibility of siting a skate park in Emberton Park and whether EPC would consider supporting the PLUG meetings. It was agreed that a skate park did not fit in with the scope of what Emberton Park was originally set up for (the pursuit of quiet countryside activities). It was noted that Councillors had made representations to get PLUG reinstated but agreed that a senior officer from MKC needed to be present to Chair the meetings. The clerk to draft a response.

KG

3.6 Parish related

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Thames Valley Police enforced the restricted access on the 29th September between 3pm and 6pm. 74 vehicles were stopped and informed of the existing Traffic Order and were then turned back round onto the A509. Registration details of those breaching the Traffic Order were noted. The clerk to draft an article for the Well & Towers and Phonebox. Councillor V McLean commented that thoughts needed to be given as to how to deal with repeat offenders.

KG

3.6.101 **Christmas lights for Emberton** – The clerk advised Mrs Logsdail of the parish council's decision to provide £150 for a Christmas tree and lights for the clock tower and advised that there was a power supply in the clock tower. The clerk to seek permission from MKC highways to site the tree.

KG

3.23 **Field 13** – The clerk reported that a response had been received from MKC's Rod Aitken as follows:- "I think there might be some crossed wires here. We have new managing agents as of January this year and as part of their introduction they were advised of the PC's interest in possibly acquiring the land. I can only assume that they have spoken with the tenant (and they certainly will have because they were asked to contact him, when the last 'sheep escape' took place) and advised him somewhat erroneously. On that very point as you will be aware Andy Hudson left

some little time ago and his replacement has been reviewing various matters of which this is one. His current view is that the Council should continue to hold the land as it is adjacent to Emberton Park which produces an income for the Council. The opportunity for future expansion will be lost if it is sold which would reduce the potential for further commercial opportunities within the park.”

In view of the above response received, it was agreed that Field 13 would be looked at when the review of Emberton Park took place and that the item could be removed from the Agenda and incorporated under Emberton Park.

- 3.74 Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor V McLean reported that Ray Brown from Newport Road had joined the group. The group looked at other neighbourhood plan questionnaires and it was agreed to put a draft questionnaire together for the next meeting.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.2 Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that the committee expected to receive a grant from the developer in October.

- 4.109 Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Hall reported that the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund currently stood at £6,415.

- 4.178 16/02988/FUL & 16/02999/LBC** – Emberton House Farm- **permitted (awaiting Unilateral Undertaking)**

- 4.196 17/02066/PNAGC3** – Prior notification of change of use of existing agricultural barn to 2 x residential dwellings (use Class C3) at Rectory Farm, Newton Road for Mr J Croxford – **pending**

- 4.197 17/02334/FUL** – Proposed front extension incorporating new entrance with three dormers in the front elevation and one to the rear and a detached garage at 21 High Street, Emberton for Mr P Flowers. Councillor Flowers was asked to address the meeting regarding the planning application. Councillor Flowers stated that the garage was single storey and it was felt this was appropriate as it would not come above the boundary wall. **KG**

- 4.198 17/02489/TCA** – Crown reduction of Silver Birch by 4m at 29 Olney Road for Mrs L Pethick. It was agreed that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations proposed by MKC’s tree officer with regard to this application. **KG**

- 4.199 17/02583/TCA** – T1 Apple central stem with decay – crown reduce by approximately 1.5 metres in height and laterally to balance pruning to suitable growth points to retain the flowing lines of the canopy. Crown thin by 20%. Crown clean removing all dead, diseased, dying, crossing, rubbing and duplicate branches. Remainder of tree – crown reduce by approximately 1.5 metres laterally and 1.5 metres in height pruning to suitable growth points to retain the flowing lines of the canopy. Crown thin by 10%. Crown clean removing all dead, diseased, dying, crossing, rubbing and duplicate branches. T2 Apple; Crown clean removing dead, diseased, dying, crossing, rubbing and duplicate branches. T3 Cherry; Crown thin by 15%. Crown clean removing dead, diseased, dying,

rubbing and duplicate branches at Church House, West Lane for Mr G Proud. It was agreed that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer in regard to this application.

KG

Councillor K McLean left the meeting at 8.55pm

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

5.1 RFO's Report – The RFO's Report for the 2nd October 2017 was accepted.

5.2 Bank Account – Change of signatories – The clerk reported that this was on going.

5.3 Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.

A H Contracts – emptying dog waste bins for September	£77.47
Mazars LLP – fee for annual audit	£270.00
Anglian Water – supply at allotments	£9.99
Mrs K Goss – clerk's September salary	£454.45
Mrs K Goss – clerk's computer/telephone/expenses for Sept	£54.84
Smart Water Technology Limited – Smart Water	£179.00

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE – All correspondence previously circulated via email.

6.1 Emberton School – A letter had been received from Emberton School regarding the condition of the garden of 12 The Forge. The clerk to draft a letter to MKC.

KG

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 Village publicity – Restricted access enforcement, SIDs, skate park in Emberton Park

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 November 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

All

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm