

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 5th March 2018

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson (Chairman)
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Richard Laval
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor David Hosking (part meeting)

Mr R Young (part meeting)
 Mr B Soul (part meeting)
 Mrs Y Soul (part meeting)
 3 other residents (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence - Apologies for Absence were received from Councillors Soo Hall and Vicki McLean and Ward Councillors Peter Geary and Keith McLean.

Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – Councillor Flowers Declared an Interest in item 4.207 on the Agenda.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2018** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 8th January 2018 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

Mr Young was invited to address the parish council. Mr Young stated that he had come to the meeting to speak regarding the 3 conifer trees in Gravel Walk which were outside his property. Mr Young stated that his concerns were that his garage was showing signs of cracking and the amount of bird droppings was a health hazard. Mr Young stated that he had been in discussion with another resident who had stated that the trees were blocking the light to his solar panels. Mr Young stated that he wanted the trees either removed or cut back and had offered to pay for the work to be undertaken on a previous occasion. The clerk read out an email received from MKC housing on the 6th January 2015 stating that the Estate Management Team at MKC had spoken to residents in Gravel Walk and some of them strongly objected to felling the trees and Estate Management Seniors had decided that the trees should be left as they did not pose any hazard and make part of the landscape that other residents objected to altering. Councillor Horton asked Mr Young if he would consider replacing the trees if they were cut down. Mr Young stated that one of the main problems was the pigeons but he would be happy to replant, but in the correct place. Councillor Hosking responded that perhaps one of the reasons that Mr Young was not getting positive feedback was that housing was seen as separate from the rest of the Council. Councillor Hosking suggested that Mr Young start the enquiry again by reporting the trees through the on line service. Councillor Hosking commented that Mr Young would receive an FS reference number and this should be given to the Ward Councillors.

4.206 **Mr Soul** addressed the parish council and stated that he was concerned about the application relating to Hollington Wood. Mr Soul commented that Hollington Wood had its own website which described itself as Ancient Woodland and he wanted the parish council to object to the application as the wood was irreplaceable. Mr Soul stated that the number of vehicles could be up to 50 for any one event with access off the A509 onto a farm track and that there had been two previous accidents at the entrance. At the present time, the airsoft events could be heard from the public footpath and from the farm. The application was for 21 hectares rather than the 1 that was currently used. Mr Soul went on to state that the participants in the airsoft events walked around the public footpath with replica firearms and could often be heard shouting and swearing. Mr Soul stated that the woodland was unique and that it was becoming a leisure arena. Mr Soul went on to state that Hollington Wood had a grant from the Forestry Commission and this was now being used as a car park. Mr Soul also stated that the airsoft bullets were supposed to be bio degradable but the woods were littered with them. Mr Soul commented that the application form was incorrect as the applicant should have included a highways survey. Councillor Laval responded that MKC highways would bring this up if there was supposed to be a survey. Councillor Hosking responded that there would be an ecological report and a highways report would be requested. Councillor Hosking went on to state that the applicant would have to submit some highways proposals given the number of vehicles that would be turning in. Councillor Hosking stated that he had called the application in and it would be going to Committee.

Mr Soul asked if there was any way of stopping the activities as they were a retrospective application. Councillor Hosking stated that he would speak to enforcement to see where they were on this.

A resident commented that the events were being run outside the hours stated on the application form and if permission were granted, the applicant would be breaching the terms. Councillor Hosking responded that the activities would be subject to the planning conditions and if they breached these, they would have to be served notice.

Councillor Gibson stated that the residents were welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting if they so wished. Mr Young stated that he might be able to offer help regarding the repair to the clock tower. The clerk asked Mr Young if he would be able to provide an estimate for repair. The residents then left the meeting.

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

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

214 –EPFC/ESSC – Meeting held 6/2/18. Councillor Gibson asked what the current situation was regarding a response from EPFC/ESSC to the parish council notice. The clerk responded that a holding email had been sent to the parish council and that the committees were meeting on the 13th March and would put together a response. Councillor Gibson reported that there had been two expressions of interest to help.

255 – NAG & Community Forum – Meeting held 7/2/18. The clerk reported that the NAG had now joined with the Community Forum so the meeting was

open to all. The main topic of discussion was speeding with speed watch being discussed. It was felt that whilst the SIDs were useful for recording data, they did not deter speeding.

Update from Ward Councillor

Budget – Ward Councillor Hosking reported that the budget was set on the 21st February and the 5.99% increase in council tax approved. Changes to the budget included £100,000 cut in pothole repairs, £50,000 cut for graffiti removal. Pink sacks would be replaced with clear sacks and everyone would get a roll and they could be replaced by ordering online or via telephone. Councillor Horton asked what action was being taken by the Council to ensure that it was working efficiently. Councillor Hosking responded that he did have some evidence on this.

Hollington Wood – Councillor Hosking reported that he had objected to this application on behalf of residents.

