

Emberton Parish Council
Minutes of Annual Meeting held in The Pavilion
Monday 15th May 2023 at 7pm

Present:

Cllr Melanie Duncan – Chair
 Cllr Paul Flowers
 Cllr Angela Laval
 Cllr Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Election of Chairman – It was proposed by Cllr Laval and seconded by Cllr Flowers that Cllr Duncan be appointed Chair. Cllr Duncan accepted the proposal and took the Chair.

Election of Vice-Chairman – There were no nominations for Vice Chair and it was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting.

Signing of Acceptance of Office – The signing of acceptance of office was duly completed by Cllr Duncan.

Update of Register of Members' Interests – The clerk commented that although this was not strictly necessary, it was deemed good practice by the internal auditor. It was agreed to carry this forward to the next meeting.

Parish councillor vacancy – As there had not been any applications, it was agreed to advertise the vacancy again in the Well & Towers, on Emberton Echo and facebook and to approach those who had previously put their name forward. **Action: KG**

Election of Parish Council representative to the Sports & Recreation Committee – It was proposed by Cllr Flowers and seconded by Cllr Laval that Cllr Palmer be nominated as the parish council representative to the Sports & Recreation Committee.

Election of Parish Council representative to the Sports & Social Club Committee – It was proposed by Cllr Duncan and seconded by Cllr White that Cllr Flowers be nominated as the parish council representative to the Sports & Social Club Committee.

Election of Parish Council representative to the Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee – It was proposed by Cllr Flowers and seconded by Cllr Flowers that Cllr White be nominated as the parish council representative to the Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee.

Election of three Parish Councillors to the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee – It was proposed by Cllr Duncan and seconded by Cllr Laval that Cllrs White, Flowers and Jamieson be nominated as the parish council representatives to the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund Committee.

Election of two Parish Council representatives to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Committee

– It was proposed by Cllr Flowers and seconded by Cllr Duncan that Cllrs Jamieson and White be appointed as representatives to the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group. Cllr Laval stated that she would be willing to join the group. The clerk to advise the Chair of the steering group. **Action: KG**

Election of two Parish Council representative to the Emberton Park Liaison User’s Group – It was proposed by Cllr Duncan and seconded by Cllr Flowers that Cllrs Laval and White be appointed as representatives to the PLUG. The clerk to advise Laura Clancy. **Action: KG**

Nominate Parish Council representatives to attend Milton Keynes Council Meetings – Parishes Forum (Chair and Vice Chair) – The clerk commented that the representatives were usually the Chair and Vice Chair. Cllr Duncan to attend and when appointed would attend alternate meetings with the Vice Chair.

Nominate Parish Council representative to attend North East Rural Community Forum – It was proposed by Cllr Duncan and seconded by Cllr Laval that Cllr Flowers be appointed as the representative to the North East Rural Community Forum.

To accept Apologies for Absence – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Jamieson, Cllr Palmer, Ward Cllr Peter Geary, Ward Cllr Debbie Whitworth, and Mr Ralph Mynn.

Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda – Cllr Duncan declared an interest in item 2.1.17.

1. To confirm the **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 3rd April 2023 – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd April were agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

To confirm the **MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING** held on the 21st April 2023 – The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 21st were agreed following the noting that the meeting finished at 11.20am and not 11.20pm and were duly signed by the Chair.

- 1.2 **Public questions** – No members of the public were present.

- 1.3 **Risk** – It was noted that the noticeboard had been repaired as the frame was coming away from the glass. Further items of concern; parking around The Forge limiting access by emergency vehicles, access to the playing field via residents’ gardens and access to field by general public. It was agreed to carry this latter issue forward to the next meeting.

2. **TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND AGREE ANY DECISIONS/ACTION**

- 2.1 **Ward Councillors’ Report** – report from Ward Cllr McLean as follows:

21 bus – meeting to be held at MKCC the next day with Red Rose.

Elections – David Hosking was not elected. New Ward Cllr is Debbie Whitworth.

Ousedale School – this has not affected any residents in the village but it was still hoped that there would be an additional class this September and the ward councillors were working hard to ensure that in 2024 there would not be the same issue.

Travellers – travellers had moved into Sherington on the 21st April. Ward Cllrs had written to MKCC to ask them to consider an exclusion area. It was noted that MK did not have any transit sites.

Hollington Wood – the case had now been heard and a response was awaited by the Inspector.

- 2.2 **Thames Valley Police** – the report from PCSO Huckle was noted.
- 2.3 **North East Rural Community Forum (26.4.23)** – Cllr Flowers stated that the crime figures were noted and it was explained that some of the crimes were linked. The meeting discussed the use of speed watch and it was noted that PCSOs could attend but not be involved.
- 2.4 **Dates for Diaries** – The dates for diaries were noted.
- 2.5 **Clerk's Report**
- 2.1.17 **Bridleway claim at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.
- 2.1.50 **Pothole, Olney Road** – The pothole in Olney Road (outside 67) had been repaired as had 2 others that had recently been reported.
- 2.1.55 **Fly tipping between Newport Road and Prospect Place** – It was agreed to keep this on the agenda with a note in the Well & Towers asking residents to report fly tipping.
- 2.1.82 **Residents parking – Hulton Drive** – Cllr Flowers questioned whether car owners understood where the parking scheme was in force in Hulton Drive.
- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Speedwatch has been undertaken on two occasions on Olney Road in April/May.
- 3.6.30 **Allotments** – In an email on the 4th April, MKCC legal department confirmed that their public liability insurance covered the allotments at Emberton. The clerk emailed the estates department to chase the transfer of the allotments from MKCC to EPC on 10th May. Response received that Nicholas Hannon asked Estates to pick it up but they are currently working through a very high workload. Paul Freeman will ask the surveyor assigned to contact EPC but it may be a while before this is completed.
- The question was raised as to when the allotments were listed as a Community Asset Transfer. The clerk to investigate this. **Action: KG.**
- 3.6.63 **Newton Road/Petsoe End – frequent collision issues** – nothing to report.
- 3.6.68 **Well at Petsoe End** – Update requested from Ward Cllr Geary.
- 3.6.114 **Steps in High Street (no 5)** – This has now been installed although outside property number 3 as MKCC felt that this was the better location. The clerk has spoken to the resident and this is acceptable. **It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.**
- 3.6.116 **No HGV's - Newport Road** – The sign has now been installed and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
- 3.6.117 **Signage for Petsoe Manor Farm & Grange Farm** – Cllr Duncan received a call from a

resident in Petsode End stating that a grain lorry trying to find Grange Farm at Petsoe Manor had got lost and churned up the verge, blocking up drainage, trying to manoeuvre back around the bend. The resident was worried for the culvert that runs under the road there, saying it may well collapse under the weight of these vehicles.

It could be helpful to put signage up for Petsoe Manor Farm and Grange Farm at the junction where you choose between Petsoe Manor and Petsoe End, pointing up the hill. The clerk to approach the residents of both properties. **Action: KG.**

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – It was noted that the scheduled meeting had not taken place. A discussion took place regarding the comment Cllr Laval had referred to under item 1.3 with it being noted that park users were parking further into the village due to the residents parking scheme and consideration in the park should be given to short term parking. Cllr Flowers responded that this would mean a whole new parking scheme which would be expensive.
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – It was noted that the neighbourhood plan was now in the next consultation phase (9th May to 20th June) with the consultation statement having been amended to reflect all the responses previously received. Cllr Laval commented that if there was space, she would arrange for a colour copy of the leaflet to be on the back page of the magazine.
- 3.85 **Emberton School (School House Fund)** – The clerk reported that no response had been received from the Chair of the trustees. It was agreed to write to the VSF to ascertain if they had a copy of the governing document. Cllr Laval to provide a contact and the clerk to follow up. **Action: AL/KG.**
- 3.97 **Sports & Recreation Committee** – Cllr Palmer had previously sent information regarding a part funded grant from the Football Foundation covering a six-year period for improving the large football pitch. It was noted that the SRC would fund the remainder of the grant through pitch hire. Cllr Duncan suggested that some funds could be held back through the maintenance grant. The clerk reported that the bench funded by Newport Pagnell Lions and a donation from the parish council was now in place and a plaque had been erected on a tree by the SRC in memory of Mr Mann.
- 3.99 **Conservation area – review of 1997 Conservation Area Statement by MKC** – Nothing to report.
- 3.102 **Public footpaths in Emberton/cycle links from Emberton to Olney and Sherington** – The email received from Mr Mynn was discussed and it was agreed to take the contents of the email to the PLUG meeting. **Action: AL/HW.**
- 3.103 **Demand Responsive Transport (21 bus service)** – It was noted that a meeting was due to take place with MKCC and Red Rose on the 16th May. **Action: MD/KG.**
- 3.113 **Climate Change** – The clerk referred to the foam machine for weed spraying, the information for which had been shared by clerks previously. It was agreed to contact the current contractor to ascertain whether there were any effective eco-friendly methods of weed killing. **Action: KG.** Paul Flowers suggested a hydroelectric power scheme at the Olney weir could be feasible, if the landowners on both sides of the river and the Environment Agency agreed to it. The

meeting agreed that Paul Flowers should raise this with a representative of OTC as a first step.
Action: PF.

- 3.115 **Grit bins** – The clerk received an email from highways stating that Olney Road was already on the route for gritting. It was noted that this did not refer to footpaths. The clerk to write again. **Action: KG.**

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Cllr White reported that a meeting had been held but he could not attend.

- 4.2 **Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

previous applications status

- 4.336 **21/00249/COMPCH** – Appeal by Mr Philip Solt against an enforcement notice served for Without planning permission, the unauthorised change of use of part of the land and operational development **Land** at Hollington Wood, Newport – **pending**
- 4.337 **21/00249/COMPCH** – Appeal by Special Ops HQ against an enforcement notice served for Without planning permission, the unauthorised change of use of part of the land and operational development **Land** at Hollington Wood, Newport Road – **pending**
- 4.352 **23/00342/OUT** – Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for the redevelopment of the Acorn (MK) Nurseries site for up to 29 no. dwellings including affordable housing, alongside access and other off-site highways improvements, following the demolition and removal of all existing structures and hardstanding from the site at Acorn MK Nurseries, Newton Road – **nothing to report.**
- 4.353 **23/00121/HOU** – Single storey rear extension to create new bedroom with ensuite wet room and alteration to the flat roof area on the front elevation to a pitched roof at 1 Harvey Drive – **permitted**
- 4.354 **23/00286/HOU** – The erection of a single storey side extension. Partial removal of hedgerow and widening of existing driveway at Old Paddock, West Lane – **permitted**
- 4.355 **23/00531/DISCON** – Approval of details required by conditions 4 (Roof materials samples) and 5 (stonework sample) of permission ref 22/00771/LBC at The Coach House, 19A High Street – **conditions discharged**

New applications

- 4.356 **23/00642/DISCON** - Approval of details required by condition 6 (Windows and doors) of permission ref. 22/00771/LBC At: The Coach House 19A High Street – It was agreed to respond stating that the parish council would agree with the recommendations made by MKCC’s conservation officer. **Action: KG**
- 4.357 **23/00677/HOU** - The erection of a first-floor upwards extension, the conversion of the garage to living accommodation, front covered porch, and alterations to existing fenestration. The erection of a two-storey car port and alterations to existing driveway at Orchard End. 4 The

Paddock – It was agreed to respond that Emberton Parish Council would like to request that consideration to overshadowing and loss of privacy is given when the officer makes their recommendations regarding this application. **Action: KG**

- 4.358 **23/00727/HOU** - External changes to the front elevation comprising the replacement of 2 external doors (ground floor and first floor), and matching paintwork to one external door and external timbers (window frames and recessed main entrance) at The Granary, 3 Manor Court, Olney Road - It was agreed to respond stating that the parish council would agree with the recommendations made by MKCC's conservation officer. **Action: KG**

5. ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **To receive the RFO's Report for the 15th May 2023** and approve payments. It was proposed by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Flowers that the payments be approved as per the RFO's Report. Cllr White to approve the payments online. **Action: HW.**
- 5.2 **Community Infrastructure Fund** – The clerk reported on the opportunity for funding from the Community Infrastructure Fund for highways improvements including Speed Indicator Devices. It was agreed that the clerk should seek estimates for a solar powered Speed Indicator Device so that the possibility of also applying to the Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund could be explored. **Action: KG.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE – No correspondence received.

- 6.1 **Letter from Cobbs Garden Surgery** – A response had been received from Cobbs Garden Surgery stating that funding for the new building was not approved by Bedfordshire, Luton, and Milton Keynes Integrated care board due to lack of funding to support it. Cobbs was hopeful that the project would move ahead in the future and if funding became available, it was the current intention to open the surgery list to patients from all surrounding villages including Emberton.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

- 7.1 **Village publicity** – Cobbs Garden Surgery, potholes, neighbourhood plan, 21 bus, fly tipping, councillor vacancy. **Action: KG**
- 7.2 **Cllrs' concerns** – Cllr White commented that there was a loose tile on the roof of the Bell & Bear. Cllr Laval to take this back to the Bell & Bear. **Action: AL.**
8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 5th June 2023 at 7pm to be held at the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 8.57pm