

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 5th June 2017

Present:

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman
 Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs Rebecca Young – Resident (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Update of Register of Members' Interests – Councillors Hall and Flowers – Councillors Hall and Flowers duly updated their Register of Members' Interests.

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

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

Mrs Young was invited to address the meeting. Mrs Young stated that she lived at 15 Gravel Walk in the cottage at the end of the lane and there were three leylandii trees outside her property but they were not on her land. Mrs Young commented that the trees were quite overgrown and dangerous and were a nuisance with nesting pigeons and causing issues with the pavement lifting up and cracking in the garage. Previous dialogue with MKC had ascertained that the trees belonged to housing and MKC had advised that a resident in Gravel Walk had objected to them being taken down. Councillor V McLean asked if the cracking in the garage had appeared since the last communication. Mrs Young responded that it had. Ward Councillor McLean stated that the issue was not really within the parish council's remit but that if Mrs Young provided him with a summary of events and some photographs, he would take the issue up with the appropriate department within Milton Keynes Council.

Mrs Young left the meeting at 7.45pm

1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 8th May 2017 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

2. 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.

2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

- 2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – The clerk reported that she had received an update from MKC stating that the in house solicitor dealing with the case had now left the Council and as soon as a new officer was appointed, the case would be discussed in detail. Ward Councillor McLean recommended that the clerk write to Sharon Bridglalsingh at MKC to express concern at the time taken to resolve the issue of the footpath at Petsoe End and the fact that the case was not handed over to another officer to deal with before the in house solicitor left the Council. **KG**
- 2.1.24 **Weeds** - A discussion took place regarding the weeds in Emberton. Ward Councillor McLean reported that £50,000 was left in the budget for weed spraying. The clerk to report the weeds to MKC. **KG**
- 2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Grant awarded for 50% of the project. The clerk contacted Andy McGrandle regarding the design of the clock tower for the signs.
- 2.1.73 Confidential item
- 2.1.100 **Bus stop, triangle at Petsoe End** – Awaiting confirmation from MKC that funding will be made available for the signs.

Update from Ward Councillor

Waste Strategy – Councillor McLean reported that it had been agreed that the Waste Strategy would go back to Cabinet with a view of the consultation being passed back to officers to look at green waste bin charges and commented that due to the timescale, there would be no charges for the 2017/2018 financial year.

New Mayor – Councillor McLean reported that the new Mayor was David Hopkins who had visited Emberton School.

Neighbourhood Plans – Councillor McLean reported that there were various Neighbourhood Plans at various stages across the Ward being discussed and it might be worth working together; consultants could run a workshop for all parishes.

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – The clerk to write to Maurice Barnes, MKC to request a meeting before the end of July. **KG**
- 3.2 **Parish Partnership Fund** – Following a discussion, it was agreed not to make application to the Parish Partnership Fund for the 2017/2018 financial year.
- 3.6 **Parish related**
- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – The clerk reported that the recent Speed Indicator Device deployment had provided startling results with the maximum speed in Olney Road heading north of 72mph and 55mph for vehicles heading south along Olney Road. The clerk also reported that Serco had to ask a resident to move their vehicle so that they could undertake refuse collection as a visitor to the park had parked their vehicle, causing an obstruction. Councillor Gibson commented that two actions could help the issues; the Police camera van could

help with speeding as would removing the yellow lines in Olney Road, allowing vehicles to park. The clerk to look into this for the next meeting.

KG

- 3.6.30 **Allotments** – The report from Anglian Water was noted.
- 3.6.48 **Alison Fraser Walk** – The clerk reported that the damaged gatepost in Alison Fraser Walk was in hand and also reported that the footpath was becoming overgrown. Councillor Hall to ask Peter Hall to cut the footpath back. SH
- 3.6.98 **Drainage investigation at Petsoe End** – The clerk emailed for an update on the 31st May, response awaited.
- 3.6.101 **Christmas lights for Emberton** – Nothing to report. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda as no proposal had been put forward by residents.
- 3.6.102 **Bench, The Forge** – The clerk reported that a resident from The Forge had commented that the bench next to the school house was in need of repair. The clerk spoke to Peter Wibaut who agreed to rub down the bench and treat it with oil and also remove the overgrowing vegetation.
- 3.23 **Field 13** – Nothing to report.
- 3.62 **Plan:MK** – Consultation runs until 9th June.
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor V McLean reported that a kick off Steering Group Meeting had taken place on the 11th May and the turn out was quite disappointing and that representation was required from Honey Hill, Newport Road or Petsoe End. Richard Laval was appointed Chairman, Andy McGrandle was appointed Vice Chair and Councillors V McLean and Cynthia Cheney were appointed parish council representatives but everyone was welcome to attend and join in. The next meeting would be held on the 14th June.
- 3.83 **Solving the problem of litter in Milton Keynes – email from Richard Rook** – Nothing to report.
- 3.84 **Emberton Landscape Maintenance Contract with MKC** – The clerk reported that she had met Kay Pettit from MKC and discussed that the Serco contract was due for renewal in 2020 and it was unknown whether any services would be cut. This issue to be discussed at the next Parishes Forum.
- 3.85 **Proposed Federation of Emberton School, Newton Blossomville C of E School, North Crawley C of E School, Sherington C of E School, Stoke Goldington C of E First School and St Andrew's C of E School** - Councillor Flowers reported that the federation had been planned for some time and came about because of the cut backs in education. Ward Councillor McLean commented that the first part of the federation would be to look at land and questioned what would happen if an Academy Trust took over. It was agreed that the clerk respond to MKC to support the proposal and to seek assurance that if the federation went ahead that measures were put in place to safeguard Emberton School and also the playing field. KG
- 3.86 **Reform of data protection legislation and introduction of the General Data**

Protection Regulation – The clerk reported that a legal briefing note had been received from NALC stating that the General Data Protection Regulation would require some organisations such as public authorities to appoint a Data Protection Officer and it was not known whether the requirement would extend to parish councils.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.2 Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that there was not a meeting scheduled and it was only likely that there would be one when any funds came into the account in October.
- 4.109 Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Hall reported that a meeting had taken place on the 22nd May and applications had been approved for All Saints’ Church for a gala tent, ESSC for a television, ESSC for an alarm system, Well & Towers History Society for lighting, and Emberton Parish Council for village signs. An application from the Neighbourhood Steering Group was deferred pending further details.
- 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**
- 4.187 17/00602/FUL** – Replacement of the bird gate at the North Porch with a solid timber double door at All Saints’ Church, Church Lane - **permitted**
- 4.188 17/00632/FUL** – Part single and part two storey rear extensions at Ekeney House, Farm, Newport Road for Mr Soul – **permitted**
- 4.189 17/00760/FUL** – Construction of single storey timber stables and low level agricultural barn, installation of equestrian riding arena including change of use to mixed equestrian and agricultural use at land to the south east of Springside Cottage, Petsoe End for Mr C McGregor – **permitted**
- 4.190 17/01125/FUL** – Single storey rear extension at 4 Home Farm Court for Mrs L Heath – **pending**
- 4.191 17/00908/TCA** – Notification of intention to remove 1 x Crab Apple (T1), crown reduce 1 x Silver Birch by 4m (T2), remove 1 x Laburnum (T3), remove 1 x Apple (T4) and remove 1 x Elderberry (T5) at 1A Church Lane for Mrs K Whiting – The clerk had spoken to the applicant and more information had been forthcoming. It was agreed that the clerk write to MKC stating that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC’s tree officer. **KG**
- 4.192 17/01213/FUL** – Installation of new packaged sewage treatment plant and drainage field at The Chestnuts, Newton Road for Mrs J Chapman. There were no **KG**

objections to this application.

4.193 17/01289/PNSOL – Prior notification for the proposed installation of photovoltaic panels to the roof at Pavilion at Emberton Playing Fields, Hulton Drive for Mrs E Gibson. There were no objections to this notification. **KG**

4.194 17/01305/TCA – Notification of intention to fell 1 x Apple tree at 22 Olney Road for Mrs C Olsen – The clerk to respond to MKC stating the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC’s tree officer. **KG**

Ward Councillor McLean left the meeting at 8.50pm

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

5.1 RFO’s Report – The RFO’s Report for the 5th June 2017 was accepted.

5.2 Pension Scheme for Clerk – The clerk reported that she had undertaken the automatic enrolment on behalf of the parish council.

5.3 Approval of Draft Accounts – It was proposed by Councillor Horton and seconded by Councillor Gibson that the draft accounts be approved subject to an internal audit. Councillor Hall thanked the clerk for the work involved.

5.4 Approval of Mr C Davies as internal Auditor – It was proposed by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Gibson that Mr Davies be appointed internal auditor.

5.5 Approval of Standing Orders – It was proposed by Councillor Horton and seconded by Councillor Hall that the Standing Orders be approved.

5.6 Approval of Financial Regulations – It was proposed by Councillor Hall and seconded by Councillor Horton that the Financial Regulations be approved.

5.7 Approval of Risk Assessment - A discussion took place regarding a contingency plan if something happened to the clerk. The clerk to seek advice from the SLCC. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Hall that the Risk Assessment be approved.

5.8 Approval of Fixed Asset Register – It was proposed by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Flowers that the Fixed Asset Register be approved.

5.9 Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.

A H Contracts – emptying of dog waste bins for May	£96.84
Mr T P Wibaut – bus shelter cleaning/litter bins/watering	£102.50
Mr W D Letts – allotment maintenance	£37.50
Mrs K Goss – May salary and backpay	£469.35
Mrs K Goss – May computer/telephone/expenses	£20.22

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

6. CORRESPONDENCE – All correspondence previously circulated via email.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

7.1 Village publicity – SIDs, removal of single yellow lines, parking in Hulton Drive

KG**7.2 Councillors' Concerns**

There were no Councillors' concerns.

All**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 24th July 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute.

The Meeting closed at 9.10pm