Emberton House Farm – Councillor Hosking reported that this would be going to Committee on the 8th March and he would be speaking in objection to the application.

Annual Assembly – Councillor Hosking asked the parish council if there was anything that he should cover at the Annual Assembly. It was agreed that Councillor Hosking would provide a report on Plan:MK and the budget.

Ward Councillor’s Discretionary Budget – Councillor Hosking reported that two grant applications had been approved for Emberton; The History Society and Megan Wyatt.

Councillor Hosking left the meeting at 8.20pm

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

2.1.13 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk reported that it had been noted that there was an issue with the bus and parking on a Friday evening and it was suggested that the Redline bus driver might be partly to blame. The clerk commented that she had been made aware by a bus passenger that Redline might re-route the bus to the junction of Emberton Park instead of driving through Olney Road and The High Street. It was agreed that the clerk ask MKC to write to the Bridge Club to remind them to be mindful of parking. **KG**

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Councillor Hall to contact Andy McGrandle to arrange to meet with MKC to discuss the design of the sign. **SH**

3. **SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Nothing to report.

3.6 **Parish related**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Nothing to report.

- 3.6.16 **Clock tower damage** – The clerk submitted the claim form and estimate from Boden and Ward to Zurich.
- 3.6.104 **12 The Forge** – Nothing further to report. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
- 3.39 **Campbell Park Neighbourhood Plan** – This was noted and it was agreed to send a “no comment” response. **KG**
- 3.61 **Site Allocations Plan** – This was noted and it was agreed to send a “no comment” response. **KG**
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Laval reported that the questionnaire had been printed and was being delivered with the deadline for response being 31st March.
- 3.90 **Parish and Town Councils Draft Framework** – The clerk reported that this was approved at Cabinet last week.
- 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**
- 4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report; next meeting in March.
- 4.109 **Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.
- 4.167 **15/02832/FUL and 15/02832/LBC** – Listed Building Consent and partial removal of wall and new gates to create new vehicular access to front garden at 2 Gravel Walk for Mr & Mrs Pauley (refused permission). Enforcement query regarding removal of stone wall. Nothing to report.
- 4.202 **17/03195/FUL** – Variation of condition 6 (water course crossing) attached to planning permission 14/01497/FUL, to amend approved culvert pipe to a smaller diameter at Chaff Barn, 2 Manor Court for Mr & Mrs Geary – **pending decision**
- 4.204 **17/03332/FUL** – Erection of 2 dwellings to enable repair/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls (amended access) (resubmission 16/02998/FUL) at land adjacent to Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mrs Mercer. Via email on the 8th February, it was proposed by Councillor V McLean, seconded by Councillor White and unanimously agreed that the decision made on 5th February 2018 to object to the planning application 17/03332/FUL be rescinded. The parish council had received material information that addressed the concerns initially raised. In addition, the parish council requested that the following conditions were placed on this application:-
- a) Construction traffic restricted to certain hours and no weekend work.
 - b) Contractors responsible for clearing/cleaning Honey Hill at end of every day following construction work.
 - c) New properties are responsible (along with other Honey Hill residents) for maintenance of the road.
- 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. It was agreed that the clerk ask the planning officer to request that an ecological survey is undertaken and it was agreed that a report from highways was also required before a decision could be made regarding this planning application.

KG

4.207 **18/00290/FUL** – Proposed front extension incorporating new entrance and dormer with three dormers to the front extension and one to the rear and a side extension forming a new garage, internal operations including the conversion of the existing integral garage and works to the front entrance gate at 21 High Street for Mr P Flowers. Councillor Flowers left the meeting for this agenda item. It was agreed that there were no objections to this application. The clerk to respond to MKC.

KG

4.208 **18/00414/FUL** – Oak framed single storey rear extension, including demolition of existing conservatory at 3 Battle Close for Mr N Adams. There were no objections to this application. The clerk to respond to MKC.

KG

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

5.1 **RFO's Report** – The RFO's Report for the 5th March 2018 was accepted.

5.2 **Co-operative Bank – change of signatories** – Ongoing.

KG

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

A H Contracts – emptying dog waste bins for February	£77.47
Zurich Municipal – insurance for 2018/2019	£602.49
Spoton.Net Limited – 6 monthly website hosting	£288.00
Orchard Press – printing of Neighbourhood Plan Questionnaire	£370.00
Mr T P Wibaut – bus shelter cleaning & emptying litter bins	£102.50
Mrs K Goss – clerk's February salary	£424.65
Mrs K Goss – clerk's February expenses	£75.20

Payments proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed by all those present. The clerk to make the payments by BACS transfer.

KG

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – All correspondence previously circulated via email.

7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 **Village publicity** – The clerk to draft. Bridge Club & Redline bus, MKC budget.

KG

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed at Monday 9th April 2018 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

All

The meeting closed at 8.48pm