

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman:	Councillor Jane Lay
Vice Chairman:	Councillor Belinda Phipps
Councillors:	Councillor Sara Bedford Councillor Martin Brooks Councillor Jean Bowman Councillor Derryck Croker Councillor Jeff Hill Councillor Brenda Kersey Councillor Gloria Keaveny Councillor David Major Councillor Owen Roe Councillor Keith Williams Councillor John Wyatt
Officers:	Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council
Police:	Sergeant 1275 Neil Canning

The meeting opened at 7:30pm.

### **236. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst (unavailable).

### **237. Declarations of Interest**

Councillors Sara Bedford, Martin Brooks, David Major and Keith Williams as members of Three Rivers District Council, declared an interest in agenda item 20, Three Rivers District Council - Election Expenses.

Councillor John Wyatt declared an interest in agenda item 10, Speciality Market - Manor Lodge Car Park.

### **238. Public Participation**

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

### **239. Hertfordshire Police**

Sgt. Canning updated members on local policing activities.

- No major issues over Halloween or Bonfire Night.
- Increase in theft of tools from commercial vehicles, especially Transit vans where access can be gained with cloned keyless devices.
- Burglary awareness briefings are ongoing, particularly drawing residents attention to unlit properties.
- Two dangerous dog warrants have been executed.
- Vehicle "stop checks" being carried out. A number of vehicle and property crime offences have been reported for action.
- Ongoing attention being given to obstructive parking. Registered keepers are being written to, also officers are visiting. Appears to be having some effect.
- Action is being taken against the driver that mounted the High Street pavement causing injury to a pedestrian.
- Attention is being given to vehicles with defective lighting and cyclists that do not display lights.

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

### 240. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> September 2014, 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.

### 241. 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 - 17<sup>th</sup> September, 8<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Leisure Committee - 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014

Staffing Committee - 24<sup>th</sup> October 2014

Finance & Administration Committee - 27<sup>th</sup> October 2014

### 242. External Audit 2013-2014

Members noted the External Audit report for 2013-2014.

### 243. Henderson Hall Managing Trustees

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that Messrs Chris Whatley-Smith and Richard Baldwin be appointed as Managing Trustees of the Henderson Hall charity for a four year term of office.

### 244. Henderson Hall Managing Trustees - Councillor Contact

It was proposed by Councillor Jeff Hill, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that Councillor John Wyatt be appointed as the nominated contact for the Henderson Hall Managing Trustees.

A vote was requested. 11 members were in favour, 1 against, 1 abstained.

### 245. Speciality Market - Manor Lodge Car Park

Members had no objection in principle to the proposal for a Speciality Market. The organisers were asked to work with officers on the arrangements, in line with the Event Planning Requirements recently approved by the Leisure Committee.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2015 was being put forward as a possible date.

### 246. Hertfordshire County Council - Delivering Inspiring Libraries

Members noted the consultation on the above and were encouraged to respond in their own right.

The Clerk was asked to write to Hertfordshire County Council, detailing the Parish Council's view that Tier 2 status for the Abbots Langley Library was appropriate and given the continual growth of the local community any reductions in staffing or library opening hours would not be supported by the Parish Council.

### 247. Calendar of Meetings

Members deferred a decision on the above.

Councillors Belinda Phipps, Brenda Kersey and John Wyatt will meet with the Clerk to discuss meeting arrangements and a draft calendar would be presented to the January Parish Council meeting.

### 248. Neighbourhood Plan

Members noted the Clerk's report.

The Annual Parish Meeting in March 2015 will be used to launch the event. The Chairman, Clerk and Planning & Administration Officer will meet to discuss arrangements.

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

### 249. Budget 2015-2016

Members noted the latest revision of the budget.

Updates on hall hire and bar income will be included in the next revision which will be discussed at the November Finance and Administration Committee meeting.

The Clerk will discuss the splitting of bar income between Manor House and Henderson Hall with the Finance Officer and Facilities Manager.

### 250. District and County Council Member's Reports

District Councillor Keith Williams

The YMCA have been awarded a grant of £66,000 from Sport England to redevelop the MuGA at Leavesden Country Park. The grant along with additional funding from the YMCA and Three Rivers District Council will enable the MuGA and the community facilities project to proceed.

District Councillor Martin Brooks

Work is ongoing and progress has been made with stakeholders to improve traffic conditions on High Elms Lane. Parking in Arundel Road is causing problems, particularly from HGVs "laying up". Possible solutions under review with Three Rivers District Council.

Hertfordshire County Council have undertaken remedial work on the Furtherfield footpath and also flood alleviation works at the A405 end of Chequers Lane appears to have had some impact.

District Councillor Sara Bedford

Updated members on the upcoming closure dates and times for the High Street. Hertfordshire Highways will be resurfacing, undertaking drainage improvements, surface height adjustments to improve drainage flow and bollard replacements. Toms Lane will be replaced from apx. No. 10 Toms Lane to the Railway bridge.

Further drastic cuts in the bus service subsidies from Hertfordshire County Council will be consulted on in January 2015.

A school planning meeting is being arranged. There is severe pressure on particularly infant school places in the area.

There are no current plans for a pedestrian crossing close to the proposed development on Woodside Road. Consideration is being given to a crossing as part of the College Road, Woodside Road, High Road Leavesden double mini-roundabout junction.

### 251. Chairman's Report

3rd September - Attended the 75th anniversary service of the start of World War II, Baptist Church at School Mead

15th September - Attended the Senior Speech Night, Parmiters School

19th September - Attended the Abbots Langley Biz meeting in preparation for the Carol Concert

21st September - Attended the Battle of Britain Parade, St Paul's Church Langleybury and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

23rd September - Attended the AGM of Home Start Watford and Three Rivers Branch, Watford.

24th September - Attended the AGM of the Hospice of St Francis, Northchurch

4th October - Attended Leavesden Country Park walk arranged by Three Rivers District Council with Countryside Management Services (HCC).

5nd October - Attended the Tough 10 Road Race, Manor House playing fields and presented medals and trophies with Graham Taylor OBE.

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

8th October - Attended the Leavesden Country Park Memorial Service, south side of Leavesden Park.

20th October - Attended a Joint Council meeting of Three Rivers District Councils and the Parish Councils, Rickmansworth.

21st October - Attended a presentation from the Churches, Charities and Local Authorities (Investment Managers), Parish Council Offices.

7th November - Attended the Abbots Langley Fireworks display, Manor House playing fields.

9th November - Attended the Remembrance service, St Lawrence Church and laid a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council.

9th November - Attended the Remembrance service at the Church of the Ascension, Bedmond.

### **252. Clerk's Report**

Members noted the Clerk's report on the consultation responses submitted to the following. Acknowledgement of receipt has been received for both.

- Hertfordshire County Council - Bus Subsidies Reduction.
- Local Government Boundary Commission - Hertfordshire County Council Divisions.

### **253. Monthly Statement of Accounts**

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford and seconded by Councillor Derryck Croker and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for September & October 2014 as notified to the Council be approved and published on the Parish Council's website.

### **254. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)**

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that as the following matters related to the early stages of a dispute, matters related to the employment of staff and the terms of a contract into which the Parish Council may be entering, the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

### **255. Three Rivers District Council - Election Expenses**

Councillors Sara Bedford, Martin Brooks, David Major and Keith Williams left the chambers and took no part in the discussion on this item of business.

Members fully supported the Clerk in the approach taken with Three Rivers District Council. Members would not consider this matter further until a full breakdown of costs, detailing the split between the various elections had been provided, in line with the requirements of the Representation of the Peoples Act.

### **256. Matters Referred from Committees**

Staffing Committee Role Evaluation.

It was proposed by Councillor Belinda Phipps and seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that the Planning and Administration Officer's role be regarded to SCP 23-25 (+1 for CiLCA), with the incumbent remunerated at SCP 25, backed dated to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014.

### **257. Abbots Langley Bowls Club**

Members considered the draft lease and approved it in principle. It was noted some further minor corrections were needed and that clause 24.3 required further definition.

The Parish Council will maintain the bowls green on a "best efforts" basis until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 at a maintenance charge to be agreed, but broadly in line with previously agreed charges plus an annual increase.

**Abbots Langley Parish Council**

Members noted discussions with the club are ongoing on dilapidations and the Clerk will report back as progress is made.

The Clerk will call a meeting of the Parish Council once the above is finalised to resolve the above decisions. It is hoped this will take place in December.

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm.

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

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