

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held at 7.30 p.m. on Monday 11th March 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
Police:	Sergeant 1275 Neil Canning
Also present:	County Councillor Paul Goggins

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

430. Apologies for absence

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

431. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Keith Williams, as a member of the Licensing Committee at Three Rivers District Council, declared a non-personal interest in agenda item 9. Councillor John Wyatt declared a personal interest in the same item.

432. Public Participation

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

433. Hertfordshire Police

Recordable crime in the area for the twelve months to end February 2013 reduced from 662 to 572 (16%), numbers up slightly on dwelling burglary, proactive operations are targeting possible offenders.

Vehicle crime (moving and static) over the same period is down from 82 recordable offenses to 62 (32%). Reported incidents of anti-social behaviour are down from 679 to 512 (25%).

The two police vehicles that were damaged in the recent arson attack in the Manor Lodge car park will probably be written off. Officers have been allocated cars from headquarters reserves, so patrols are being maintained, but the loaned vehicles do not have Automatic Number Plate Recognition equipment installed, which will limit officers ability to identify vehicles of interest. Enquiries into the arson are ongoing.

Operation Scorpion officers are working out of the Abbots Langley Community Police Office, these officers are engaged in proactive unmarked operations in the area.

Focus is being given to the Bedmond area where there have been a recent increase in reports of anti-social behaviour, officers are working with the Housing Association and Three Rivers District Council, agreed behaviour contracts are being put in place.

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Two arrests were made following a disturbance in the Swan public house. Licensing Officers and the Licensing Team at Three Rivers District Council are investigating the pub's licensing arrangements.

Officers were asked to give attention to low level drug use in the Gypsy Lane area.

Obstruction and thoughtless parking outside Divine Saviour RC Primary School had been reported to members, as well as similar problems at Abbots Langley Primary School. Officers will give attention.

434. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Derryck Croker, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 18th February 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.

435. 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 - 9th & 23rd January, 13th & 27th February.

Leisure Committee - 20th February 2013.

Finance & Administration Committee - 25th February 2013.

436. Member Submitted Motion - Councillor Ivy Young Award

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that in recognition of the outstanding voluntary work undertaken in Abbots Langley by the late Councillor Ivy Young, the Council agrees to make a special, one off, Civic Award in her memory.

A vote was requested, all members were in favour.

437. Code of Conduct

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the revised Code of Conduct, amended on the recommendation of the Monitoring Officer at Three Rivers District Council and the Committee of Standards in Public Life be adopted.

438. Manor Lodge Car Park

Councillors Keith Williams and John Wyatt, having previously declared an interest, left the room for the discussion of this item, returning when the decision had been reached.

Councillor Gloria Keaveny Vice-Chairman of the Parish Council took over as meeting chairman for the discussion of this item.

Members discussed the impact a trade stall would have in the car park in terms of access and reduction of available parking bays and the possible impact on the High Street.

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the request to set up a trade stall in the Manor Lodge car park be refused.

439. Hertfordshire Police & Crime Commissioner - Manor Lodge Community Police Office Lease

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that HP&CC be granted a new five year lease to the Manor Lodge Community Police Office.

Two members to sign the new lease the Clerk to witness.

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440. Standing Orders

Members noted the draft update to Standing Orders as presented by the Chairman and the Clerk.

The Clerk advised that the Finance and Administration Committee would be reviewing financial regulations at its meeting in April and when this review was complete the complete Standing Orders would be brought forward for approval.

441. District and County Council Member Reports

County Councillor Paul Goggins

Reported that his Locality Budget is now fully expended and all grant recipients were within the Abbots Langley ward.

As Councillor Paul Goggins was standing down at the County Council elections in May, the Chairman thanked him for all the support he has given to the Parish Council over his many years service as County Councillor.

District Councillor Sara Bedford

Asked members to note that Three Rivers District Council has frozen its Council Tax again for 2013-2014, it was now at a lower level than in 2006. The District Council had also agreed to maintain charge free parking across the district to encourage residents to use local shops and businesses.

District Councillor Keith Williams

Reminded members that the next Local Area Forum was being held on 19th March 2013 at Bedmond Village Hall (7:30 pm).

442. Chairman's Report

The Chairman has attended the following events.

25th January	With Vice-Chairman Councillor Gloria Keaveny and other Councillors, attended the Tough Ten presentation evening.
18th February	Gave a tribute on behalf of the Parish Council at the Funeral of Councillor Ivy Young.
6th March	Presided at the Annual Parish Meeting and inaugural Community Showcase.

443. Clerk's Report

Members noted the following items which were not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

- NALC Chief Executive
- Henderson Hall Trustees
- Office Copies
- Diary Dates
- Absence from Office

Members asked the Clerk to pass on their congratulations to Janet Pearce, Planning and Administration Officer, who recently attained her Certificate in Local Council Administration qualification.

The Electoral Services Manger at the District Council has advised the Clerk that the requisite number of electors from the Leavesden Ward had come forward to request an election to fill the vacancy on the Parish Council caused by the death of Councillor Ivy Young. The by election would be arranged for 2nd May 2013, the same day as the County Council elections.

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444. Monthly Statement of Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for January and February 2013 as notified to the Council be approved and published on the Parish Council's website.

The meeting closed at 8:19 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____