

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee Meeting held Monday 28th April 2014 at 6:00 pm in the Council Offices Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman	Councillor Jeff Hill
Vice Chairman:	Councillor Keith Williams
Councillors	Councillor Gloria Keaveny Councillor Brenda Kersey Councillor Owen Roe
Officers:	Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council Gail Kiely - Finance Officer

The meeting opened at 6:01 pm.

403. Order of Business

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams that agenda Items 6 and 7 Charity Venue Rates and Stretch Targets Manor House and Tanners Wood Hall revenue were merged and taken as Part II of the meeting, this was seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny.

The Clerk advised against the motion, as it was not appropriate for this to be discussed in confidential session.

A vote was requested. Councillors Jeff Hill, Keith Williams and Gloria Keaveny voted in favour and the motion was **RESOLVED**. Councillor Owen Roe and Councillor Brenda Kersey abstained.

The Chairman varied the agenda accordingly under Standing Order 14.

404. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Jane Lay (unavailable).

405. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Gloria Keaveny declared an interest in agenda item 5 Financial Grant Applications 2014-2015 as a member of Abbots Langley Players and took no part in the discussion of this grant.

Councillor Keith Williams declared an interest in agenda item 10. Three Rivers District Council - Election Expenses as a Councillor for Three Rivers District Council and left the room.

406. Public Participation

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

407. To confirm the Minutes of the previous meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Owen Roe, seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 27th January 2014, copies of which had been sent to all Members of the Parish Council and which had been adopted by the Council, be taken as read and were signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

408. Financial Grants Applications 2014-2015

It was proposed by Councillor Gloria Keaveny, seconded by Councillor Owen Roe and **RESOLVED** that the following grants be awarded in financial year 2014-2015 under The General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011 Sec 1 (1).

- i. **Royal Air Force Association - Abbots Langley & Kings Langley Branch**
£250 to support meeting and association event costs.
- ii. **Abbots Langley Cricket Club**
Deferred pending receipt of signed accounts.

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- iii. **Abbots Langley Women's Institute**
£200 to support meeting, speaker and other costs.
- iv. **Abbots Langley Bowls Club**
Deferred pending resolution of the lease which is currently under negotiation.
- v. **Abbots Langley Festival of the Arts**
£250 to support hall hire, brochure, ticket and other expenses.
- vi. **Abbots Improvement Group**
£400 to support the costs of a water system for Henderson Hall, volunteer posters, replacement equipment and educational leaflets.
- vii. **St. Pauls Church Langleybury**
£1500 to support improvement and ongoing maintenance of grounds, grave areas and garden of remembrance.
- viii. **St. Lawrence Church**
£1500 to cover the cost of maintenance of the churchyard, grass cutting and maintenance of garden of remembrance.
- ix. **Lions Club of Watford**
£2000 to support the cost of the firework display and carnival.
- x. **Abbots Langley Players**
£1500 to support the costs of staging a wider community event as part of the RSC's Open Stage project.
- xi. **Citizens Advice Bureau in Three Rivers**
£2000 to support the costs of engaging a home visiting and case worker at the Abbots Langley branch.
- xii. **The Abbots Langley War Memorial Fund**
£1000 to support the costs of refurbishing the war memorial.
- xiii. **Royal British Legion**
Deferred. Organisation to be asked to resubmit its grant application taking into account it no longer incurs hall hire costs.
- xiv. **Bedmond Women's Institute**
Deferred pending receipt of signed accounts.
- xv. **Abbots Langley Flower Arrangement Society**
£200 to support the cost of hall hire, meeting, demonstrators and affiliation fees.
- xvi. **Abbots Youth Football Club**
£600 to support the costs of hiring external training pitches for U16-U18 teams.

£1400 was ring fenced for small grants.

409. **Repeal of the "Two Cheque Signatories" Law**

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and **RESOLVED** that Item 4 of the Clerk's Report - Repeal of the "Two Cheque Signatories" Law be referred to the next meeting of the Parish Council with a recommendation that the Clerk and Finance Officer be appointed cheque signatories, for reasons of business continuity and to permit access to internet banking for enquiry only.

410. **Budget Monitoring Report**

The Budget Tracking Report FY 2013-2014 was discussed. Typo noted, page 18 should read as 17.

411. **Three Rivers District Council - Election Expenses**

The charge for election expenses of £32,966.96 was discussed. It was proposed by Councillor Brenda Kersey, seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and **RESOLVED**

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that the Clerk to Council write to the Chief Executive of Three Rivers District Council expressing this committee's concern at this unprecedented charge and request a breakdown of these costs.

412. Clerk's Report

The Eco Audit will be reported upon in July 2014.

413. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

As per minute 403 the press and public were excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

The Finance Officer left the room for discussion of the following two items.

414. Charity Venue Rates

The Clerk's report on the above was noted.

415. Stretch Targets Manor House and Tanners Wood Hall Revenue

The Clerk's report on the above was noted.

The meeting closed at 8.11 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____