

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 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 S Bedford Councillor G W Emery Councillor S Giles-Medhurst Councillor Mrs D J Lay Councillor L G Lay Councillor M T Morton Councillor Ms B Phipps Councillor O W Roe Councillor K Williams Councillor D White

Officer: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

Also present: County Councillor Paul Goggins  
PS Neil Canning - Hertfordshire Police (Part)  
PCSO J Diaz - Hertfordshire Police (Part)  
PCSO W Gullin - Hertfordshire Police (Part)

### 270. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillors Daily & Wyatt.

### 271. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Williams declared a personal interest in agenda item 11. Property Portfolio and took no part in the discussions.

### 272. Hertfordshire Police

Manor House Incident

Sgt Canning was present at the incident on 25<sup>th</sup> October. He was working locally and was on scene within a few minutes of the call being made by a member of staff at Manor House. No allegations were made by those present at the event, injuries were noted to members of the public outside of the Manor House, but despite being asked three times no one wanted to make a complaint or give the police a statement. There was no evidence of a 72 year old women having been viciously attacked, nor the function being gate crashed. The article in the Watford Observer did not accurately report the incident and served only to increase the fear of crime.

Members thanked Sgt Canning for his first hand report.

The Clerk was asked to write a brief and concise letter "for publication" to the editor of the Watford Observer and to ensure it was delivered in advance of this week's deadline, also to write to My Abbots and the Langley Villager.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bedford, seconded by Councillor Giles-Medhurst and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write to the Watford Observer, as detailed above and also to the other local publications.

Halloween

Three minor incidents. PCSO's were on visible patrol, officers worked with local stores to ensure items such as eggs and flour were not sold.

Fireworks Nights

Arrests were made for assault and carrying an offence weapon. PCSO's uniform mounted cameras are helping with arrests and evidence gathering.

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### Burglary

Operations are ongoing locally to reduce the number of burglaries.

### Miscellaneous

ANPR is being utilised with good results. An incident at Spar in School Mead is still under investigation. Vehicle crime in Leavesden Country Park has been an issue, it is on officers patrol schedules, but the situation is not being helped by car park users leaving items such as GPS systems and mobile phones in view.

Officers were asked to give attention to vehicles parked fully on the pavement restricting it completely in Old Mill Road.

PCSO's have limited powers to stop vehicles. However they are involved in offering "words of advice" to motorists seen driving without seat belts or using mobile phones.

Members were invited in the New Year to join the PCSO's on patrol.

### Youth Projects

PCSO's updated members on partnership projects that were taking place on football with Watford Football Club, involving ten young people from the Abbots Langley area. Also working on projects with younger members of the community on an arts and crafts and also a bowling event, supported by the Hollywood Bowl.

Members thanked Sgt. Canning and the PCSO's for their reports and their hard work on behalf of the community. The Clerk was asked to write to Inspector Holland in this regard.

It was proposed by Councillor Giles-Medhurst seconded by Councillor Williams and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write Inspector Holland.

### 273. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay, seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 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.

### 274. Minutes for Adoption

The following committee minutes were adopted, approved for publication on the Council's website and passed to the committees for resolution.

Planning & Highways Committee - 15th & 29th October 2008

Leisure Committee - 22nd October 2008

Finance & Administration Committee - 27th October 2008

### 275. Matters referred from Committees

It was proposed by Councillor Williams, seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be added to the Parish Council's bank mandate as (in the banks words) "*An individual who is not a signatory (i.e. a beneficial owner, partner, director, trustee or other controlling official of the Business/Organisation)*"

The Clerk was asked to write to Inspector Holland to see what the Parish Council could do to support the Abbots Langley Police Office, particularly in the area of volunteer recruitment.

Refer to the Leisure Committee for consideration, what if any sports facilities could be made available to the PCSO's sports project.

### 276. Budget Update

The Clerk provided an update on the progress in producing the budget for 2009/2010. Key decisions will be required at the November Leisure Committee and December Parish Council.

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**277. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman attended the following events:

- |                          |  |
|--------------------------|--|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> November | Langleybury Scout Fayre.   |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> November | Red Cross 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Dinner.   |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> November | Annual Firework Display and Judged the "Best Guy" competition.                                       |
| 9 <sup>th</sup> November | Remembrance Services at:<br>St Lawrence Abbots Langley (AM)<br>Church of the Ascension, Bedmond (PM) |

**278. Clerk's Report**

Councillor Roe would like to attend the Green Matters conference in March. Members were asked to contact the Clerk by the end of the week if they would also like to attend.

The Clerk was asked to contact TRDC to see who arranges their local walks, also Joy Mann and Derek Sale, to gain their input for the reprint of the footpaths booklet. The Clerk advised that work on this would not commence until later in the New Year, funding would not be available from Countryside Management until April 2009.

**279. Statement of Accounts**

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

The Clerk was asked to clarify to what cheque number 2830 referred.

**280. Property Portfolio**

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

The Clerk provided an update on the marketing of the Old Fire Station. Non-binding tenders were being sought, with a submission date of 30<sup>th</sup> November, the matter would be reviewed again by the Parish Council in December.

The meeting closed at 8.50 p.m.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_