

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 7th March 2016

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson - Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton

Ward Councillor Dave Hosking (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor V McLean, Councillor White and Ward Councillor Keith McLean.

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 1st February 2016 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

2.0 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

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

254 - Clerk's Report - The Clerk's report was previously circulated.

214 –EPFC – Meeting held 16/2/16 – Councillor Flowers reported that the Burn's Night had raised £800 and Panto raised £1,000. The dog bin had been installed. Junior tennis will be played on the tennis courts over Easter. The guttering has been repaired and paving slabs will be looked at.

255 – NAG – Meeting held 18/2/16. The clerk reported that it was the NAG AGM and that the priority of speeding had been set. It was noted that the Olney NAG had been disbanded and it was felt that they might like to join the Rural NAG. The clerk stated that MKC would be offering training in putting up the SIDs if anyone was interested.

210 – PLUG – Meeting held 25/2/16. Councillor Horton reported that the transfer of the park to the Parks Trust was not going ahead. The café had been let to a very competent company who had spent a considerable amount of money refurbishing it. A steering group was discussed with input from Olney Town Council and Emberton Parish Council. Parish Councillors discussed the need for short term parking. The clerk read out an email received from a resident regarding litter in the park. It was agreed to take this up with Andy Hudson and John Price.

KG**2.1 Update from Ward Councillors**

Budget – Councillor Hosking reported that the budget was set at 3.95%, 2% for the Social Care Fund and 1.95% MKC levy. Key points from the budget were; Kitchener Centre in Olney will stay open, pink sacks will be retained for at least 12 months, sheltered housing at Clifton Court will be retained, green bin will be retained free of charge, play areas will be reviewed next year.

Olney Ward Forum – This takes place on 9th March and Steve Clarke will Chair the meeting, superfast broadband will be discussed and Plan:MK.

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

2.1.1 **Village Plan** – Councillor V McLean had attended a Neighbourhood Planning training session on February 11th and had reported back to the parish council that a Neighbourhood Plan was a means of ensuring that as a community you had your say about how your area was developed; however it must align to the Council’s Planning Strategy. The advice from MKC was that a second tier Neighbourhood Plan should be produced to enable the parish council to identify potential areas for development and protect existing green spaces and sports facilities. Next step was to contact MKC to meet with an officer. It was agreed that the clerk would do this. **KG**

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Update received from MKC stating that Andy Burton was working on the report but no progress with regard to a date for Committee.

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Having looked further at village signs, Councillors agreed that the preferred option would be the green sign with cream lettering, post mounted. The clerk to obtain estimates and look at the size of the sign in Newton Road. **KG**

2.1.73 **Confidential Item**

2.1.85 **Kerb stones, West Lane** – It was noted that a resident had damaged their tyre on a kerb stone in West Lane. A discussion took place regarding kerb stones in West Lane, the service road of Olney Road, in the High Street outside Thursby and outside Glebe Cottage, Olney Road. The issue with the kerb stones in West Lane and the Olney Road service road was that they were constantly being damaged by vehicles because of lack of space to manoeuvre. It was felt that there was a safety issue with the high kerb stones in the High Street outside Thursby and outside Glebe Cottage. The clerk to take this up with the Ward Councillors. **KG**

2.1.91 **Damaged fence around Field 13** – The clerk wrote to property services on the 26th January to request that the tenant of the land (Mr Reynolds) be advised that there was damage to the fence around field 13 at the entrance to the playing field and that consideration be given to changing the stile to a gate. No response received.

2.1.93 **Tree overhanging West Lane from Stone Court** – Nothing to report.

2.2 **High Street, resurfacing** – The clerk commented that the latest update was that the High Street would be resurfaced in the 2016/2017 financial year.

3.0 **SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Discussed under item 2.0.

3.6 **Parish Related**

3.6.1 **Website** – The clerk reported on the meeting with It’sseeze. Councillors agreed that email addresses should be generated for the clerk, Chair and Vice Chair. It was agreed not to have a facebook page.

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – The clerk reported that Thames Valley Police had carried out an operation on the 12th February to enforce the restricted access and that 80 vehicles had been diverted back onto the A509 and drivers handed a leaflet explaining the Traffic Order.

3.6.16 **Clock tower – upgrade of time side** – The clerk reported that Duncan Sands would be fitting a 5amp fused spur point in the next couple of days and Smiths of Derby would be undertaking the work to upgrade the time side on the 11th March.

3.6.97 **Clean for the Queen** – An estimate was obtained in the sum of £1,271.50 to jet wash the path by The Institute, High Street (brick path outside number 5), brick path at entrance to Church, West Lane by the churchyard wall and to sweep and weed kill the tarmac path in Alison Fraser Walk. It was proposed (by email) by Councillor Flowers and seconded (by email) by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed that the estimate was accepted. The clerk advised that this would take place on the 15th and 16th March.

3.7 **Minerals Plan** – Consultation closes on the 9th March.

3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – The clerk reported that an MKC officer had responded that he didn’t understand why the parish council would want to lease the land only to sub let it for grazing and that inclination was that when the parish council had grants/funding in place to convert the field for football training, MKC would engage with EPC. The clerk responded that the parish council would wish to be confident that planning permission for change of use would be granted. MKC stated that planning should come first. Councillor Hosking requested that the clerk pass Ward Councillors the decision regarding the Community Right to Bid on Field 13.

KG

3.62 **Plan:MK** – Councillor Gibson commented that it was not only important to respond as a parish council but to encourage individuals to respond also. The clerk reported that approximately 50 people had attended the drop in session and a number had requested a copy of the draft response document from Phil Ayles. Councillor Gibson commented that Phil Ayle’s document was a starting point and requested that the clerk re-circulate it so that Councillors could form a response to Plan:MK. Councillor Hosking commented that it would be worth responding that regeneration should take place in the urban area and that development should be an extension to the Core Strategy, which was 8,500 homes.

KG

Councillor Hosking left the meeting at 9.15pm

4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Flowers reported that a meeting needed to be called as there were applications in the pipeline.

PF

- 4.109 **14/00407/FUL** – Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund. The next meeting would be held at the beginning of April.
- 4.161 **15/02862/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to discharge of conditions 1 (ground conditions) attached to planning permission 15/00734/FUL at Rectory Farm, Newton Road - **approved**
- 4.162 **15/02789/NMA** – Non material amendment to application 14/00407/FUL for changes and reduction to footprint and scale at Emberton Solar Park, Newton Road – **refused**
- 4.164 **15/03149/TCA** – Notification of intention to fell 4 x conifer trees (B, C, D and E) and reduce in height by 1 metre 3 x conifer trees (H, I, J) at 35 Olney Road for Mr R Laval – **no objections**
- 5. ACCOUNTS** – to agree payments and items, as listed below
- 5.1 **RFO's Report** - The RFO's report for the 7th March was accepted.
- 5.2 **Cooperative Bank, second current account and internet banking** – To be carried forward to next meeting.
- 5.3 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of February in the sum of £51.65. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.4 **Mr K Harris** – Payment for clock tower minding in the sum of £100.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.5 **Spoton.net Ltd** – Payment for design, build and six month's hosting of website in the sum of £768.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.6 **Smith of Derby Ltd** – Payment for annual service of clock tower in the sum of £250.80. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.7 **Zurich Municipal** – Payment for insurance for 2016/2017 in the sum of £600.12. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.8 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's February salary in the sum of £583.07. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.9 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's telephone/computer and expenses for February in the sum of £29.34. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.10 **Pension Scheme for Clerk** – The clerk to seek advice.

KG

6. CORRESPONDENCE – is now listed in the Wallet

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 **Village publicity** – Rat running, clock tower, jet washing footpaths

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor Hall commented that a resident had spoken to her regarding dog mess along Newport Road. The clerk commented that this had been noted during the walkabout. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Horton and unanimously agreed that a dog waste bin be purchased for Newport Road. The clerk to order and arrange installation and speak to the resident concerned regarding the best location.

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Councillor Flowers raised a concern that a resident had commented that they were not able to park outside their own house; it was understood that the owners of the vehicle were visiting the pub. A discussion took place regarding parking restrictions and it was agreed that it would not be beneficial to residents to pursue the matter of restricted parking in the High Street.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 11th April 2016 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

All

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.