

Emberton Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held in The Pavilion
Monday 5th December 2022 at 7pm

Present:

Melanie Duncan - Chairman
 Cllr Colin Jamieson
 Cllr Fred Markland
 Cllr Guy Palmer
 Cllr Harry White

Ward Cllr David Hosking

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

To accept Apologies for Absence – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Gibson, Cllr Flowers and Ward Cllrs Keith McLean and Peter Geary.

Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda – Cllr Duncan Declared an Interest in item 2.1.17.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 7th November 2022. The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7th November 2022 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman.
- 1.2 **Public questions** – There were no members of the public present.
- 1.3 **Risk** – Nothing to report.
2. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND AGREE ANY DECISIONS/ACTION**
- 2.1 **Ward Councillors** – Ward Cllr Hosking was asked about the impact on the neighbourhood plan regarding the recent documents on the planning portal for 34 Gravel Walk. Ward Cllr Hosking responded that sites that had already obtained planning permission had been included in neighbourhood plans such as Sherington. Ward Cllr Hosking suggested posing the question to the planning officer.

Emberton Park – Ward Cllr Hosking reported that there were a few trees being taken down in Emberton Park. It was noted that there hadn't been any complaints from residents.

Highways – Ward Cllr Hosking stated that he had seen the emails following the clerk's meeting with highways and asked that the Ward Councillors be updated on the issues.

Acorn (MK) Nurseries – Ward Cllr Hosking reported that the poly tunnels were a breach of planning but enforcement had advised that it was not expedient to pursue this.

MK Connect – A discussion took place regarding the MK Connect service with Ward Cllr Hosking advising that Via ran the service and not MKCC.

- 2.2 **Thames Valley Police** – Nothing to report.
- 2.3 **Sports & Recreation Committee (meeting held 28th November)** – Cllr Palmer reported that the committee had agreed to erect a plaque on the lime tree in memory of Gerald Mann. The defibrillator had been installed; it was advised by the electrician that the circuit board be updated with surge protection and this had been agreed. The maintenance grant was approved in the sum of £4100, £200 less than the previous year due to an increase in pitch fees. It was agreed to do nothing with the car park and to monitor the situation. The 4 redundant goal post sockets had been removed.
- 2.4 **Dates for Diaries** – The dates for diaries were noted.
- 2.5 **Clerk's Report**
- 2.1.17 **Bridleway claim at Petsoe End** – nothing to report.
- 2.1.55 **Fly tipping between Newport Road and Prospect Place** – nothing to report.
- 2.1.82 **Residents parking – Hulton Drive** – Update following clerk's meeting with highways on 1/12/22. Paul Harrison to look at possibility of extending the scheme to also include the affected area. Rachel Munday to speak with Emberton Park re parking charges/annual passes for short term parking. Paul Harrison to also look at old sign in village for single yellow line restriction.
- 2.1.114 (November 2022) – **Blue brick footpath, Olney Road** – the clerk reported the two dislodged blue bricks along the footpath of Olney Road (outside 11). MKCC advised that the bricks did not meet the criteria for repair.
- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Update following clerk's meeting with highways on 1/12/22. Community Speedwatch scheme suggested as it includes enforcement by TVP. SIDs may be installed as a parish-funded project but have limited impact. Mark McDonald suggested vertical deflections (speed humps etc.) but these also have limitations and would need to be funded by parish as a scheme. Other options to be explored include 'No Through Road' or Prohibition of Motor Vehicles except for Access (PH/MM/PJ and TVP). **if the parish want to apply for CIF (24/25 financial year), evidence of speed data and any awareness campaigns is useful evidence to include with the application. Cllr Jamieson commented that he would set up a What'sApp group for the speed watch volunteers. **Action: CJ.** The clerk to ascertain whether she could borrow SIDs. **Action: KG.**
- 3.6.30 **Allotments** – It was noted that the allotment holders had been invoiced. The clerk wrote to Neil Hanley at MKCC for an update on the transfer of the allotments and was advised that he was unable to progress the matter as he was being made redundant. Cllr Duncan commented that an insurance issue had been flagged up as there wasn't any maintenance agreement between EPC and MKCC and if MKCC had ownership of the allotments, they needed to confirm they were insuring them. Ward Cllr Hosking suggested taking the matter up with Stuart Profit. **Action: KG**
- 3.6.63 **Newton Road/Petsoe End – pedestrian safety issues** – Update following clerk's meeting with highways on 1/12/22. Mini roundabout not possible due to lack of space especially for large farm vehicles. Phil Jeffs will review previous assessments and any proposals for this area. One option may be to remove the left part of the triangle to make the junction wider or

reduce from national speed limit to 40mph. Paul Harrison and Phil Jeffs to arrange traffic counts for this location before any proposals can be considered. Cllr Duncan commented that most of the collisions occurred at speeds of less than 40mph.

