

## Emberton Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting – 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018

**Present:**

Councillor Vicki McLean (Chairman)  
 Councillor Paul Flowers  
 Councillor Soo Hall  
 Councillor Mike Horton  
 Councillor Richard Laval  
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mr A McGrandle – History Society  
 Mrs A Laval – Well & Towers  
 Mr W Clarke – All Saints' Church  
 Dr J Taylor – Senior Citizens' Christmas party  
 Mr G Proud – Emberton Playing Field Committee  
 Mr A Soul - resident

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

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

**Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda** – Councillor Laval Declared an Interest in item 5.2; grant application from the Well & Towers.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 - The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2018 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

**Dates for Commitment** – The dates for commitment were noted. Councillor V McLean stated that the Olney Ward Forum welcomed items for the agenda and planning were to be asked back to speak. Parishes Forum – the clerk to ask Councillor Gibson to attend this meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> December.

2. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING** – Nothing to report.

- 5.2 Grant applications from Community groups  
 History Society – Mr McGrandle addressed Councillors and stated that he wished to apply for a grant in the sum of £520.00 to cover the rental of the archive room at the pavilion. Mr McGrandle stated that the income for the year was £2613.80 compared to £3318.51 expenditure with a further £432 of liabilities to pay out from the Trench Supper to the pavilion. The History Society would also be buying another set of the display panels out of its own funds.

**Councillor Laval left the meeting for the next item**

Well & Towers – Mrs Laval addressed Councillors and thanked the parish council for supporting the grant last year and stated that it had been a challenging year for a

number of reasons in that two of the volunteers had not been able to help with the magazine due to family commitments. Mrs Laval stated that the total income was £1361 compared to expenditure of £1664. Included in the printing cost were six colour covers, some of which had been sponsored. Donations were down by £450; last year, grants were received from All Saints' Church £150, ESSC £150 and EUC £150 and a couple of advertisers had been lost. Mrs Laval stated that the issue of having the magazine online had been looked at and there were issues with GDPR in relation to photographs. Mrs Laval stated that she would like the same grant as last year; £500. Mrs Laval left the meeting.

### **Councillor Laval returned to the meeting**

All Saints' Church Emberton – Mr Clarke addressed the meeting and stated that he was attending the meeting on behalf of one of the Church Wardens and the PCC. Mr Clarke stated that the Church relied upon voluntary giving apart from a small dowry and beyond that, if there were a specific need, grants would be applied for. Mr Clarke stated that he was not attending for any specific requirement and the running of the Church was on going and a five year inspection by the architect would identify work which needed to be done in the short, medium and long term. However, there were two projects that the PCC would like to consider 1) moving and replacing the noticeboard (in the region of £600 - £1000) 2) replacing the gates at the top entrance to the Church (at least £1000) with some metal gates. Councillor V McLean spoke regarding the parish council's wish to source a WW1 commemorative bench and thought that the company might also do gates. The clerk to email the information to Mr Clarke. Councillor V McLean commented that the parish council had to relocate the silent soldier from The Forge and asked Mr Clarke if the Church would be able to accommodate this. Mr Clarke to take this back to the Church Warden. Mr Clarke left the meeting.

**KG**

Senior Citizens' Christmas Party – Dr Taylor made a presentation to Councillors regarding the reasons behind providing a Christmas lunch for the senior citizens of the village and stated that she wished to apply for a grant in the sum of £650 for the 2019 Christmas party. The cost of the party for 2018 was £930. Dr Taylor left the meeting.

Emberton Playing Field Committee – Mr Proud addressed Councillors and stated that he would like to apply for a grant in the sum of £4750 plus a contingency of £1000 to explore the relationship between the Constitution, lease, insurance and Charity Commission of the Playing Field Committee with the possibility of an audit and radical overhaul. Mr Proud stated that there was an awful lot of information on the Charity Commission's website but in his opinion, it needed a legal mind to interpret the information. Mr Proud commented that his recommendation was to find a solicitor within the village to look at the information and report back. Councillor Horton stated that he supported the grant application for the playing field but the parish council might have information regarding the other issue relating to the lease and stated that this request should be submitted in a letter. Mr Proud left the meeting.

- 4.210 18/00643/FUL – Mr McGrandle stated that he had managed to track down Sarah Watson (the officer who had written up the officer's report) who had left the council as she was a contractor that had been brought in to "mop up" Mike Davey's outstanding applications. Mr McGrandle stated that during his

conversation with Ms Watson it was noted on the officer's reported that there was only one objection when Ms Watson had noted that there were six. Mr McGrandle stated that there were two failings; 1) the area of the red line had changed 2) the ownership certificate was changed to B which should have restarted the whole process. Mr Soul commented that the FRA stated that the applicant shouldn't go below the current floor level. Mr McGrandle raised the question whether he should contact the Ward Councillor or submit a freedom of information request to MKC's planning department. Ward Councillor McLean responded that Mr McGrandle should ask for a meeting with Ward Councillor Hosking and the planning department stating that Mr McGrandle had serious concerns relating to the process. Councillor V McLean commented that the parish council were going to discuss this and how it was going to respond.

Mr McGrandle and Mr Soul left the meeting at 8.30pm

Ward Councillor McLean stated that the parish council could ask an officer to come to the next meeting to explain how the decision was reached. Councillor Laval proposed that the parish council write to formally register a complaint. The clerk to draft a letter to the Acting Chief Executive for circulation.

**KG**

2.1 Clerk's Report

2.1.24 **Weed spraying** – The clerk made enquiries with Serco for an annual weed spraying programme.

2.1.102 **Silent Soldiers** – Response from Church Warden awaited following PCC meeting.

2.1.103 **WW1 Commemorative bench** - Decision of grant application awaited.

2.1.104 **WW1 Commemorative bin** – Councillor V McLean reported that the litter bin in the High Street was constantly full and an option had been explored for a multi bin (recycling and general waste) but MKC had advised against this. It was noted that a resident in The Forge kept the area by the Institute litter free and swept the path on a regular basis. It was therefore considered necessary that a litter bin should be installed in this area. The clerk reported that an estimate for a WW1 commemorative litter bin had been received from David Ogilvie in the sum of £491 + Vat + delivery.

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – SID data has been circulated and was also available on the parish council website. Olney Road maximum speed was 55mph and High Street maximum speed was 41mph.

3.6.16 **Clock tower damage** – Waiting for date for repair from Boden & Ward. The clerk to chase this.

**KG**

3.6.101 **Christmas tree** – Councillor V McLean stated that the Christmas tree looked excellent and expressed thanks to the team involved.

2.2 To receive reports from meetings attended:

**EPFC/ESSC (13/11/18)** – Councillor Hall reported that the Treasurer, Secretary and Bookings Secretary had resigned. Councillor Hall reported that there was a

further meeting held and the committee were trying to get a treasurer but there hadn't been any follow up on this. A new rota for the bar and bookings was being worked out. The committee were now looking for a bookings secretary, secretary and treasurer and Councillor Hall hoped to have more information after the 17<sup>th</sup> December.

**NAG (14/11/18)** – The clerk reported that three parishes were looking at funding ANPR cameras although the logistics of how they would be shared between those parishes had not been resolved and was very much dependant upon TVP's resources. The clerk commented that the officer in charge of distributing the Speed Watch equipment at MKC had left and that his role was currently vacant. The clerk confirmed that Olney had joined the group and the NAG had been renamed Olney Ward Community Forum.

**Olney Ward Forum (5/12/18)** – Councillor V McLean commented that the meeting had been attended by Debbie Taylor-Bond, the Head of Highways at MKC who spoke regarding road safety and speed management and MKC were in the process of putting together a proposal jointly with the Police to look at speed management with a heavy emphasis on road safety. MKC were pushing hard to get temporary cover for Nigel Spencer and a replacement by March at the latest. HIF – Councillor V McLean reported that the bid had been deferred until March. MKC's Customer services and digital transformation - Councillor V McLean commented that this department were reorganising themselves and were working on customer communications and any inappropriate behaviour from customer services should be reported.

### 2.3 Update from Ward Councillors

HIF – Ward Councillor McLean reported that the Chancellor was going to allocate funding in the budget to allow Milton Keynes to achieve its aspiration of 500,000 homes but neither of the MP's were consulted on this and it was therefore not put in the budget.

Recycling sacks – Ward Councillor McLean reported that Councillor Hosking had been engaging with social media to report issues to him of obtaining recycling sacks which he would take back to the appropriate Cabinet member.

## 3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – An email had been received from Nick Hannon with an opening vision statement for Emberton Park as follows:- “Emberton Country Park is a rural country park for enjoyment of the residents of Milton Keynes for pursuing quiet countryside activities and engaging, immersing and enjoying nature, wildlife and biodiversity. The park is predominantly a nature reserve, conservation biome and place where nature, flora and fauna can flourish, grow and be protected.” The parish council were asked whether it had any other views. The clerk to respond that the parish council was in agreement with the vision statement.

KG

3.2 **Community Infrastructure fund** – The clerk reported that an application to the CIF had been put together by the clerks of several parishes to provide a “buy in service” for parishes for street cleansing.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Laval reported that the group was

finalising the wording of the assessment criteria which would then provide information on what sites would/would not be considered which would be anything within the revised settlement boundary. Councillor Laval stated that the Neighbourhood Plan would be discussed at the parish council meeting on the 7<sup>th</sup> January and would then go out for an initial consultation for six weeks to residents. Feedback was then looked at and the plan amended where necessary and passed to MKC for a further six weeks, followed by the Planning Inspector. After consultation with the Planning Inspector, the plan would go to referendum. Councillor Laval asked the question whether the referendum could be postal vote only. Ward Councillor McLean responded that as far as he was aware, this had not happened before. Councillor Laval to raise this question with the MKC Elections Officer.

RL

3.93 **Milton Keynes East Local Stakeholder Group** – Councillor V McLean reported that the next meeting would take place on the 19<sup>th</sup> December.

#### 4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

4.1 **Planning decisions spread sheet** – The planning decisions spread sheet was noted and was reported on under the items below.

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor V McLean reported that she had submitted a grant application for the chiller for the pavilion.

4.109 **Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

4.206 **17/03386/FUL** – Public airsoft events scheduled for once every two weeks throughout the year (with a break in Winter of variable length according to weather conditions). Occasional private bookings (retrospective) at Hollington Wood, Newport Road for Mr C Williams – **refused**. An email that had been received from Mr Solt, the owner of Hollington Wood which related to highways issues on the A509 at the Hollington Wood turn was discussed. It was agreed to respond to Mr Solt stating that the parish council had no jurisdiction in the matter and was referring it to MKC highways department. The clerk to respond accordingly.

KG

4.210 **18/00643/FUL** – Conversion and extension of an existing stone barn to a two bedroom residential property at barn set back from West Farm Way for Mr D J Soul – **permitted**

4.221 **18/02325/FUL** – Proposed pitched roof to existing flat roof garage and entrance attached to house, tiled roof to existing attached store, detached double carport with hardstanding for cars at Church House, West Lane for Mr G Proud – **permitted**

4.222 **18/02351/FUL** – Partial removal of front wall and installation of new gates to re-instate previous vehicular access to front garden at Thursby, 2 Gravel Walk for Mrs L Pauley – **refused**

4.223 **18/02352/LBC** – Listed building consent for the partial removal of front wall and installation of new gates to re-instate previous vehicular access to front garden at Thursby, 2 Gravel Walk for Mrs L Pauley. Response as 18/02351/FUL - **refused**

4.224 **18/02392/LBC** – Retrospective listed building consent for replacement porch at 2

Gravel Walk for Mrs L Pauley – **permitted**

- 4.225 Confidential Item
- 4.226 **18/02502/FUL** – Construction of a glass conservatory and associated works at 2 West Farm Way for Mr & Mrs A Bretheton - **permitted**
- 4.227 **18/02590/FUL** – Erection of an oak framed garage complex to rear garden at Stonepits House, West Lane for Mr & Mrs Hartshorn - **permitted**
- 4.228 **18/02591/FUL** – Listed building consent for the erection of an oak framed garage complex to rear garden area at Stonepits House, West Lane for Mr & Mrs Hartshorn - **permitted**
- 4.229 **18/02637/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce and reshape the upper crown of a silver birch by a reduction of approximately 2.5 – 3.0m in height, pruning back to suitable growth points and unions at Old Rectory Coach House, Olney Road for Mrs Crocker. There were no objections to this application. The clerk to respond. **KG**

## 5. ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **RFO's Report** – The RFO's Report for the 10<sup>th</sup> December 2018 was accepted. It was proposed by Councillor Laval, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that the below payments be approved.

ESSC – hire of pavilion for 2019 parish council meetings	£180.00
ESSC – hire of pavilion for NP Meetings on 27.11 & 3.12	£30.00
Mr T P Wibaut – bus shelter cleaning and bonus	£157.50
Mr W D Letts – Beacon lighting for Armistice	£19.00
MK Dons Sport – Summer football sessions x 4	£200.00
Stoke Lodge Farm Ltd – Christmas tree for clock tower	£65.00
SLCC – membership renewal	£106.00
All Saints' Church Emberton – sponsorship of tree	£50.00
Dr J Taylor – Grant for Senior Citizens' Christmas party 2018	£650.00
Mrs K Goss – clerk's November salary	£678.48
Mrs K Goss – clerk's November comp/telephone/expenses	£19.30
Mrs S Palmer – lights for Christmas tree	£17.34

- 5.2 Community group grant applications

History Society – It was proposed by Councillor Hall, seconded by Councillor Flowers and unanimously agreed that the grant application in the sum of £520.00 be approved.

Well & Towers – Councillor Laval left the meeting for this item. It was proposed by Councillor Flowers, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that the grant application in the sum of £500.00 be approved subject to other funding being explored and if this was not forthcoming, the parish council should be advised.

All Saints' Church Emberton – It was agreed that some more definitive figures were required before a grant was approved. The clerk to raise this. **KG**

Senior Citizens' Christmas party – It was proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded

by Councillor White and unanimously agreed that the grant application in the sum of £650.00 be approved.

Emberton Playing Field Committee – It was proposed by Councillor Laval, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that the grant application in the sum of £4,750.00 be approved subject to the £750 contingency for the spiral mower being ring fenced. The clerk to write and advise accordingly.

**KG**

Emberton Toddler Group – Councillor V McLean reported that the Toddler Group had applied for a grant but were not able to present anything to the parish council. It was proposed by Councillor Laval, seconded by Councillor Horton that a grant in the sum of £250.00 be awarded with the proviso that a further £250.00 would be forthcoming if there was something specific the toddler group wished to purchase.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE** – previously circulated.

**7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 **Village publicity** – The clerk to draft.

7. **Councillors' Concerns** – There were no Councillors' concerns.

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2019 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm