

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman: Councillor Alex Michaels  
Vice-Chairman: Councillor Liz Burns  
Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford  
Councillor Jean Bowman  
Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst  
Councillor Brenda Kersey  
Councillor Jane Lay  
Councillor David Major  
Councillor Robin Powell  
Councillor Owen Roe  
Councillor Hitesh Tailor  
Councillor Alison Ward  
Councillor John Wyatt  
Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

The Chairman opened the meeting and asked all those present to remember Councillor Leslie Proctor who passed away in October. A minute's silence had been observed during the Planning and Highways committee meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November. Councillor Proctor was a member of this committee.

### **222. Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Lyn Ferguson (unwell).

### **223. Public Participation**

None.

### **224. Hertfordshire Police**

No officers were available to attend the meeting. Sgt. Barry Eldridge had emailed a report to the Clerk. Current priorities are:

- Speeding - Gallows Hill Lane, Toms Lane, Bedmond Road.
- Nuisance Motorbikes - School Mead and surrounding area.
- Burglary and Crime Prevention Advice.
- Staffing - New PCSO due 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Councillor Sara Bedford reported that there had been a number of criminal damage incidents in the South Way area. The Police were writing to Hertfordshire County Council asking for the street lights to be turned back on in the area.

The Clerk was asked to thank Sgt. Eldridge for his report and to ask that attention be given to cycles being ridden without lights and also vehicles with defective headlights.

The Chairman has a meeting with Sgt. Eldridge scheduled and will raise the issue of children wearing high visibility clothing when they are riding to school.

### **225. Declarations of Interest**

None.

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### **226. To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held on**

It was proposed by Councillor Liz Burns, seconded by Councillor Brenda Kersey and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> September 2016, 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.

### **227. 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 - 21<sup>st</sup> September, 12<sup>th</sup> October & 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016

Leisure Committee - 19<sup>th</sup> October 2016

The text content of the minutes of the Finance & Administration Committee held on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2016 were being discussed between the committee Chairman and the Clerk. The minutes will be reviewed at the next committee meeting. None of the decisions of the committee were in question.

### **228. Committee Membership**

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Liz Burns be added to the membership of the Staffing Committee.

It was proposed by Councillor Jean Bowman, seconded by Councillor Liz Burns and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Jane Lay be added to the membership of the Planning and Highways Committee.

Members were encouraged to join the Planning and Highways Committee, it was hoped that following the by-election in Hunton Bridge and Langleybury ward the new member would join the committee.

Members were asked to give consideration to the workload of the committee, with a view to reduce the committee's consideration of applications that were fully delegated to officers at Three Rivers District Council. Members appreciated that there were differing views on the role of the Parish Council as an advocate for residents, the need for local oversight and other issues.

Members were asked to bring their views to the attention of the committee Chairman, Planning & Admin Officer and the Clerk. If change was agreed then this would be put in place for the new municipal year starting in May 2017.

### **229. Internal Audit 2016-2017 & External Audit 2015-2016**

Members noted both of the above reports which had been considered in detail by the Finance and Administration Committee.

### **230. Financial and Business Risk Assessment**

Members noted above which had been considered in detail by the Finance and Administration Committee.

### **231. Budget 2017-2018**

The Chairman of the Finance and Administration Committee drew members attention to the success of the office refurbishment project. The committee has asked that £10,000 be added to the budget for professional fees to cover the cost of reports on refurbishment options for the depot site.

### **232. Draft Calendar of Meetings 2017-2018**

Members noted the above.

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### **233. Henderson Hall Managing Trustees**

Members noted the likely vacancy for two Managing Trustees in 2017 and consideration will be given to potential appointees.

The vacancies will be advertised when they arise.

### **234. BT Public Call Box Consultation**

Members noted the above.

The Clerk was asked to write to Three Rivers District Council advising that the Parish Council wants the call boxes at Langley Road/High Street, Follett Drive and Bedmond village to be retained. On the grounds of a significant older population in the areas which may not have access to mobile phone or fixed lines.

### **235. Hertfordshire County Council Bus Subsidies**

Members noted the above.

The Clerk was asked to write to Hertfordshire County advising that it was the responsibility of the County Council to support bus services. The Parish Council was not in a position to subsidise bus services.

### **236. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report**

Members noted the above.

### **237. District and County Council Member's Reports**

District Councillor David Major

The Fairways Farm planning application (Bucknalls Lane area) was giving concern due to the potential impact on the surrounding area.

County Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst

As above, there was considerable local concern about the Fairways Farm development. Key issues were around access and increased traffic volumes. Hertfordshire County Council have also raised highways related issues. An issues report will be considered at Three Rivers District Council's Planning Committee when it meets on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

Warner Bros. are due to submit a further planning application for a decked car park for staff use on the "studio" side of the site. Modifications made to the application prior to submission are thought to be broadly helpful.

County Councillor Sara Bedford

Secondary school places are still an ongoing issue. S106 funds from the Leavesden Aerodrome development have been used to increase the number of places at Rickmansworth School, all of the additional places have been offered to students in the Rickmansworth and Croxley Green area.

The reduction in the County Council's gritting programme mean that key roads, such as Langleybury Lane, which is steep and has multiple bends, will no longer be gritted, but other "safer" roads will.

The quality of recent highways works, such as repairs in Standfield, Hazelbury Avenue and under the railway bridge Hunton Bridge are giving cause for concern. Many have broken down within days of being repaired.

High Elms Lane is in a poor condition in many areas. This has been raised with highways officers.

The rest of the refurbishment to the pavements in the High Street is due to take place imminently, as well as refurbishment in Gallows Hill Lane.

The traffic calming in Station Road is held up pending review of concerns raised by a resident.

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The Horsefield play area will be closed for three days w/c 21<sup>st</sup> November to allow the zip wires to be raised, general landscaping works, additional gates, benches and bins installed.

Parking by users of the Horsefield is causing problems particularly at the junction of South Way and Langley Lane. Possible remedial measures have been rejected by the County Council.

Works will take place in the main car park in the High Street. Obsolete tree planting areas will be removed and extra spaces for small vehicles and motor cycles added. A trailer that has been frequently long stay parking has had enforcement action taken.

### **238. Chairman's Report**

The Chairman has attended the following events.

18<sup>th</sup> September - Battle of Britain Memorial, St Pauls Church.

19<sup>th</sup> September - Joint Parishes Meeting, Chorleywood PC.

20<sup>th</sup> September - Meeting with Henderson Hub and Managing Trustees.

30<sup>th</sup> September - Toms Lane Coffee Morning.

2<sup>nd</sup> October - Tough Ten Road Race (Chairman participated, Vice-Chairman presented medals).

5<sup>th</sup> October - Meeting with the new Minister at St Lawrence Church.

26<sup>th</sup> October - Meeting with RES representative.

4<sup>th</sup> November - Fireworks, Manor House Playing Fields.

11<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Day commemoration - St. Lawrence War Memorial (Vice-Chairman deputised).

11<sup>th</sup> November - Cllr Leslie Proctor funeral, West Herts Crematorium (Vice-Chairman deputised).

13<sup>th</sup> November - Remembrance Sunday parade, St Lawrence Church.

### **239. Clerk's Report**

Members noted:

- Hillside Residents Association
- Tough Ten Presentation Evening
- Office Copies
- Diary dates
- Absence from Office

### **240. Monthly Statement of Accounts**

It was proposed by Councillor John Wyatt and seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for September and October 2016 as notified to the Council be approved and published on the Parish Council's website.

**Abbots Langley Parish Council**

The meeting closed at 8.27 pm.

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

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