

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 13th May 2013 at 7.30pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman: Councillor Gloria Keaveny

Vice Chairman: Councillor Belinda Phipps

Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Martin Brooks
Councillor Jean Bowman
Councillor Derryck Croker
Councillor Jeff Hill
Councillor Angela Laval
Councillor Jane Lay
Councillor David Major
Councillor Owen Roe
Councillor Keith Williams
Councillor John Wyatt

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council
Janet Pearce - Planning and Administration Officer

Opening Comments

Outgoing Chairman, Councillor Keith Williams, welcomed the three new members, Councillors Martin Brooks, Brenda Kersey and Angela Laval who were elected to the Parish Council at the recent by-elections.

On behalf of the Parish Council Councillor Williams offered condolences to Councillor Jane Lay, following the recent death of her husband Leon. Councillor Jane Lay thanked members for all their kind letters, cards and support over the recent weeks.

Members asked that the considerable contribution made by Mr Leon Lay to the community of Abbots Langley, in which he had lived all his life, be acknowledged in the minutes. Mr. Lay had been active all his life in many sporting, charity and other community organisations, including two terms as a member and Chairman of the Parish Council.

The meeting opened at 7:36pm.

1. Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Gloria Keaveny be elected Chairman for the municipal year 2013-2014. There were no further nominations.

All members present were in agreement.

Councillor Keith Williams presented Councillor Gloria Keaveny with the Chairman's Chain of Office.

The Past Chairman thanked the Parish Council for honouring him with the office of Chairman for the second time.

He enjoyed his term of office meeting a wide variety of organisations from throughout the Parish and representing the Parish at a number of significant events in a momentous year, that included the Queen's Diamond Jubilee and the London 2012 Olympics.

Thanks were given to all councillors for their support during the year, in particular those who stood in when the Past Chairman was unable to get to an event.

A final count is pending but in the region of £400 was raised for the Chairman's nominated charity Hounds for Heroes.

Thanks were passed on to the Clerk and the office team for their support during the year.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

The Past Chairman thanked the Vice Chairman, Councillor Gloria Keaveny, for her support and encouragement during the year and wished her well for her upcoming term of office which he hoped she would enjoy.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office by the Chairman

The Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman was read and signed by Councillor Gloria Keaveny and signed by the Clerk as Proper Officer of the Council.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Stephen Giles Medhurst (other commitment) and Councillor Brenda Kersey (unavailable).

4. Public Participation

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

5. Hertfordshire Police

None present, due to operational commitments. Sgt. Canning had provided the Clerk with the latest crime statistics which would be circulated to members.

The Clerk advised members that an email had been received from Hertfordshire Constabulary which gave details of changes to police station front desk opening hours across the county. No changes were proposed at the Abbots Langley Community Police Office as the front desk was staffed by volunteers.

6. Declarations of Interest

None.

7. Declaration of Acceptance of Office by Councillors Brenda Kersey, Martin Brooks and Angela Laval Recently Elected to the Parish Council

The Clerk confirmed that all of the above have submitted signed declarations which had been countersigned by the Clerk as Proper Officer.

8. Election of Vice-Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Gloria Keaveny, seconded by Councillor Owen Roe and **RESOLVED** that Councillor Belinda Phipps be elected Vice-Chairman for the municipal year 2013-2014. There were no further nominations.

All members present were in agreement.

9. Appointments to Other Bodies

It was proposed by Councillor Belinda Phipps, seconded by Councillor David Major and **RESOLVED** that the appointments to outside bodies as detailed below be made for the municipal year 2013-2014. All members present were in agreement.

Community Centre Management Committee - Councillors John Wyatt and Councillor Gloria Keaveny

Joint Committee of Parish Councils - Councillor Gloria Keaveny, Councillor Sara Bedford and the Clerk.

Citizens Advice Bureau - Councillor Owen Roe.

Abbots Langley History Society - Councillor Jane Lay

Three Rivers District Council Environmental Forum - Councillor Martin Brooks.

Parmiter's School - Councillor Keith Williams.

YMCA Woodlands - Councillor Martin Brooks and Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst.

Abbots Langley Carnival Committee - Councillor John Wyatt.

The Clerk was asked to write to Nash Mills Parish Council to review with them if it was appropriate for the Parish Council to stop nominating a representative to the Nash Mills Village Hall Management Committee. This arrangement is historical and it is maybe an appropriate time for the Parish Council to withdraw from having a position on this committee.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

10. Election of Committees

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Keith Williams and **RESOLVED** that members be assigned to committees as detailed below.

All members present were in agreement.

Planning & Highways Committee	Councillor Jean Bowman Councillor Martin Brooks Councillor Derryck Croker Councillor Angela Laval Councillor David Major Councillor Owen Roe
Leisure Committee	Councillor Sara Bedford Councillor Martin Brooks Councillor Gloria Keaveny Councillor Jane Lay Councillor John Wyatt
Finance & Administration Committee	Councillor Jeff Hill Councillor Gloria Keaveny Councillor Brenda Kersey Councillor Jane Lay Councillor Owen Roe Councillor Keith Williams
Staffing Committee	Councillor Sara Bedford Councillor Brenda Kersey Councillor Jane Lay Councillor David Major Councillor Belinda Phipps Councillor Keith Williams
Review Panel	Councillor Jean Bowman Councillor Martin Brooks Councillor Derryck Croker Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst Councillor Brenda Kersey Councillor Angela Laval

11. Election of Committee Chairman

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor Keith Williams and **RESOLVED** that committee chairman be appointed as detailed below. All members present were in agreement.

Planning & Highways Committee	Councillor David Major
Leisure Committee	Councillor Jane Lay
Finance & Administration Committee	Councillor Jeff Hill
Staffing Committee	Councillor Belinda Phipps
Review Panel	Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst

Election of committee Vice-Chairman will take place at the next relevant committee meeting.

12. Subscriptions and Corporate Memberships

Members noted the above.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

- 13. List of Deeds and Property Records in the Custody of the Council & its Solicitors**
- Members noted the above and thanked Janet Pearce, Planning and Administration Officer for all her work on the Land Registry first registrations of Parish Council freeholds.
- The Clerk advised that he had received initial advice from the Parish Council's solicitors in regards to the Bowling Club lease, the Clerk will be working further with the solicitors on the renewal when he returned to work.
- The Clerk asked if an informal group of members would be available to review the advice prior to a full briefing to the July meeting of the Parish Council. Councillors, Bedford, Brooks, Hill and Williams agreed to work with the Clerk and a meeting will be set up in early June.
- 14. Minutes of the Meeting**
- It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor David Major and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th March 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.
- 15. Minutes for Adoption**
- The following committee minutes were adopted, approved for publication on the Council's website and passed to the committees for resolution.
- Leisure Committee - 17th April 2013
 - Finance & Administration Committee - 22nd April 2013
 - Planning & Highways Committee - 13th & 27th March, 10th & 24th April 2013
- 16. Annual Parish Meeting 2012-2013**
- Members noted the draft minutes of the above a copy of which will be posted on the Parish Council's website, pending approval at the next Annual Parish Meeting.
- 17. Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Committee Terms of Reference**
- It was proposed by Councillor Keith Williams, seconded by Councillor Sara Bedford and **RESOLVED** that the updated version of the above be approved.
- Standing Orders now "stand approved" and come into effect at the July Parish Council Meeting.
- 18. Henderson Hall Trustee**
- Members noted the requirement to appoint a Managing Trustees to replace Dr. Pratap Mehta who had recently resigned.
- 19. Local Council Boundary Commission - Electoral Review of Three Rivers**
- The main changes in the outline draft recommendations were explained by Councillor Sara Bedford.
- These will reduce the current six wards in Abbots Langley Parish to four, enlarging Leavesden; amalgamating Bedmond, Primrose Hill and parts of Abbots Langley, the remainder of Abbots Langley being incorporated with parts of Tanners Wood and the remaining area of Hunton Bridge becoming Langleybury.
- It was recommended by Councillor Bedford that the Parish Council support the Three Rivers District Council's proposal, as available from their website and the website of the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE). This proposal effectively places the Bedmond Parish Council ward with the current Abbots Langley ward and the Primrose Hill ward with Langleybury ward for District Council election purposes only. This would maintain the numeric electorate balance required by the LGBCE.
- The Council proposed three, three-member wards for this area. In the north-east they proposed to include the village of Bedmond in a ward with the centre of Abbots Langley village. To the west the Council proposed to include the settlement of Primrose Hill and the Langleybury area in a ward with the south-west of Abbots Langley village. To the south they proposed to slightly expand the existing Leavesden ward to include the area around Furtherfield and Queens Drive, which

Abbots Langley Parish Council

meet the criteria of causing as little disruption as possible; keeps like places together and retains the electoral equality, rather than the proposals by the Boundary Commission which splits closely linked areas, such as Langley Road and Marlin Square from Abbots Langley village.

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Bedford, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support the District Council's proposals as outlined above.

A vote was requested eleven members were in favour two abstained.

The Clerk was asked to ensure that the posters from the Local Government Boundary Commission were posted on all notice boards. Councillor Bedford asked that all members submit their own views on the LGBC website and if the opportunity arises encourage residents to submit their comments.

20. Past Chairman's Report

The Chairman has attended the following events.

23 rd March	Production of Party Pieces at Henderson Hall staged by the Abbots Langley Players.
13 th April	Opened the Primrose Hill allotment site.
20 th April	JigFest at the Abbots Langley Community Centre.
21 st April	North Watford Scouts St. George's Day Parade and Service.
26 th April	The Past Chairman thanked the then Vice-Chairman Councillor Gloria Keaveny for standing in at the Royal Opening of the Warner Bros. Leavesden Studios and Harry Potter Studio Tour in the presence of their Royal Highnesses the Duke and Duchess of Cambridge and HRH Prince Harry.
1 st May	The Past Chairman thanked Councillor Sara Bedford for presenting a tribute on behalf of the Parish Council at Leon Lay's funeral, in both the Past Chairman and the Vice-Chairman's absence.
8 th May	Parmiter's School Summer Concert.

The Parish Council's new insurers Came & Company have written a welcome letter to the Chairman and enclosed a Councillor's guide which will be passed on the Councillor Gloria Keaveny.

21. District and County Council Member Reports

County Councillor Sara Bedford

Advised members that following her election to the County Council her induction training was underway.

District Councillor David Major

Three Rivers District Council have received a detailed planning application for phase three and four of the Leavesden Aerodrome housing development no decision has yet been made.

Members were also reminded that the Rickmansworth Canal Festival was being held this weekend.

22. Clerk's Report

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

- Indemnity Claim
- Henderson Hub Project Working Group
- Grants 2013-2014
- Office Copies
- Diary Dates
- Absence from office

Abbots Langley Parish Council

23. Monthly Statement of Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Sara Derryck Croker and seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for March & April 2013 as notified to the Council be approved and published on the Parish Council's website.

The meeting closed at 8.39 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____