

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 11th April 2016

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Peter Geary (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Hall and Ward Councillors Keith McLean and David Hosking.

Declarations of Interest

Councillor V McLean Declared an Interest in item 4.165 on the Agenda.

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 7th March 2016 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY (PRE MEETING)

The Minutes of the Annual Assembly (pre meeting) held on the 21st March 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.

215 – Olney Ward Forum – Meeting held 9/3/16. This was not attended. It was noted that the next Olney Ward Forum clashed with the EU Referendum. The clerk to find out the rescheduled date for the meeting. **KG**

214 –EPFC – Meeting held 15/3/16 – The clerk reported that the Grand National Lunch had been a success with profits on ticket sales amounting to £956 and a further £300 profit from bar takings.

127 – Parishes Forum – Meeting held 24/3/16. This meeting was not attended.

Update from Ward Councillor

Plan:MK – Councillor Geary reported that the consultation had closed and that not a lot had happened. The Ward Councillors had responded referring to the Core Strategy. Councillor Cheney referred to the flood plain. Councillor Geary responded that there was a definitive line from the Flood Agency and this would not

change and you could not build on the flood plain unless you created more flood storage.

Olney Neighbourhood Plan – Councillor Geary commented that this was in the final stage. The Housing Needs Assessment was undertaken internally and OTC were given a housing target which they had to meet. The referendum would be at the end of May.

High Street resurfacing – The clerk reported that she had noted that MKC had stated that the footway in High Street was being repaired, not highway resurfacing. Councillor Geary suggested the clerk email Tony Toynton and Kim Hills.

KG

Councillor Geary left the meeting.

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

2.1.1 **Village Plan** – The clerk had previously circulated the notes from a meeting held with MKC to discuss a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Horton commented that as the parish had no shop, the major consideration was the growth in housing in the village and where the growth should be. Councillor V McLean suggested an open meeting in the summer to explain to residents what the parish council was looking to do and what was wanted from the village. It was agreed that the clerk should go back to ask Diane Webber how to go about designating the area for a Neighbourhood Plan.

KG

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – The clerk emailed MKC for an update on 4th April. Response from Andy Burton as follows: The Petsoe issue is in the queue with a number of other PPO & DMMO reports needing to be drafted. I have looked at the report from Mike Walker in detail. It is thorough and raises some issues that make this a particularly difficult issue to report. The answer may be that one report will be insufficient, 2 most likely and a potential for a third. This will break down the separate difficult issues into a manageable whole. It would be my intention that both (all three) reports go before the same Committee at the same time. However although I can get the reports done I must send these to the land owner with time for comments before I can make these publicly available. The land owner has already stated she needs time to consider her response. As a result, I am unable to predict which Committee date this subject will be considered. This situation is not likely to change until mid-May at the earliest.

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – The clerk reported that Councillors had now changed their decision to have green village signs and that a decision needed to be made on size, design and material. Signs of the Time provided estimates for polyurethane signs which Olney had and is the material most used. Estimates have not been received from Rock Foundry who produced the signs for Weston Underwood or for Croft Cast Signs, details of which were found on the internet. The sign on the Newton Road was 1050mm x 270mm and just stated “Emberton” and had also been damaged, probably by a vehicle. The other two signs which stated “Emberton” and underneath “Please drive carefully” were 1710mm x 600mm.

A discussion took place regarding the material for the signs with Councillor Horton recommending that the clerk take advice from MKC highways. It was proposed by Councillor V McLean and seconded by Councillor Horton that the colouring for the signs be green with cream lettering. The clerk to contact the insurers and also MKC.

KG

- 2.1.85 **Kerb stones, West Lane** – An email was sent to Ward Councillors on the 16th March and no response received. It was agreed that the clerk should write to MKC. **KG**
- 2.1.91 **Damaged fence around Field 13** – No response from MKC. The clerk reported that the sheep were out on the old pitch and putt in Emberton Park and in the playing field on the 4th and 5th April. The clerk to write directly to the tenant, Mr Reynolds. **KG**
- 2.1.93 **Tree overhanging West Lane from Stone Court** – The clerk reported that no complaints had been received, it was agreed that this be removed from the Agenda.
- 2.1.94 **Dog waste bin, Newport Road** – The clerk made enquiries with MKC for permission to site the dog waste bin on MKC grass verge.
- 2.2 **High Street, resurfacing** – See item under Ward Councillor update.
- 3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**
- 3.1 **Emberton Park** - Nothing to report.
- 3.6 **Parish Related**
- 3.6.1 **Website** – The clerk to check the email address for Councillor Vicki McLean and to request that the website page colour be changed to blue. **KG**
- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Article put in Well & Towers regarding enforcement in February.
- 3.6.16 **Clock tower – upgrade of time side** – Work completed. The clerk to speak to Ken Harris regarding holding the key and see if Simon Harris would put the flag up. **KG**
- 3.6.97 **Clean for the Queen** – Footpaths jet washed on the 15th/16th March. The clerk reported that she had cleaned most of the village street name plates including Newton Road and Prospect Place and attempted to clean the Petsoe signs on the triangle but the traffic was too busy. The clerk went on to state that a resident had written regarding the footpath in West Lane and asked whether the area that had been missed could be addressed and congratulated the parish council on undertaking the cleansing in recognition of the Queen’s 90th Birthday. Councillor V McLean commented that the clerk should report the Petsoe sign to MKC via their website, stating that an attempt had been made to clean it. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed that Pro-Max be asked to address the area that had been missed. **KG**
- The clerk raised the issue of the beacon on the playing field being lit on the 22nd April for the Queen’s 90th Birthday. The clerk to speak to the playing field. **KG**
- 3.7 **Minerals Plan** – Update from MKC that the Milton Keynes Minerals Local Plan was submitted to the Secretary of State on 31st March 2016. The Submission Local Plan will now be examined for its compliance with statutory requirements and on its soundness by an independent inspector appointed by the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.23 **Localism Bill and Community Right to Bid** – It was agreed that this should be taken back to the Playing Field Committee Meeting on the 10th May. **PF**

3.39 **Olney Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Cheney to have a look at the Neighbourhood Plan for Olney and circulate comments.

CC

3.62 **Plan:MK** – Reported on under Update from Ward Councillor.

4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that Councillor Flowers had been asked to call a meeting and had failed to do so as he wanted to do it by telephone but the committee wanted a meeting as there were now two applications, one from Chicheley and one from Olney Church Hall. It was agreed that the clerk would email Councillor Flowers.

KG

4.109 **14/00407/FUL** – Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund. Councillor Hall reported that the committee had met on the 4th April and three applications had been approved. Councillor White asked if the parish council could purchase the equipment for the grant application from the allotment holders. The clerk explained that if the parish council purchased the equipment, it would need to retain ownership of the equipment in order to claim back VAT and also be responsible for the upkeep and insurance. Councillors agreed that this was not acceptable and that allotment holders would have to make their own arrangements for purchasing the equipment.

4.165 **16/00712/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce and reshape by 1 to 2 metres to 2 x Cherry Tree (T1 and T2), 1 x Field Maple (T3) to to crown raise to 2.5m to Silver Birch group (G1) at 1 Home Farm Court for Mr K McLean. Councillor V McLean left the meeting for this agenda item. It was agreed that the clerk should write to MKC stating that the parish council were in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer.

4.166 **16/00584/FUL** – Variation of condition 1 attached to application 1500366/FUL for amendments to the approved plans at Emberton Solar Park, Newton Road. There were no objections to this application.

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

5.1 **RFO's Report** - The RFO's report for the 11th April 2016 was accepted.

5.2 **Cooperative Bank, second current account and internet banking** – It was proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Gibson and unanimously agreed that a second current account be set up with the Co-operative so that the funds from the solar farm community benefit fund could be ring fenced.

5.3 **Approval of Internal Auditor** – It was proposed by Councillor Cheney and seconded by Councillor Horton that Mr Chris Davies be appointed as Internal Auditor.

5.4 **Clerk's Salary Review** – Councillor Gibson commented that he would have a conversation regarding the clerk's salary review with Councillor V McLean.

5.5 **A H Contracts** – Payment for emptying dog waste bins for the month of March and supply and installation of dog bin in playing field in the sum of £275.02. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.

- 5.6 **All Saints' Church Emberton** – Payment for using water supply for jet washing footpaths in the sum of £10.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.7 **Mr T P Wibaut** – Payment for bus shelter cleaning for December, January and February in the sum of £75.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.8 **Antrams Payroll Services** – Payment for quarterly payroll in the sum of £39.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.9 **All Saints' Church Emberton** – Payment for grant from Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund for purchase of dishwasher in the sum of £984.41. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.10 **EUC** – Payment for grant from Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund towards refurbishment of Institute toilets in the sum of £1,992.00. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.11 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's March salary in the sum of £597.12. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.12 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's telephone/computer and expenses for March in the sum of £21.72. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.
- 5.13 **Mrs K Goss** – Payment for clerk's 2015/2016 holiday pay in the sum of £639.83. Payment proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor V McLean and unanimously agreed by all those present.

KG

6. CORRESPONDENCE – is now listed in the Wallet

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 **Village publicity** – Website, Neighbourhood Plan

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor White raised a concern regarding suspicious vehicles parking at Westpits. The clerk reported that Thames Valley Police had advised residents to report any suspicious incident to them on 101.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 9th May 2016 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

All