

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 9th April 2018

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson (Chairman)
 Councillor Vicki McLean
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs V Drury (part meeting)
 Mr A McGrandle (part meeting)
 Mrs I McGrandle (part meeting)
 Mr A Soul (part meeting)
 Mr D Soul (part meeting)
 Mrs S Soul (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence - Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Richard Laval and Ward Councillors Peter Geary and David Hosking.

Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda – There were no Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda.

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

The residents were invited to address the meeting.

Mr McGrandle stated that he had submitted a letter of objection to the planning application at West Farm Way and went through his response with Councillors and stated that he hoped the parish council would support his objection. Mr McGrandle stated that there was one question that had not been raised and this was one of “change of use”. The clerk to ascertain whether a change of use was required. Mr McGrandle stated that the application was not very defined; the plans were wrong and the scales were different.

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Mrs Soul stated that she had lived in Emberton for forty years and when the other properties were developed in the 1990s, they were done sympathetically so that windows did not overlook existing properties. The proposed application had windows overlooking the rear of Mrs Soul’s property.

Mr D Soul responded that he was the applicant but the owner of the property was his mother, Mrs L Soul and that the footprint of the barn was exactly the same. Councillor Flowers asked if the walls were being made thinner. Mr Soul

responded that they were not.

Mr A Soul asked how the soil was being removed off site. Mr D Soul responded that this would either be through the back of the barn or the back of Mount's Farm garage.

Mrs V Drury, Mr A McGrandle, Mrs I McGrandle, Mr A Soul & Mrs S Soul left the meeting.

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

254 - Dates for Commitment and meeting venue – The dates for commitment were noted. It was felt that the small meeting room of The Institute was no longer suitable for meetings as it did not provide enough space and The Pavilion was more suitable as it had a television which could be used for viewing large documents. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor White and unanimously agreed that arrangements be put in hand to move the meetings to The Pavilion. The clerk to advise Emberton United Charity.

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214 – EPFC/ESSC – Meetings held 13/3/18 & 27/3/18. It was noted that the Constitutions were accepted at the AGM on the 27th March and the elections of officers took place. Vicki McLean was appointed Chairman, Vice Chairman to be put on hold, Karen Goss as Secretary and Sue Harris had resigned as Treasurer but would stay on the committee. A new treasurer was required and there was still an issue with bookings secretary but some volunteers had come forward.

215 – Olney Ward Forum – Meeting held 21/3/18. This was not attended.

127 – Parishes Forum – Meeting held 22/3/18. Councillor Gibson reported that landscape contracts were discussed and expressions of interest from parish councils had to be with MKC by June. Concern was raised that there would not be funds left for smaller councils if larger councils took over their own landscape contract.

Update from Ward Councillor

A509 – Ward Councillor McLean reported that the A509 had been litter picked again and he would ask about the signs that had been left.

Emberton Park – Electric charging points for vehicles have been installed in the car park. The clerk asked Ward Councillor McLean what measures were in place to deal with the large number of visitors into the park for Vaisaky. Ward Councillor McLean suggested that the clerk wrote to Tom Blackburn-Maize, Nick Hannon and Maurice Barnes regarding this.

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18/00643/FUL – Ward Councillor McLean stated that if the application came forward, he would recommend it for deferral and ask the planning officer to come out and meet with both the applicant and objectors and for the parish council to be present.

Gravel Walk (planning enforcement) – Councillor Gibson stated that the application to remove the stone wall at 2 Gravel Walk had been refused and MKC

enforcement had now stated that they would not be enforcing the breach which suggested confusion in the planning policy. Ward Councillor McLean stated that the parish council were right in going for enforcement and advised that it would be worth writing to Brett Leahy with the concerns raised. Councillor V McLean asked whether it would be worth asking Mr Leahy to come and talk to the parish council regarding how planning applications were dealt with. Ward Councillor McLean stated that the parish council could invite someone from planning to a meeting and look at plans that might have previously been looked at. Ward Councillor McLean also stated that MKC planning had said that they would run some training sessions.

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Ward Councillor McLean left the meeting at 8.20pm

- 4.210 **18/00643/FUL** – Conversion and extension of an existing stone barn to a two bedroom residential property at barn set back from West Farm Way for Mr D Soul. Councillor Flowers stated that it was very difficult to make a decision with this planning item as there were so many flaws in the application. Councillor Gibson responded that he did not believe the parish council could support it because of the issues that had been raised. The clerk to draft an email response to the planning department.

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Mr D Soul left the meeting at 8.30pm

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

- 2.1.13 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk contacted MKC's public transport department who agreed to write to the Bridge Club regarding parking around The Institute. The clerk made MKC aware that there had been problems with parking on other evenings and that driver error might be partly to blame. It was noted that Councillor Geary had stated at the Annual Assembly that there would not be a loss of the bus service following cuts in the budget and that MKC had stated that the bus might stop coming through the village if the parking around the Institute did not improve. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

- 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.

3. **SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

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

3.6 **Parish related**

- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – The clerk provided Councillors with the latest data from the SID deployments and stated that a demonstration of Speed Watch was taking place in Emberton on the 4th May. The clerk to put the SID data on the parish council website.

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- 3.6.16 **Clock tower damage** – The clerk contacted A Plant regarding the necessary permits for the highway. Awaiting response.

- 3.6.48 **Alison Fraser Walk** – A resident reported that the boundary fence of Mounts

House at the bottom end (playing field) of Alison Fraser Walk had been removed. The clerk to write to the resident to ask that this be reinstated.

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3.6.50 **Dog fouling – dog waste bins** – The clerk reported that a letter had been received from A H Contracts stating that they were no longer able to offer the service for emptying the dog waste bins. The clerk contacted Marcus Young Landscapes who quoted £2.50 per bin per week plus vat (A H Contracts £2.69 per bin per week plus vat). The clerk advised Marcus Young that the quote was acceptable (following approval by Councillors via email) and requested that the contract started week commencing 9th April. Response received stating that this was acceptable and that the parish council would be invoiced yearly rather than monthly.

3.47 **Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document March 2018** – It was noted that this comes into effect on the 1st September. No response on this consultation.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Next meeting to be held on the 25th April.

3.86 **Reform of data protection legislation and introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation** – This will come into effect in May.

3.92 **Consultation on deregulating city square in Central Milton Keynes** – No response to this consultation.

4. **PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES**

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that a meeting was held on March 23rd and the Committee awarded a grant of £1,000 to Astwood village hall for their lighting. The next meeting would be held on the 1st June.

4.109 **Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Hall reported that a meeting was held on the 9th April and a grant awarded in the sum of £1,000 to the All Saints' Church Bell Ringers for 6 new bell ropes.

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). It was noted previously that MKC were not enforcing the decision and it was agreed that the clerk write to Mr Leahy for his comments.

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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 – **application withdrawn**

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 - **permitted**

- 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 noted that MKC highways had objected to the application due to safety issues at the entrance to the A509. It was proposed by Councillor White, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed to object to the application based on the report by MKC highways. The clerk to respond accordingly.
- 4.207 **17/03386/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 – **permitted**
- 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 – **pending decision**
- 4.209 **18/00523/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to discharge of condition 6 (new access) attached to planning permission 14/01497/FUL at Chaff Barn, 2 Manor Court, Olney Road for Mr & Mrs Geary – **details approved**
- 4.210 **18/00643/FUL** – reported on above.
5. **ACCOUNTS** – to agree payments and items, as listed below
- 5.1 **RFO's Report** – The RFO's Report for the year ending 31st March 2018 and 9th April 2018 were accepted.
- 5.2 **Co-operative Bank – change of signatories** –The clerk reported that Councillor Laval was now a signatory to the current account.
- 5.3 **Clerk's review** – The clerk left the meeting during the discussions regarding this item. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor White and unanimously agreed that the clerk's hourly rate be increased by 3.5% with effect from the 1st April 2018. Councillor Hall thanked the clerk for her work in the past year.
- 5.4 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**
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| A H Contracts – emptying dog waste bins for | £77.47 |
| Emberton Sports & Social Club – pavilion hire | £30.00 |
| Anglian Water Business Ltd (National) – supply at allotments | £25.45 |
| BMKALC – Annual subscription for 2018/2019 | £111.04 |
| Mr S Gibson – Chairman's expenses | £38.28 |
| Antrams Payroll Services – quarterly payroll | £39.00 |
| Mrs K Goss – clerk's March salary | £588.55 |
| Mrs K Goss – 2017/2018 holiday pay | £730.57 |
| Mrs K Goss – clerk's March comp/telephone expenses | £18.00 |

Payments proposed by Councillor Horton, seconded by Councillor Hall and

unanimously agreed by all those present. The clerk to make the payments by BACS transfer.

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6. CORRESPONDENCE – All correspondence previously circulated via email.

6.1 Letter from Emberton United Charity – Trustee appointment. There were no objections to Sue Soul being appointed as a Trustee of Emberton United Charity. The clerk to respond accordingly and ask that EUC removes the clause from their Constitution which states that Trustees must be approved by the parish council.

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7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 **Village publicity** – SID data on website, dog bins. Councillor Laval to provide an update for the Neighbourhood Plan.

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7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor Gibson stated that it would be a good idea for the parish council to have their own laptop which could be used by the clerk and for meetings.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is confirmed at Monday 14th May 2018 at 7.30pm in **the Pavilion.**

All

The meeting closed at 9.25pm