- 3.6.68 **Well at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.
- 3.6.80 **Defibrillator** – A software update has now been undertaken on the defibrillator and it has been returned to The Institute. A replacement battery pack had also been purchased.
- 3.6.110 **Gritting at Petsoe End** – Update following clerk’s meeting with highways on 1/12/22. – The route is on the Priority 2 so will be covered if there is severe or prolonged poor weather conditions. The route is not sufficiently used by enough vehicles (serves 12 properties) to be included on the P1 routes. A grit bin is located on this section so can be used to salt the road if needed. It was agreed to remove the item from the agenda and notify the resident that raised the issue and update the website with the information. **Action: KG**
- 3.6.114 **Steps in High Street (no 5)** – Update following clerk’s meeting with highways on 1/12/22. The handrail clamps are ordered (10-day delivery), installation will be scheduled once these are received at MK depot.
- 3.6.115 **Village questionnaire** – The results of the questionnaire have now been shared with residents and the village has been invited to “Have your say”.
- 3.6.116 **No HGV’s - Newport Road** – Update following clerk’s meeting with highways on 1/12/22. The road is being used by HGVs as a rest stop. Phil Jeffs to check what camera is in place and what results have been found. Karen Goss to send email regarding the issues caused by HGV parking to Phil Jeffs. **Action: KG**

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – Cllr Markland reported that the notes and reports had previously been circulated and it was noted that financial information requested by the parish council would not be supplied to the PLUG meeting. It was agreed that the clerk should ask for a set of accounts for Emberton Park via FOI. **Action: KG**
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Markland reported that MKCC were asked by the Inspector to supply information on the site with regard to the position of the neighbourhood plan. The plan that was submitted was still at Regulation 14 as it hadn’t yet moved to Regulation 15. Cllr Duncan responded that if the Inspector was planning to consent it, the plan would need to be amended again. It was agreed to write to the resident that had complained to the Inspector. The clerk to draft an email and to write to Chris Akrill to seek his advice. **Action: KG**
- 3.74 **Haversham cum Little Linford Neighbourhood Plan** – No comments to be made.
- 3.85 **Emberton School (School House Fund)** – Cllr Duncan reported that she had a copy of the transfer of the school house fund and it stood at £86,000 which was the sale price but the transfer figure was about £100,000 which included interest. Cllr Duncan had been in touch with MKCC’s legal department for the terms of reference for the Charity Commission and someone in legal was trying to find that. Cllr Duncan commented that the parish council

needed to get back in touch with the trustees of the fund to provide them with a more accurate time line of events and advise them that they could only spend the income and not the capital. Cllr Duncan to update the time line and the clerk to forward this to the trustees. **Action: MD/KG.**

- 3.97 **Sports & Recreation Committee** – Reported on under item 2.3.
- 3.99 **Conservation area – review of 1997 Conservation Area Statement by MKC** – No update from MKCC.
- 3.102 **Public footpaths in Emberton/cycle links from Emberton to Olney and Sherington** – Cllr Markland reported that the hedge on the perimeter of Emberton Park and the A509 was overgrown and obstructing the footpath. It was noted that the PLUG meeting had stated that this footpath was an alternative route when the park was flooded. The clerk to report this. **Action: KG**
- 3.103 **Demand Responsive Transport (21 bus service)** – It was noted that Red Rose had not responded to an email and telephone call. The clerk to chase this. **Action: KG.** It was felt that car sharing schemes for using MK Connect would be a good idea but it was noted that some of the those who wanted to use the service, did not have a mobile phone.
- 3.106 **Electric vehicle charge points** – It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda and if it came to light again, it could be included under the “Climate change” agenda item.
- 3.112 **Planning Application Validation Requirements** – Awaiting to hear the results of the consultation.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Cllr White reported that there was a new member on the committee and that the fund stood at £37,950.00.
- 4.2 **Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

previous applications status

- 4.309 **21/01130/FUL** – Erection of one dwelling with attached single garage (re-submission of 20/00483/FUL) at 34 Gravel Walk – reported on above.
- 4.330 **22/00539/CLUE** – Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use as a wholesale garden centre – class (E(a) at Acorn MK Nurseries, Newton Road – **Permitted.** It was noted that MKCC had advised that the comments submitted by the parish council were taken into consideration by the planning officer when determining this application.
- 4.336 **21/00249/COMPCH** – Appeal by Mr Philip Solt against an enforcement notice served for Without planning permission, the unauthorised change of use of part of the land and operational development **Land** at Hollington Wood, Newport – **pending**
- 4.337 **21/00249/COMPCH** – Appeal by Special Ops HQ against an enforcement notice served for Without planning permission, the unauthorised change of use of part of the land and operational development **Land** at Hollington Wood, Newport Road – **pending.**

- 4.341 **22/02055/DISCON** – Approval of details required by conditions 4 (Landscaping and Boundary Treatment), 7 (Cycle parking details) and 10 (Biodiversity Enhancements) of permission ref. 20/00822/FUL At: West Lane House West Lane – **pending**
- 4.343 **22/02524/TCA** – Reduction in height by 50% (from 10m to 5m) of T1 – Corkscrew Willow at 13 High Street – **permitted**
- 4.344 **22/02310/TCA** – The pruning back all over by no more than 2m of a Copper Beech (T1) to maintain good shape and health of tree. The reduction of 3 small conifers (T3) to 2m above hedge in front, and the reduction by 4m of one large conifer (T3) at Holcombe House, Olney Road. It was noted that a revised site plan had been submitted. It was agreed that the previous comments made by the parish council, still stood. The clerk to advise MKCC. **Action: KG**
- 4.345 **22/0375/ENF – 59 Olney Road** – description of alleged breach Erection of a timber garden building less than 2.5m from the property boundary – **pending**

New applications

- 4.346 **22/00389/ENF** – Description of alleged breach Erection of a poly tunnel was not actually carried out until some point between September 2018 & May 2020 (13/01931/FUL) – reported on previously.

5. ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **To receive the RFO's Report for the 5th December 2022** and approve payments. It was proposed by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Palmer that the payments be approved as per the RFO's Report. Cllr Palmer to approve the payments online. **Action: GP.** It was agreed that the £500 for Emberton Cares no longer required ring fencing. A grant had been received from Groundworks for consultation work on the neighbourhood plan. The clerk commented that she had spoken to Chris Akrill to ascertain whether the parish council could use some of the grant funds to reimburse their expenses associated with the plan such as printing and the clerk's time. Mr Akrill was in agreement with this. The clerk to raise invoices. **Action: KG**
- 5.2 **Review of fixed assets** – Nothing to report.
- 5.3 **Review of community grants**
Well & Towers – It was agreed that the grant application in the sum of £750 be approved.
Well & Towers History Society – It was agreed that the grant application in the sum of £600 be approved.
Senior's party – A discussion took place regarding the grant application in the sum of £750 with it being noted that the grant would only benefit a small minority of residents. It was proposed by Cllr Duncan and seconded by Cllr Jamieson that the grant be part awarded in the sum of £450.00.
Sports & Recreation Committee – It was agreed that the grant application in the sum of £4100 be approved.
- 5.4 **Draft budget** – It was agreed that the clerk would update the draft budget for the next meeting. **Action: KG**
6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Nothing to report.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 **Village publicity** – The clerk reported that there wasn't a January edition of the Well & Towers. Cllr Markland suggested listing out all the traffic issues on the website. **Action: KG**

7.2 **Cllrs' concerns** – **Cllr Jamieson** stated that a member of the public had raised the question whether the pump in the pump field in West Lane had any historical significance. Cllr Markland responded that he didn't think there was a designation that could apply to the pump. It was agreed that the clerk would make enquiries with MKCC. **Action: KG**

Cllr Duncan – Suggested that the parish council had a policy on Climate Change although the parish council already tackled some issues through tree planting and looking at electric vehicle charging points. Cllr Markland stated that the policy would have to be consistent with that of MKCC's. The clerk to ascertain what policy MKCC had regarding climate change. **Action: KG**

Cllr White – Commented that there were still issues in the village of parking on the pavements. The clerk to ask PCSO Huckle to look into this. **Action: KG**

Cllr Palmer – Reported that there had been issues of construction traffic in West Lane which had restricted vehicle movements. The clerk to write to the residents concerned. **Action: KG**

Post meeting note – The clerk spoke to the resident who advised that the problem was with MKCC providing an incorrect utilities map to the contractor, meaning that the highway was dug up on several occasions.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 9th January 2023 at 7pm to be held at the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm