

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Council Offices  
Langley Road  
Abbots Langley  
Herts  
WD5 0EJ

3rd July 2018.

To Members of the Parish Council

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held at the above address on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at 7:30 pm when your presence is summoned for the purpose of transacting the business outlined below.

The press and public are welcome to attend the meeting.

Tim Perkins  
Clerk to the Council

### AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**  
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
2. **Declarations of Interest**  
To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda.
3. **Public Participation**  
To note if any members of the public have requested to speak at this meeting, in accordance with the Parish Council's Public Speaking Arrangements.
4. **Hertfordshire Police**  
To receive a report from the Police (if present).
5. **To confirm the Minutes of the Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> May & 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018.**
6. **Minutes for adoption**  
To adopt the following minutes and approve publication on the Parish Council's website.
  - Planning & Highways Committee - 16<sup>th</sup> May, 6<sup>th</sup> & 27<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
  - Staffing Committee - 6<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
  - Leisure Committee - 20<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
7. **Matters Referred from Committees**  
Delegation in the Absence of the Clerk  
To note the above delegation as approved by the Staffing Committee. (enclosed)  
*(Staffing, min 43. 06/06/2018)*
8. **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report**  
To note the report from the Chairman of the above. (To follow.)
9. **NALC & SLCC Joint Statement - The Ledbury Case**  
To consider the report from the Clerk and the joint statement from the National Association of Local Councils and the Society for Local Council Clerk's. (Clerk's report item 1 and joint statement enclosed.)

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

### 10. Co-Option to the Parish Council

To consider the application for co-option received.

The Clerk confirms that the application meets the co-option criteria. (Copy application enclosed.)

### 11. Leases Jacketts Field Allotments & Summerhouse Way Garages

To consider the report from the Clerk. (Clerk's report item 2.)

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

To consider any reports submitted by members of the above authorities.

### 13. Chairman's Report

To consider the Chairman's report.

### 14. Clerk's Report

To consider items on the Clerk's report not covered elsewhere on the agenda.

### 15. Monthly Statement of Accounts

To consider the monthly statement of accounts for May & June 2018 and approve their publication on the Parish Council's website.

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

As the following items will consider matters related to the employment of staff a resolution to exclude the press and public may be required, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the LGA 1972, s100 & 102.

### 17. Matters Referred from Committees

Apprentice Management Allowance

To receive an update from the Chairman of the Staffing Committee.

*(Staffing Committee, min 47. 06/06/2018)*

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Clerk's Report - July 2018

1. NALC & SLCC Joint Statement - The Ledbury Case

A dispute between staff at Ledbury Town Council and a specific member ended up in the High Court.

As a result of the court's decision it is going to make it very difficult for staff grievances against councillors to be resolved locally. The only recourse is likely to be through the Code of Conduct and the principal authority's Monitoring Officer.

This has raised significant concerns amongst Clerks.

Consideration of this matter rightly rests with the Staffing Committee but given the seriousness of the situation I am bringing it to the attention of the Parish Council.

Hopefully there will be some further update when the Staffing Committee next meets in September.

A copy of the joint NALC & SLCC statement is enclosed.

2. Leases Jacketts Field Allotments & Summerhouse Way Garages

The above was discussed at the Leisure Committee meeting in June (min. 79.).

I have advised Three Rivers District Council of the committee's decisions; the text of my email is below.

The officer that is dealing with the matter returns from leave after these papers have been circulated, so I may be able to provide a further update at the meeting.

My particular concern is over the future of the garages. The Parish Council should not be expected to carry out end of lease dilapidations, only for the garages to be demolished. I do not think it unreasonable that the Parish Council should seek reassurance on this matter.

***"Jacketts Field Allotments***

*Members agree to proceeding on the basis you indicate. Seven year lease at £40/pa rent.*

*Although members reiterated their previous comment that for fully tenanted allotment gardens this represents a very short lease.*

***Summerhouse Way Garages***

*Members do not accept the increase in rent from £990/pa to £2000/pa and wish to give up the tenancy.*

*Members recognise their obligations to return the building in a functional condition.*

*Officers of your authority have indicated in the past that should the Parish Council return the garages they would probably be demolished, as was the block opposite the one we currently occupy.*

*My members will want an assurance from your authority that prior to undertaking any remedial works your authority has a planned long-term use for the buildings, as to repair the garages only for them to be demolished shortly after would represent a significant waste of public money.*

*I note your authority's £350 legal cost recovery. Given this matter has been largely ignored by your authority for many years, despite repeated chasing from me, I find this charge inappropriate.*

*The Parish Council has wanted to conclude these matters, but staff changes have meant there has never been any action, it seems a bit rich that when the authority finally wakes up, they are going to levy a charge on my council for the privilege of now dealing with the matter."*

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Clerk's Report - July 2018

**3. Defibrillator Vandalism**

The Life Saving Equipment Bill is currently passing through the Irish Parliament and is expected to be passed into law in the autumn.

The Bill imposes strict new penalties, including a fine of up to €50,000 and a jail term of up to five years for anyone convicted of interfering with life-saving equipment.

Our supplier of the defibrillator cabinets is in Ireland and has said vandalism is becoming an increasing problem for his customers. They are bringing out new technology cabinets which will hopefully be more resistant to vandalism, the casing is made from high impact resistant plastics, similar to those used in crash helmets, hinges are secure and there are other security features.

Really should not be necessary though.

**4. Three Rivers District - Parish Council Chairman & Vice-Chairman 2018-2019**

Batchworth - Councillor Patrick Heanen & Councillor Nina Hosking.

Croxley Green - Councillor Mark Saxon & Councillor Andrew Gallagher.

Chorleywood - Councillor Steve Watkins & Councillor Jackie Worrall.

Sarratt - Councillor David Turner & Councillor Sarah Dobson.

Watford Rural - Councillor Valerie Coltman & Councillor Shanti Maru.

**5. Apologies - A Plea**

Please, please, special please.

If you cannot make a meeting, by all means apologise to the Leader, the Chairman, the bloke in Budgens, but do copy me in (and Janet for P&H).

It is not just a moan; some committees are tight on numbers and we do need to keep an eye on the quorum.

Thanks..!

**6. Small Grant**

£250 - Abbots Langley Local History Society to support the costs of staging the Elvira Henderson exhibition in the Henderson Hub Gallery. (see flyer at end of report)

**7. Office Copies**

Copies of the following are available in the office for member's reference.

Leavesden Hospital History Association Update - June 2018

**8. Diary Dates**

The Joint Parishes in Three Rivers meeting scheduled for 18th June 2018 was cancelled. The hosting council is now Sarratt PC and we are waiting revised date options.

12<sup>th</sup> July - Three Rivers District Council, Local Area Forum, 19:30, Bedmond Village Hall.

16<sup>th</sup> September - Battle of Britain Service & Parade. Parade from 11:15, starts High Street car park, service at St. Lawrence Church 11:30-12:30.

1<sup>st</sup> December - Three Rivers District Council, Local Area Forum, 19:30, Manor House.

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9. Absence from Office

12<sup>th</sup> July - HAPTC AGM, 14:30-16:30 (Redbourn PC).

7<sup>th</sup> August - DPO Centre, GDPR Initial Assessment Workshop, all day (Croxley Green PC).

Tim Perkins

Clerk to the Council  
3rd July 2018

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## Who was Elvira Henderson and what is her legacy?



Visit the Exhibition in the  
Henderson Hub Gallery  
High Street, Abbots Langley  
between Monday 23rd July  
and Sunday 29th July 2018

**Opening Times:**  
Monday; Tuesday; Thursday;  
Friday & Sunday:  
10:00am until 4:30pm  
Wednesday & Saturday:  
10:00am until 12:30pm  
Admission: free

In December 1902, Henry William Henderson presented a village hall to Abbots Langley. The exhibition explores the origins of the Henderson family, their involvement in our village, the tragic death of Elvira Henderson at the age of 31, and the surprising return of her son Ronald in 1956.



 **Abbots Langley  
Local History Society**

 [www.alhs.org.uk](http://www.alhs.org.uk)  07816 986434