

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 12th May 2008 in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman	Councillor Miss I V Young
Vice Chairman	Councillor D J Major
Councillors	Councillor Mrs S M Bartrick Councillor Mrs D J Lay Councillor L G Lay Councillor Mrs S Bedford Councillor C R Daily Councillor G W Emery Councillor S Giles-Medhurst Councillor M T Morton Councillor Ms B Phipps Councillor O W Roe Councillor D White Councillor K D Williams Councillor J Wyatt

Officers: Mr T Perkins - Clerk to the Council

Also present: County Councillor Paul Goggins
Sgt. Neil Canning - Hertfordshire Police

The meeting opened at 7:30pm

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Roe, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Miss Ivy Young be elected Chairman for the year 2008/2009.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office

The declaration of acceptance of Office as Chairman was signed by Councillor Miss Young and witnessed by the Proper Officer of the Council. Councillor Miss Young welcomed everyone present to the first meeting of the Council for the year.

Councillor Williams proposed a vote of thanks to Councillor Roe for the hard work he put in during his year as Chairman and for the very positive effect his work had on raising the profile of the Parish Council. Agreed by all members present.

3. Apologies for Absence

None

4. Hertfordshire Police

Sgt. Canning reported there had been a significant disturbance in the School Meads area on Friday night when a large number of children had tried to attend a party at Hillside Hall, alcohol was confiscated. A robust approach was taken and there was no trouble reported later in the evening.

The Clerk was asked to report to the next Leisure Committee meeting

Final year crime statistics for the area were available, reportable offences were down 13% year on year. Cycle thefts were up significantly, mainly opportunistic, when they are left unattended outside shops, access burglaries where windows have been left open have also increased. When cycles have been found they should be brought to the attention of the Community Police Station so checks can be made for serial numbers that could identify the owner.

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Additional issues:

Uniformed presence to occasionally support school crossing patrols in Bedmond. Sgt. Canning will address.

Police are giving attention to motorcycles on the cricket fields and also on Boundary Way, different powers apply for confiscation depending on where the offences take place.

Sgt. Canning will check if the police have made a response to the licensing application at Garston Manor, who has applied for a licence to sell alcohol until 00:30 7 days /week.

5. Declarations of Interest

None

6. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Major be elected Vice-Chairman for the year 2008/2009.

Councillor Major thanked the Council for the appointment, but asked that the Vice-Chairman's Ex-Officio status on all committees be considered due to his other responsibilities. It was agreed this would be taken into consideration in the current update of Standing orders.

7. Appointment to Other Bodies

Community Centre Management Committee	Deferred pending resolution of the Community Centre constitution.
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Joint Committee of Parish Councils	Councillor Williams, Councillor Miss Young, the Clerk.
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Citizens Advice Bureau	Councillor Roe
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Abbots Langley History Society	Councillor Lay
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Three Rivers DC Environmental Forum	Councillor Ms Phipps and Councillor Mrs Lay
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Parmiter's School	Councillor Roe
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YMCA Woodlands	Councillor Miss Young and Councillor Lay
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Abbots Langley Carnival Committee	Councillor Miss Young
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Nash Mills Village Hall	Councillor Morton
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Hertfordshire Police Authority	Councillor Roe
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HAPTC	Councillor Williams
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It was proposed by Councillor Morton, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that the appointments to outside bodies as detailed above be made for the council year 2008/2009.

8. Election of Committees

Planning & Highways Committee	Councillor Morton Councillor Lay Councillor Mrs Bartrick Councillor Emery Councillor Roe Councillor White Councillor Miss Young (Ex-Officio) Councillor Major (Ex-Officio)
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Leisure Committee	Councillor Mrs Bedford Councillor Mrs Lay Councillor Daily Councillor Giles-Medhurst Councillor Lay Councillor White Councillor Williams Councillor Wyatt Councillor Miss Young (Ex-Officio) Councillor Major (Ex-Officio)
Finance Committee	Councillor Williams Councillor Daily Councillor Emery Councillor Mrs Lay Councillor Morton Councillor Ms Phipps Councillor Roe Councillor Miss Young (Ex-Officio) Councillor Major (Ex-Officio)
Staffing Committee	Councillor Ms Phipps Councillor Major Councillor Daily Councillor Lay Councillor White Councillor Miss Young (Ex-Officio)
Review Panel	Councillor Mrs Lay Councillor Mrs Bartrick Councillor Major Councillor White Councillor Wyatt Councillor Morton Councillor Lay

The Clerk advised that the Council should not appoint the Chairman or Vice Chairman of Committees that responsibility should be left to the committees to appoint at their first meeting in the new Council year.

Councillor Williams advised the meeting that was the practice of the Council to appoint Committee Chairman at the Annual Council Meeting and that was reflected in Standing Orders and until such time as they were amended the Council should continue to appoint Chairman to the Committees, even against the advice of the Clerk.

A vote was requested and Councillors agreed unanimously not to accept the Clerk's advice and to appoint Chairman to the Committees.

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Mrs Bartrick and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Morton be appointed Chairman of the Planning and Highways Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mrs Bedford be appointed Chairman of Leisure Committee.

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It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Williams be appointed Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Lay, seconded by Councillor Miss Young and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Ms Phipps be appointed Chairman of the Staffing Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bedford, seconded by Councillor White and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Lay be appointed Chairman of the Review Panel.

9. Calendar of Meetings

It was noted that the calendar of meetings had been approved at the February meeting of the Council and that Standing Orders would be amended to remove this item from the business transacted at the Annual Parish Council.

10. Schedule of Documents

Consideration of the lease and liabilities at Lemonfield Drive (item 4.) to be referred to the Leisure Committee.

Clerk to review documents for land at Grand Union Towpath (item 23.); does this refer to the old allotments grounds, believed to be owned by British Waterways?

Finance and Administration Committee to review further updates of the documents at their next meeting.

11. Subscriptions

Refer following subscriptions to Leisure Committee for consideration. CPRE, Herts. & Middx. Wildlife Trust, The Chiltern Society, International Tree Foundation, Open Spaces Society, Morning Advertiser.

12. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Daily, seconded by Councillor White and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2008, copies of which had been sent to all Members of the Parish Council prior to the meeting, be taken as read and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

Minutes for Adoption

The following committee minutes were adopted and passed to the committee's for resolution.

Staffing Committee	17th March 2008
Planning & Highways Committee	16th April 2008
Leisure Committee	23rd April 2008
Finance & Administration Committee	28th April 2008
Planning & Highways Committee	30th April 2008

13. Clerks Report

It was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Mrs Lay and **RESOLVED** that minutes for the Council meetings would be posted to the Council's website on their approval by the Council and Committee minutes would be posted on adoption by the Council.

The Clerk was asked in the review of the Constitution for the Community Centre that it may be appropriate for there to be separate management and governance documents.

14. Statement of Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Morton, seconded by Councillor Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for April 2008 as notified to the Council be approved.

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15. Past Chairman’s Report

Councillor Roe attended the following:

20th April - Scouts St George’s Day parade at Christ Church, St Albans Road, Watford, the subsequent march to their site in Leavesden, where the salute was taken.

23rd April - Grand opening of the Viking Fish and Chip Shop in School Mead.

29th April - Herts Police seminar at Welwyn HQ.

9th May - Local launch of Fairtrade at Three Rivers House.

16. Clerks Probationary Period

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay and seconded by Councillor Bedford, that the press and public be excluded from the discussion about this following item, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

The Leader of the Council and Chairman of Staffing Committee had completed a performance appraisal with the Clerk and confirmed that the Clerk had satisfactorily completed his probationary period.

The Clerk advised that he had significant workload of both and operational and project tasks and requested guidance from the Council on priorities. Councillor Williams was asked to meet with the Clerk to review his workload and report back to the Council with a recommendation on priorities.

The meeting closed at 9:05pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____