

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 8th March 2010 in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman	Councillor D J Major
Vice Chairman	Councillor L Lay
Councillors	Councillor Mrs S Bedford Councillor C Daily Councillor G W Emery Councillor J Hill Councillor Mrs D J Lay Councillor M T Morton Councillor O Roe Councillor K D Williams Councillor D White Councillor J Wyatt Councillor Miss I V Young

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

Also present: County Councillor Paul Goggins

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

556. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Ms. Phipps (work commitment) and Councillor Giles-Medhurst (work commitment).

557. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Daily declared an interest in agenda item 7 - Evergreen FC.

558. Public Participation

No members of the public had expressed an interest in addressing the Parish Council.

559. Hertfordshire Police

Sgt. Canning advised that due to operational requirements no officers would be available to attend the meeting.

560. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Miss Young, seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 8th February 2010, 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.

561. 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 - 10th & 24th February 2010

Leisure Committee - 17th February 2010

Members noted the Clerk's report concerning the statutory powers recorded in the Finance and Administration Committee minutes of its meeting held on 25th January 2010. These minutes had been amended and were pending approval at the next meeting of the committee.

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562. Evergreen FC

Councillor Daily clarified the layout of the buildings at South Way and then left the meeting for the duration of the discussion on this item.

Councillor Mrs Bedford advised members that officers at Three Rivers District Council were involved in discussions about opening a youth facility in the South Way changing rooms. It was possible that grant funding would be available.

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Bedford, seconded by Councillor Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council should grant a new twenty one year lease to Evergreen FC for the pavilion building that they currently lease from the Parish Council and the changing room that they currently rent from the Parish Council.

The Clerk advised that there were a number of details that needed to be worked through with the club and both sides legal advisers. As there appeared to be a robust lease in place, that had been drafted by the Parish Council's solicitors, it was hoped that these would not prove to be problematic.

The Clerk will issue formal instructions to Sedgwick Kelly on or after 1st April 2010 as the current professional fees budget is fully expended.

563. Winter Arrangements

Members noted the report from the Clerk and thanked him for the work that had taken place with Hertfordshire Highways. The Clerk advised that discussions about how Parish Council staff could work on snow and ice clearance, under the direction of Hertfordshire Highways, were at an early stage but that there appeared to be a willingness on both sides to finalise matters. The Clerk will report back when further information is available.

Councillor Mrs Bedford advised that discussions were on going with Hertfordshire Highways on the installation of more salt bins on Tibbs Hill Road, following the problems that occurred in this area during the winter weather.

Members had many suggestions on possible locations for additional salt bins. As noted in minute 519 (February 2010 Parish Council), members are asked to direct any such requests to the Parish Council's Planning and Highways Committee.

County Councillor Paul Goggins said it would be helpful if the committee could produce a list of suggested locations for salt bins, in priority order, but that members should be realistic as to what Hertfordshire Highways could actually provide.

564. District and County Council Member Reports

County Councillor Paul Goggins reported on the secondary school transfer process.

Hertfordshire County Council's Children, Schools and Families Department reported that 95.06% of Abbots Langley children were allocated one of their preferred three schools, but that 12 children did not get one of their three preferences. He felt that this was 12 too many.

The allocations for the four Abbots Langley schools are as follows. This excludes St. Catherine of Sienna, which is recorded as Garston and St. Paul's which is recorded as Langleybury.

Allocated first preference	176	72.42%
Allocated second preference	31	12.76%
Allocated preference	24	9.88%
Allocated a non-ranked school	12	4.94%

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Details of ranked allocations (all three preferences) and non-ranked for the six schools in the Parish are:

School	Ranked	NRA
Abbots Langley	55	4
Bedmond	21	3
Divine Saviour	27	2
Tanners Wood	45	3
St. Catherine's	33	1
St. Paul's	26	4

Councillor Mrs Bedford reported that 46% of children at Abbots Langley JMI were allocated their first preference school.

Councillor Williams advised that on 9th March Three Rivers District Council's Sustainable Environment Policy and Scrutiny Committee would be considering parking restrictions in Abbots Road, Kindersley Way and Gallows Hill Lane slip road, Abbots Langley. These restrictions were mainly to deter commuter parking from the nearby Kings Langley Station.

It was also advised that the District Council had expanded its recycling services for plastic waste. Householders were being leafleted and information was available on the District Council's website.

565. Chairman's Report

The Chairman asked members to respond to the invitations to his reception as soon as possible to enable staff to finalise the guest list.

The Chairman has received apologies from St. Lawrence Church, they did not attend the Annual Parish Meeting to collect their grant certificates, due to correspondence not reaching their Finance Committee Chairman in time.

The Clerk advised that the draft minutes for the Annual Parish Meeting would be circulated in the next mailing and members were asked to raise any corrections with him as soon as possible. Also, if members had any suggestions on how to improve attendance at future Annual Parish Meetings these would be welcome.

Councillor Emery asked that the notice board in Bedmond be resited from the playing fields to a more central location in the village. The Clerk advised that the Planning and Highways committee had delegated authority on matters relating to notice boards and that this should be taken up with that committee.

566. Clerk's Report

Members noted the report items, not covered elsewhere in the agenda.

The Clerk confirmed that sufficient members were available and that a Staffing Committee meeting would be held at 6:45pm on 12th April, before the Parish Council meeting.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Highways Agency, to see why they decided to move the M25 widening exhibition from Henderson Hall to the Hunton Park Hotel. Members felt that as this location was distant from the village centre, it would not have the benefit of local footfall that a more central Abbots Langley location would have.

567. Monthly Statement of Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Bedford and seconded by Councillor Williams and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for February 2010 as notified to the Council be approved.

Members noted the new handrails had been installed on the main entrance to the Manor House and considered they were a significant improvement.

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Councillor Williams asked that a register of the Parish Council's vehicles be included in the items discussed at the Annual General Meeting in May.

568. Part II

It was proposed by Councillor Mrs Lay and seconded by Councillor Morton and **RESOLVED**, that as the following items may deal with a member of staffs' employment, the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

569. Office Administration

Members noted the Clerk's report.

The meeting closed at 8:30pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____