

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 6th March 2017

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mr Ralph Mynn - Resident

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

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

Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 6th February 2017 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

Mr Mynn addressed the meeting and queried the figures that had been released by MKC concerning the green bin campaign and asked what it entailed. The clerk commented that the green bin campaign was advertised in the Well & Towers and on the parish council website. Mr Mynn referred to the MKC Waste Strategy and the proposed cost of £33 to collect the green bin and the issuing of pink sacks and whether there would be a charge for them. Councillor Gibson suggested that Mr Mynn make his views known to MKC. Councillor K McLean responded that it was a good point that Mr Mynn had raised regarding the green bin and stated that residents were not using the pink sacks for recycling as there were more given out than were collected in. Councillor Gibson thanked Mr Mynn for attending the meeting. The clerk commented that Mr Mynn was welcome to stay for the remainder of the meeting.

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for meetings were noted. Councillor K McLean reported that a date for the Olney Ward Forum had not yet been agreed.

The clerk reported that there would be a charge for the Parishes Conference on the 25th March and thought that it might be cheaper to join MKALC. It was proposed by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Horton to join MKALC.

It was noted that there had not been a PLUG Meeting for several months.

Councillor K McLean suggested that the clerk contacted Tom Blackbourne-Maze to ascertain what officer would be supporting PLUG now that Andy Hudson had retired.

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

214 – EPFC – Meeting held 9/2/17. Councillor Hall reported that two committee members had retired as they felt that they were not able to make a contribution to the running of the pavilion. Mr Mann raised an issue regarding the Trustees and the Secretary had taken this on board. Angela would take on the job of Bookings Secretary which would ease the situation. The Burn’s Night was very successful and raised more than the previous year. The History Society had put forward a request for a projector screen but more information was required. It was noted that the funds for the solar panels had been earmarked and that the project should go ahead. Councillor Gibson commented that he felt that the committee were a bit irresponsible to go ahead with a capital project given that the playing field might be handed back to the parish council at the end of the month. Councillor Hall responded that the money was already there and it was hoped the situation had resolved itself and that nothing would be done before the AGM. Councillor Horton added that it was a resolution that the committee made and there was nothing the parish council could do about it.

Councillor Flowers commented that he was interested to hear the comments made so far and interested to see if the parish council had any comments about the pavilion. He went on to state that there was a problem of people needing to do more and at the AGM, the committee should know where it stood. Councillor K McLean suggested a leaflet drop to residents regarding the AGM. The clerk to put this to the committee.

KG

255 –NAG – Meeting held 23/2/17. The clerk reported that the issue of introducing Speed Watch had been discussed whereby a police officer would not have to be in attendance. More information was being sought on this. Further SID training would be provided for volunteers. The clerk to contact residents who had raised the issue of speeding in the village to see if they would be willing to attend a training session.

KG

2.1 Councillor’s Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.13 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk contacted the bridge club to make them aware of the email received from MKC regarding parking outside the Institute.

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

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

2.1.73 Confidential item

2.1.100 **Footpath, Newport Road** – The clerk reported that she had looked at the area highlighted by Councillor Horton and believed that Milton Keynes Council would not see this as a priority. It was agreed not to pursue the matter and that the item could be removed from the agenda.

Update from Ward Councillor

Highways Manager – Councillor McLean reported that David Frost, Highways Manager started in January and Councillor McLean had met him regarding all the parishes in the Ward.

Emberton House Farm – Councillor McLean reported that he had abstained from voting at DCC and that the matter was deferred as DCC members did not like the design.

Parishes Conference – Councillor McLean reported that he, along with Councillor Geary would be attending the parishes conference on the 25th March.

Government White Paper on Housing – Councillor McLean reported that Neighbourhood Plans were essential to help protect development. There were three planning applications at Lavendon for development, one for 95 homes on Olney Road.

Councillor McLean left the meeting at 8.15pm

3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Mr Mynn reported that his wife had fallen off her bike when cycling through Emberton Park and went into a pothole which she had thought was a puddle. It was suggested to Mr Mynn that he reported this incident to the gatehouse.

Mr Mynn left the meeting at 8.20pm

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

3.6 **Parish related**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Item covered under NAG.

3.6.98 **Drainage investigation at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

3.6.100 **Litter bins (High Street)** – The clerk contacted Mr Wibaut who was willing to empty both litter bins on a fortnightly basis. The clerk obtained a fastlock key for the wooden litter bin and provided Mr Wibaut with black dustbin bags.

The clerk reported that, due to the frequency of the street cleansing being reduced, parish councils had been provided with litter picking packs consisting of grabbers, gloves, high viz jackets and recycling and grey sacks. It was agreed to advertise this in the Well & Towers.

KG

3.6.101 **Christmas lights for Emberton** – The clerk read out an email received from a resident regarding a request for Christmas lights. It was suggested that the clerk contacts the resident to ask them to put forward a proposal together with costings and submits it to the parish council.

KG

- 3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – Nothing to report.
- 3.39 **Olney Neighbourhood Plan** – It was agreed to respond that the parish council did not believe that the eastern by pass shown on the map was the correct one that had previously been put forward. **KG**
- Woughton Neighbourhood Plan** – No objection.
- North Crawley Neighbourhood Plan designation area** – No objection.
- 3.62 **Plan:MK** – It was noted that Plan:MK was now out for a 12 week consultation. The clerk to email a copy to Councillors. **KG**
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – The clerk reported that approximately 50 residents had attended the open day sessions and that several residents had put their names forward to be part of a Steering Group.
- 3.78 **MK50** – Nothing to report. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
- 3.79 **Green Bin Campaign** – The clerk to provide up to date figures in the Well & Towers.
- 3.82 **MKC Draft Consultation Budget 2017/2018** – Nothing to report. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**
- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that the next meeting would be on the 15th March and that there would possibly be an application from Astwood.
- 4.109 **Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Hall reported that the committee had met prior to the parish council meeting and had agreed in principle to an application for a mower for the churchyard.
- 4.178 **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 – **deferred**
- 4.179 **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 – **deferred**
- 4.182 **17/00080/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce in height by 2.4 metres and trim both sides to Beech hedge (A), to cut down to a height of 1.8-2.2 metres to 2 or 3 trees (within hedge A) (B), to cut down to a height of 1.8-2.2 metres to Beech tree (C) and trim lower branches of adjacent Cherry tree (C), prune and reduce branches to pear tree (D) prune cherry tree (E), reduce in height by 2.4 metres and trim sides to beech hedge (F), prune flowering apple tree (G), reduce in height by 2m and trim both faces of beech hedge (H), reduce overall height by 1 metre and prune old apple tree (J) at Chaff House, Church Lane – **no objection to tree**

works in conservation area

- 4.183 **17/00189/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce crown to 4.5-5m to 3 x Cypress trees (C1, C2, C3), reduce crown to 4-4.5m to 1 x Cherry tree (CH), reduce to remove new growth to 1 x Silver Birch (SB), reduce and reshape crown to 2 x Holly trees (H1, H2) and 1 x Yew tree (Y) and reduce crown to remove new growth to 2 x Apple trees (A1, A2) at Manor Croft, Olney Road – **pending**
- 4.184 **17/00282/TCA** – Notification of intention to remove 6 x Conifer, 1 x plum (A, C, D, G, H, I, K) and remove lower branches, lower crown by 2 metres and generally thin out to 1 x Walnut tree (E) at 35 Olney Road. There were no objections to this notification.
- 4.185 **17/00136/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce in height by 2 metres, reduce side lateral by 1.5 metres to 2 x Beech trees (T1, T2), reduce in height to within 1 metre of metal frame to 2 x Yew trees (T3), to fell 1 x Laburnum tree (T4) crown reduction by 2 metres, reduce side lateral by 1 metre with crown thinning by 20% to 1 x Sorbus (T5), and reduce height by 1.5 metres to 1 x Bay tree (T7) at 4 Gravel Walk. There were no objections to this notification.

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

- 5.1 **RFO's Report** - The RFO's report for the 6th March 2017 was accepted.
- 5.2 **Insurance** – It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that a five year fixed term for the insurance policy be accepted.
- 5.3 **Co-operative Bank and banking arrangements** - The clerk reported that most parish councils used either Barclays or Nat West for their banking arrangements.
- 5.4 **Clerk's salary review** – Councillor Gibson to look at this and email the other councillors.
- 5.5 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**

A H Contracts – emptying of dog waste bins for February	£77.47
Earth Anchors Ltd – fastlock key for litter bin	£11.40
Mr T P Wibaut – bus shelter cleaning & emptying litter bin	£87.50
Mrs K Goss – February salary	£499.21
Mrs K Goss –February computer/telephone/expenses	£25.60

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 **Ringway's email** - The clerk read out an email received from Ringways regarding community projects. It was agreed not to put a project forward.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

Village publicity – cleaning equipment, cut back of MKC's services, Plan:MK.

SG

KG

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor Horton reported that a tree had come down in the children's play area by the static caravans and a caravan owner was concerned about other trees. The clerk to write to the park.

KG

Councillor Gibson commented that he had been approached by a resident who would like to join the parish council and if there were any councillors who wished to make a change would be able to do so.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 3rd April 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

All

The Meeting closed at 9pm