

Emberton Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held in The Pavilion
18th July 2022 at 7pm

Present:

Cllr Harry White – Chairman
 Cllr Paul Flowers
 Cllr Colin Jamieson
 Cllr Fred Markland
 Cllr Guy Palmer

Ward Cllr Keith McLean (part meeting)

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

To accept Apologies for Absence – Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Duncan, Cllr Gibson and Ward Cllrs Peter Geary and David Hosking. In the absence of Cllr Duncan, Cllr White took the Chair.

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

1. MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on the 21st June 2022. The Minutes of the Meeting held on the 21st June 2022 were confirmed as correct and signed by the Chairman.

1.2 Public questions – There were no members of the public present.

1.3 Risk – CCTV – The clerk advised that she had contacted Tickford Security and the system was on a secure network and would therefore not be affected by a blocking device. It was agreed to obtain a third estimate. **Action: KG**

2. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND AGREE ANY DECISIONS/ACTIONS

2.1 Ward Councillors – Residents parking scheme – The yellow lines have been put down and the scheme will be enforced from the 31st July. Ward Cllr McLean reported that a soft approach would be taken for the first two weeks, rather than a £60 ticket and also suggested that signs were put up in Hulton Drive and near the park to warn drivers of the scheme. It was noted that the double yellow lines close to Emberton Park had not been refreshed.

Newport Road – Strips were put across the road in May to monitor HGV movements on Newport Road. The Highways Officer had reviewed the data gathered and would be consulting Ward Cllrs, parish cllrs and the residents about the implementation of a ban of HGV's on Newport Road and Prospect Place. Ward Cllr McLean had suggested that one, rather than 3 consultations should occur. Post meeting note – Ward Cllr wrote to the officer concerned with the suggestion of 1 consultation.

Conservation area review – Email received from Martin Ellison stating that he would be starting the conservation area review for Emberton along with other parishes in the Olney Ward, This would start in July and be completed by the end of August.

Accessibility grant – An approach had been received from a resident for a hand rail in the High Street. The scheme had been put forward by Ward Cllr McLean for the accessibility fund and had been approved. The officer would be writing to the parish council to confirm the funding.

Wheelie bins – The wheelie bin scheme would come into effect in Emberton next year, with each property having 4 bins. MKC had identified 36 properties in Emberton that might not be able to accommodate the bins. Ward Cllr McLean advised that it would be worthwhile accepting MKC's offer to undertake a village walkabout with MKC officers to confirm suitability or not of 4 bins for properties. A programme of roll outs will be available in the next few months.

Emberton School – The Department for Education had contacted both MKC and Acorn Early Years with regard to the wording of the lease. Ben Everitt MP had also written a letter of support.

Bus Service – It was noted that it was unlikely that Emberton would get the 21 bus service back as if the stop was not scheduled into Red Line's timetable, the bus driver would not be insured to make the stop. Cllr Markland asked if the 21 service affected any other parish. It was noted that Lavendon had lost most of its 21 service but had access to MK Connect and the number 41.

2.2 **North East Rural Community Forum (22/6/22)** – The clerk reported that the meeting had been attended by Graham Cox, MKC's Head of Highways who emphasised that Speedwatch was now the preferred method of traffic monitoring for Milton Keynes Council as the SIDs had come to their end of life. SIDs were still used to gain a bigger picture but they were not the first choice for enforcement. The majority of parishes attending were in agreement that the SIDs were a useful tool as they provided data over a 24-hour period for however long they were in situ and provided MKC and TVP with speeding hotspots. The clerk reported that a recent email from the road safety officer at MKC had been received regarding the community infrastructure fund and that parish councils could make a bid for SID equipment. The clerk to forward the information to Ward Cllr McLean. **Action: KG.**

2.3 **PLUG (23/6/22)** – Cllr Markland attended the PLUG Meeting on the 23rd June and reported that there was a commitment to look at a management plan and a date of October given but he was not sure if this was a draft. There was still more work to do on the trees and tidying up around the areas where they had been taken down. There wouldn't be any action regarding the flooding within in the park with access between Emberton and Olney on the outside of the park. It was noted that this area was designed to flood to alleviate problems elsewhere. The café was offering a 10% discount on a cup of coffee for customers that had to pay the increased fee to enter the park. There was a discussion regarding closing the gates within the park but access would be permitted for fishing and caravan owners. There was an issue now that the residents parking scheme had come into effect with vehicles parking at the entrance to the park on the verge. It was noted that there were already yellow lines on the highway outside the park which included parking on the grass verge. Ward Cllr McLean suggested that the parish council ask MKC to enforce the yellow lines outside the park along with the residents parking scheme. **Action: KG.** There was a concern from the caravan owners regarding the lack of security. Reference was made to the Steering Group with Ward Cllr McLean commenting that whatever was reported on at the PLUG meeting was taken back to the Steering Group.

2.4 **Dates for Diaries** – These were noted.

2.5 Clerk's Report

- 2.1.17 **Bridleway claim at Petsoe End** – The clerk requested an update from rights of way on 15th June. Update received on 24th June stating that the consultant was currently undertaking research in areas such as historical mapping and speaking with relevant individuals to ensure MKC were in the best prepared position for the Planning Inspectorate.
- 2.1.55 **Fly tipping between Newport Road and Prospect Place** – Issue followed up by Ward Councillors. The clerk requested data on fly tipping from MKC’s customer services on 15th June. No response received. **Action: KG to chase.**
- 2.1.82 **Residents parking – Hulton Drive** – Reported on under item 2.1.
- 2.1.112 **Lime tree in school field overhanging High Street** – It was agreed to notify Acorn Early Years Foundation and remove the item from the agenda.
- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – Cllr Jamieson reported that he had collected the Speed Watch equipment and had been in collect with Lee Turnham at TVP regarding enforcing the restricted access. Three people were now trained to use Speed Watch and a date would be set for its deployment.
- 3.6.28 **Parking restrictions (Olney Road)** – See update under item 2.1.82.
- 3.6.30 **Allotments** – Cllr Jamieson reported that he had spoken to the officer in landscaping who had advised that it was unlikely that the fence would be replaced. The case had now been handed over to the estates department so that the allotments could be transferred as part of a community asset transfer.
- 3.6.50 **Dog fouling** – The damaged bin in Olney Road had now been removed and replaced with a new bin which had been sited on the corner of Olney Road and Hulton Drive. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.
- 3.6.63 **Newton Road/Petsoe End – pedestrian safety issues** – Nothing to report.
- 3.6.68 **Well at Petsoe End** – It was noted that Ward Cllr Geary had taken ownership of the well up with MKC. **Action: KG to chase PG.**
- 3.6.110 **Gritting at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.
- 3.6.113 **Oak tree at rear of Pavilion** – One of the large branches that was overhanging the field had fallen and was removed by the playing field groundsmen.
- 3.6.114 **Steps in High Street (no 5)** – Reported on under item 2.1.
- 3.6.115 **Village questionnaire** – 1 further response received.

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – Reported on under item 2.2.
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Cllr Markland commented that a meeting was held to discuss the responses to the Article 14 Pre submission. The comments were taken on board

and would be fed into the plan. The plan would then move forward to the next stage. It was hoped that the plan would go to referendum at the end of the year. Cllr Markland commented that one of the responses from a resident had made comments about him personally. Cllr Markland asked what the official line of complaint was. Cllr White stated that the parish council should submit a response to the resident. The clerk to contact the planning consultant for advice and speak to the Chairman of the parish council. **Action: KG.**

- 3.85 **Emberton School (School House Fund)** – It was noted that the clerk had submitted a FOI request to MKC for documents relating to the School House Fund and had received a response that the Department for Education did not have these. A response had been received from the treasurer of the trustees stating they had one outstanding set of bank statements and that once the data was received to enable them to create the accounts, that the parish council and charities commission would be updated. It was agreed that the next course of action would be an official complaint to the Charities Commission. **Action: KG.**
- 3.851 **Emberton School – Acorn Early Years proposal** – See planning item 4.338.
- 3.97 **Sports & Recreation Committee** – Nothing to report.
- 3.99 **Conservation area – review of 1997 Conservation Area Statement by MKC** – Reported on under item 2.1.
- 3.102 **Public footpaths in Emberton** – The clerk contacted the rights of way officer at MKC to ascertain if all the public footpaths shown on the ordinance survey map for Emberton also appeared on the definitive map. A response was received as follows: “As you may be aware the Definitive Map is the legal record of where public rights of way are located and their status. In theory any footpaths subsequently shown on other platforms such as ordnance survey maps should show the same. However this isn’t always necessarily the case as inevitably the network changes, maps become outdated etc. With the advent of online mapping options, even OS maps can show different things depending on what you are looking at and the package you have. For example, an online current subscription with an OS app will inevitably show far more up to date information when compared with an older paper map.
- The best place to see up to date information on public rights of way is on the MKC interactive mapping website which can be found here:- [My Milton Keynes - Milton Keynes Council \(milton-keynes.gov.uk\)](http://MyMiltonKeynes-MiltonKeynesCouncil(milton-keynes.gov.uk))”
- 3.103 **Demand Responsive Transport (21 bus service)** – The clerk to follow this up with Cllr Duncan.
- 3.106 **BP Pulse – electric vehicle charge points** – It was agreed to keep this item on the agenda but remove the reference to BP Pulse.
- 3.108 **Footpaths and cycle links from Emberton to Olney and Sherington** – The clerk asked Ward Cllr McLean whether the Olney Ward Forum would be re-instated. The clerk suggested writing to other parish councils in the Olney Ward to see if there was any interest. This was agreed by Ward Cllr McLean **Action: KG.**
- 3.109 **MKC Rights of Way Improvement Plan Consultation** – A response to this had been sent and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

- 4.1 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.
- 4.2 **Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund** – No response had been received for the request for further funding.

previous applications status

- 4.309 **21/01130/FUL** – Erection of one dwelling with attached single garage (re-submission of 20/00483/FUL) at 34 Gravel Walk – **appeal lodged**
- 4.321 **21/02632/FUL** – Replacement of windows and glazed façade and 2 external doors at The Barn, 4 Manor Court – **refused**.
- 4.330 **22/00539/CLUE** – Certificate of Lawfulness for the existing use as a wholesale garden centre – class (E(a) at Acorn MK Nurseries, Newton Road – **pending**.
- 4.332 **22/01058/FUL** and **22/00771/LBC** – Alterations/Listed Building Consent including the removal of a bay window and the erection of single storey rear extension, the repair/replacement of all windows, removal of internal spiral staircase and the insertion of new staircase, removal of southern staircase, minor alterations of internal divisions of rooms and repair of garden wall at The Coach House, 19A High Street – **permitted**.
- 4.333 **22/00889/TCA** – Dismantle conifer T1 to ground level and reduce sycamore T2 all round by taking one metre off the top of the canopy at 15 High Street – **no objection**
- 4.334 **22/01432/HOU** – Erection of a single storey rear extension with parapet involving demolition of existing single storey rear extension, a 2 storey rear/side extension and new hipped roof over existing flat roof, a garage conversion including replacement of garage door with window and a single storey front/side porch (resubmission 21/03676/FUL) at 45 Olney Road – **pending**.
- 4.335 **22/01329/DISCON** – Approval of details required by conditions 4 (landscaping and boundary treatment), 7 (cycle parking details), 10 (biodiversity enhancements) & 12 (Schedule of External Materials) of permission ref 20/00822/FUL at West Lane House, West Lane – notification only – **pending**.
- 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**.

New applications

- 4.338 **22/01634/FUL** – Change of use from Class F1(a) to a hybrid use for a school & nursery under Class F1(a) and Class E(f) and the construction of an additional car park of up to 20 spaces with access from High Street and a pedestrian footpath leading to the school building

(resubmission of 21/03121/FUL to reduce the number of parking spaces) at Emberton School, Olney Road. There were no objections to this application. The clerk to respond. **Action: KG.**

- 4.339 **22/01703/HOU** – The installation of solar photovoltaic arrays to the rear roof of the main dwellinghouse and to the flat roof of the detached garage at 13 High Street. It was felt that the application was not detrimental to the conservation area as the panels were at the rear of the property. The clerk to respond accordingly. **Action: KG.**
- 4.340 **22/01738/TCA** – The reduction by 3-4m from top and sides and reduction by north side by 5-6m to Lime tree (T1); the reduction by 1-2m from top and sides to Alder tree (T2), 2 x Silver Birch (T5 & T10), 2 x Pine (T6 & T11) the reduction by 3-4m from top and sides to Lime tree (T3) and Silver Birch T9; the pollarding by half Robinia tree (T4), the reduction by 5-6m from top and sides to Silver Birch tree (T7); the felling to ground level of Pine tree (T12); and the removal of ivy from Silver Birch tree (T13) at Chaff House, Church Lane. The clerk to respond that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations by made by MKC’s tree officer. **Action: KG.**
- 5.1 **To receive the RFO’s Report for the 18th July 2022** and approve payments. It was proposed by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Palmer that the payments be approved as per the RFO’s Report. Cllr White to approve the payments online. **Action: HW.**
- 5.2 **Change of signatories for Co-operative Bank** – The clerk reported that this was in hand.
6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – A letter had been received from Emberton United Charities stating that the dilapidated fence that bordered the Splashpole land and the path into Olney was being replaced. It was agreed that the letter was for information only and no action required.
7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**
- 7.1 **Village publicity** – Watering trees, volunteers for speed watch, 21 bus service. Update for Neighbourhood Plan from steering group.
- 7.2 **Cllrs’ concerns**
Cllr Flowers stated that the trees planted for the jubilee were in need of watering.
8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 5th September 2022 at 7pm to be held at the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm