

Emberton Parish Council

Minutes of Meeting – 10th September 2018

Present:

Councillor Vicki McLean (Chairman)
 Councillor Paul Flowers
 Councillor Soo Hall
 Councillor Mike Horton
 Councillor Richard Laval
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mr David Soul
 Mrs Diane Soul

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Apologies for Absence - Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Gibson 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.

1. **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11TH JUNE 2018** - The Minutes of the Meeting held on Monday 13th August 2018 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

- 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 J Soul. Councillor V McLean stated that there had been a lot of to and froing with this application and that the clerk had received a response from the planning officer stating that he would: 1) ask the applicant's agent to confirm the applicant's full details, 2) seek clarification from the applicant's agent with regard to the ownership certificate further to the concerns raised in Mr McGrandle's letter, 3) notwithstanding previous comments, confirm that he will require the submission of a flood risk assessment prior to the determination of the application. Mr Davey stated that he was also open to meeting a representative of the parish council and Mr McGrandle on site but would only wish to do so once the applicant has had an opportunity to address the technical issues raised.

Councillor V McLean stated that in view of the email received from Mr Davey, she was going to recommend that the parish council defer making further comment on this application until the next meeting. Councillor Laval addressed the two members of the public and stated that they had a right to reply. Mr Soul responded that the planning application was in his father's name although he was dealing with the application on his behalf and that the flood risk assessment could be dealt with via a planning condition. Mrs Soul commented that she would welcome a site visit. Councillor V McLean stated that if and when the parish council received a site visit invitation, someone would be there.

Mr & Mrs Soul left the meeting at 7.45pm

2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING

254 - Dates for Commitment – The dates for commitment were noted. Councillor V McLean reported that she was unable to attend the MKSHG meeting on the 26th September and asked that one of the other councillors attend in her place. The clerk to email Councillor Horton the dates for commitment.

KG

255 – NAG – Meeting held 15/8/18. The clerk reported as follows; the meeting was attended by Chief Inspector John Batty who spoke regarding policing levels in the rural area and lack of funding for more officers. A proposal was put forward by the Chair of Lathbury that the parishes forming part of the North and East NAG, fund (and ring fence) another officer for the rural area via increasing the parish precept. Whilst this was felt a good idea, there seemed to be many negatives and it was not therefore considered a reality. Lavendon were looking to fund an ANPR camera and it was felt that perhaps this was a more positive way forward. Speed Watch was discussed; MKC have purchased a third set of equipment for hire in the MK area by any parish. Operation drover (4) will take place between the 23rd and 26th August and would primarily look at speeding in the rural area. The clerk requested that, if possible, the Restricted Access was enforced and the speed gun used in Olney Road.

2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.25 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk wrote to EUC to ask them to consider monitoring parking around The Institute. Response letter received stating regular users of The Institute were aware of the parking problems and difficulties did arise at other times involving vehicles using the Bell & Bear. Email sent to Thames Valley Police who attended on the 26th July and found no parking incidents. Email sent to MKC transport advising Stuart Simmonds of the above actions taken. MKC advised that they had sought advice from road safety who stated that requests should be submitted through the environmental services helpline. Stuart Simmons advised he would try this course of action. Councillor V McLean reported that she was hopeful that issues such as this would be addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan and that nothing would happen in the short term. It was agreed to remove this item from the agenda to be addressed through the Neighbourhood Plan.

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – Estimate received from MKC in the sum of £3,732.25 for installing the 3 signs which included their maintenance but not purchase. Councillor Laval commented that the agenda item pre dated him and asked why the parish council had decided to purchase three village signs. Councillor V McLean commented that if Emberton had village signs, it would feel more like a community. Councillor Hall commented that there were many new signs in rural parishes and this was something she felt strongly about but understood if the parish council not afford it. Councillor Laval responded that the parish council could afford them but he felt there were higher priorities to spend the money on. Councillor Hall stated that Haversham purchased their signs through the same company. Councillor Horton responded that the boundary of Emberton was nowhere close to the centre of the village. Councillor Flowers stated that the issue seemed to be the fact that two of the signs were on the A509. It was proposed by

Councillor Horton and seconded by Councillor Laval that the parish council no longer pursue the purchase of three village signs and that the clerk ascertains why Signs of the Times cannot install them. The clerk reported that two grants had been obtained for the signs from the Parish Partnership Fund and from the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund. It was agreed that the £1814.57 be returned to the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund and the clerk ascertain from MKC whether the PPF grant could be used for another project.

KG

- 2.1.102 **Silent Soldiers** - Councillor V McLean reported that the Royal British Legion were asking communities to reflect and remember those that served and sacrificed their lives during WW1 through the purchase of a “thank you silhouette”. It was proposed by Councillor Laval, seconded by Councillor Flowers and unanimously agreed that a donation be made to the RBL for a corporate “Tommy” silhouette. The clerk to make the necessary arrangements and speak to highways regarding the constraints of siting it.

KG

2.2 **Update from Ward Councillor**

Operation Drover – Ward Councillor McLean reported that he went out on the Saturday night during Operation Drover and was pleased to see that more farmers had their gates closed and locked rather than being open. He did ask PC Dan Smith to enforce the rat running on one of the days and suggested that the clerk asked him to do another day. There was some hare coursers picked up at Poddington. Operation Drover will run again in January. In terms of the parishes funding a Police officer, some parishes in the UK do this but as a single organisation. If resources were up to strength, there would be more PCSOs.

KG

3. **SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – Councillor V McLean commented that the meeting in August with Nick Hannon was very positive.

3.6 **Parish related**

- 3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – SIDS deployed in Olney Road and High Street at the end of July. The SIDS were deployed covertly in the first week and uncovered in the second week. The maximum speed for the High Street (covert) was 44mph with an average speed of 21mph and 4.6% of vehicles were exceeding the speed limit. The maximum speed for Olney Road (covert) was 65mph with an average speed of 28mph and 39% of vehicles were exceeding the speed limit. The maximum speed for both locations was achieved during the period of 3pm to 7pm on a weekday. The data has been sent to TVP and the clerk has requested that the speed van is deployed in Olney Road. It was agreed that the clerk should request to borrow the Speed Watch equipment from MKC. The clerk to arrange.

KG

- 3.6.16 **Clock tower damage** – An order acknowledgement has been received from Boden & Ward. The clerk made enquiries with Zurich Insurance and the hire equipment would not be covered so insurance would have to be arranged through A Plant’s own insurance company. Waiting for date for repair from Boden & Ward.

- 3.39 **Ravenstone Neighbourhood Plan** – No comment.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Councillor Laval reported that the invitation to bring sites forward for the Neighbourhood Plan closed on the 7th September and these would be looked at during the next meeting on the 13th and assessed against the Methodology Assessment. The Steering Group were looking at between 10 to 20 homes which was felt a reasonable level and in line with the results of the questionnaire.

3.93 **Milton Keynes East Local Stakeholder Group** – Councillor V McLean reported that a meeting took place on the 22nd August at which the overall purpose of the group was clarified. A discussion took place regarding the Development Framework and the HIF; development was scheduled for 2031 but was dependant on the HIF. MKC had applied for £75m but if they were successful, the grant would need to be spent during the 2022/2023 financial year. It was agreed that a meeting would take place to specifically deal with the HIF and transport with Councillor V McLean stating that it was important that Emberton was represented. Ward Councillor McLean commented that on the basis that there could be 5,000 homes and each unit produced £20,000 of S106, the S106 fund could be £100m on top of the HIF.

4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Horton reported that the next meeting was scheduled for the 22nd September.

4.109 **Solar Farm & Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

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 – **pending**. The clerk provided an update from the planning officer stating that the applicant had been in discussions with the highways department to improve the access from the A509 and that she would be setting a deadline for the close of discussions and to form a decision. Mr Solt has permitted development rights to use the land for airsoft events for 28 days but would need to keep a meticulous record of when these events occur.

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 J Soul – **pending**. It was proposed by Councillor V McLean, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed that in view of the information provided by the clerk prior to the meeting that comment be deferred until the relevant documents were received.

4.215 **18/01522/DISCON** – Details submitted pursuant to the discharge of condition 3 (Schedule of Works) attached to planning permission 16/02999/LBC at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mrs J Mercer – **pending**. It was noted that work had already started on the wall. The clerk to query this with the planning department. Reference was made to the development at Emberton House Farm, the clerk to query the height of the development with MKC.

KG

4.216 **18/01633/CLUP** – Certificate of Lawfulness for the erection of a pre-fabricated

shed on field adjacent to 6 West Farm Way for Mr A Soul - **approved**

4.217 **18/01331/FUL** – Details submitted pursuant of variation of condition 5 (Decommissioning Method Statement) attached to planning permission 14/00407/FUL at Emberton Solar Park, Newton Road for Next Energy Capital – **pending**.

4.218 **18/01791/FUL** – Church House, West Lane – **permitted**

4.219 **18/02054/FUL** – Notification of intention to reduce: Cedar reduce 1 x heavy lateral branch in the upper crown over public highway by approx. 1.5-2m, Copper Beech reduce 4 x extended lateral branches over public highway by approx. 2-3m at The Old Rectory, Olney Road for Mr Ford. Councillors agreed that they would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer. **KG**

4.220 **18/02151/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce 1 x Acacia to a pollard approx. 4-5m above ground level, 1 x low limb towards the neighbouring garden to be retained at Old Rectory Coach House, Olney Road for Mrs Crocker. Councillors agreed that they would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKC's tree officer. **KG**

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

5.1 **RFO's Report** – The RFO's Report for the 10th September 2018 was accepted.

5.2 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**

Emberton United Charity – hire of Institute & defib electric	£38.50
Spoton.Net Ltd – website hosting	£288.00
ESSC – hire of pavilion for NHP Meeting on 6/9/18	£15.00
Mr T P Wibaut – bus shelter cleaning/emptying bins/watering	£102.50
Mr T P Wibaut – siting of bin and making good	£46.00
MK Dons Set – 4 x 1 hour football sessions at playing field	£200.00
Mrs K Goss – Clerk's August salary	£331.53
Mrs K Goss – Clerk's August comp/telephone expenses	£18.00

Payments proposed by Councillor Laval, seconded by Councillor Hall and unanimously agreed by all those present. The clerk to make the payments by BACS transfer. **KG**

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – previously circulated.

7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 **Village publicity** – The clerk to draft.

7.2 **Councillors' Concerns**

Councillor Hall stated that once a date had been received for weed spraying, please could residents in Westpits be advised to give them the opportunity to move their cars away from the parking bays.

Councillor White reported that during a recent wedding (1st September) there was an issue with parking and one of the guests urinated up the church wall.

Councillor V McLean stated that she would contact the Church to advise them and perhaps for them to request use of the school field for future parking.

Vm

Councillor Horton commented on the lovely appearance of the hanging baskets on the bus shelter. The clerk to write to Mrs Noone to thank her.

KG

Councillor V McLean commented that there was a good response through the group Emberton Connect & Protect to the possible illegal encampment in Emberton and that she was aware of funding for vulnerable sites to prevent such encampments and wondered whether the playing field would benefit from this.

Councillor Flowers commented that he had not seen emails relating to parish council business. The clerk responded that with the introduction of the GDPR it had been agreed that councillors would be sent correspondence to the councillors@embertonparishcouncil.co.uk email address. Councillor V McLean commented that it was a good way of communicating and all parish council business would be separate from personal correspondence. The clerk to forward details of the email address to councillors. Councillor Horton requested that parish council correspondence was also addressed to his personal email address.

KG

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed at Monday 1st October 2018 at 7.30pm in the Pavilion. Councillor Laval sent his apologies for the next meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm