

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2013 in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman:	Councillor K D Williams
Vice Chairman:	Councillor Mrs G Keaveny
Councillors:	Councillor S L Bedford Councillor Mrs J Bowman Councillor D Croker Councillor J Hill Councillor Mrs D J Lay Councillor D J Major Councillor Ms B Phipps Councillor O Roe Councillor J Wyatt
Officers:	Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council
Also present:	County Councillor Paul Goggins

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

Councillor Keith Williams, reported formally to the Parish Council on the death of Councillor Ivy Young.

Fitting tributes were paid to the community service undertaken by Councillor Ivy Young at her funeral earlier that day. Members respected a minute's silence in memory of their late colleague.

Councillor Keith Williams thanked all the members of the Parish Council and other authorities that attended the funeral, as well as staff and members of the press. It was asked that specific thanks be passed on to David Abbott, Facilities Manager and his team who organised the celebration of life at the Manor House.

### **388. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst (other authority meeting), Councillor Leon Lay (unwell) and Councillor Samantha Heilling (work commitment).

### **389. Declarations of Interest**

None.

### **390. Public Participation**

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

### **391. Minutes of the Meeting**

It was proposed by Councillor Derryck Croker, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> January 2013, 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.

### **392. Vacancy on the Parish Council**

The Clerk advised that the Notice of Vacancy in Leavesden Ward, caused by the death of Councillor Ivy Young, would be posted on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2013 and if ten voters from the ward so requested a by-election would be held on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2013 the same day as the County Council election.

If a by-election was not called the vacancy would be filled by co-option.

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

### 393. Planning and Highways Committee

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor David Major be appointed chairman of the Planning and Highways Committee until the end of the council year.

### 394. Fees & Charges 2013-2014

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in the following item and did not take part in discussions.

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of Fees and Charges for Halls, Open Spaces and Sports Facilities, as recommended by the Leisure Committee (min. 329.), be approved.

### 395. Budget & Precept 2013-2014

Councillor Sara Bedford, Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee, presented the budget for the coming financial year. Members were aware that the setting of the budget, which usually takes place in January had been delayed by changes made by HMG to the method of calculating the Band D Base Rate.

The changes had a negative effect on the outcome of the residents Band D equivalent calculation and to offset the effect this would have on the Parish Council's finances a balancing grant of £53,703 had been made, to the Parish Council by Three Rivers District Council. Members were advised that there was no certainty that the balancing grant would be available in future years

Members discussed the refurbishment of play areas in the parish and were in agreement that the Manor House play area was now the highest priority for refurbishment. Three Rivers District Council had the play area scheduled for refurbishment in 2016-2017, but this would be dependent on the availability of funding.

It was decided that the grant from Three Rivers District Council of £53,703 be placed into an earmarked reserve for the purpose of funding the refurbishment of the Manor House Play area.

#### a. Budget 2013-2014

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's budget for 2013-2014 be set at £567,220. (Expenditure = £768,865 and Income = £201,645

All members present were in agreement.

#### b. Precept 2013-2014

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Precept for 2013-2014 be set at £564,000, unchanged from the previous year.

All members present were in agreement.

### 396. Annual Report 2012-2013

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and **RESOLVED** that the draft Annual Report for 2012-2013 be accepted and that delegated authority be granted to the Clerk to make minor amendments as necessary. Members noted that the final report from the Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee was still outstanding due to the late setting of the budget for 2013-2014.

The Clerk will circulate the final report to members.

**Abbots Langley Parish Council**

The meeting closed at 7.52 pm.

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

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