

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 17th February 2014 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Vice Chairman: Councillor Belinda Phipps
Councillors: Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Martin Brooks
Councillor Jean Bowman
Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst
Councillor Jeff Hill
Councillor Brenda Kersey
Councillor Jane Lay
Councillor David Major
Councillor Owen Roe
Councillor Keith Williams
Councillor John Wyatt

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

320. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillor Derryck Croker (other commitment), Councillor Angela Laval and Councillor Gloria Keaveny (both unavailable).

321. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda item 5. Fees and Charges 2014-2015 as an allotment holder and member of various organisations that hire Parish Council facilities.

322. Public Participation

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

323. Minutes of the Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Brenda Kersey, seconded by Councillor Jeff Hill and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 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.

324. Fees & Charges 2014-2015

Councillor Jane Lay having declared an interest in the following item did not take part in discussions.

It was proposed by Councillor Martin Brooks, seconded by Councillor John Wyatt and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of Fees and Charges for Halls, Open Spaces and Sports Facilities, as recommended by the Leisure Committee (min. 258.), be approved.

The Clerk was asked to refer a review of charity venue hire rates and a risk assessment of Tanners Wood Hall income to the Leisure Committee. Input from the Finance & Administration committee may be required on both items.

Abbots Langley Parish Council

325. Budget & Precept 2014-2015

Councillor Keith Williams Vice-Chairman of the Finance & Administration Committee introduced the budget.

The revenue budgets for Manor House and Tanners Wood hall were increased to £33,600 (was £28,000) and £21,600 (was £15,500).

Clerk's note: The increases were notified to officers on the day of the meeting but were not discussed with officers in advance.

The budgeted allocation of £48,040 of an earmarked reserves for Play Area Projects and the allocation of £33,000 to refurbish the car park at Primrose Hill were highlighted.

Earmarked reserves have been allocated for buildings, vehicles and plant in line with previous expenditure to ensure funds are available when required.

A further allocation of £12,672 has been made to the earmarked reserve for the Parish Election Fund as the Department for Communities and Local Government have indicated referenda may be required in future years, particularly in the area of Parish Council precept setting. The cost of referenda would be borne by the Parish rather than District Council.

a. Budget 2014-2015

It was proposed by Councillor Jeff Hill, seconded by Councillor Keith Williams and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's budget for 2014-2015 be set at £593,607. (Expenditure = £808,062 and Income = £214,455).

All members present were in agreement.

b. Precept 2014-2015

It was proposed by Councillor Jeff Hill, seconded by Councillor Keith Williams and **RESOLVED** that the Precept for 2014-2015 be set at £575,400, unchanged from the previous year.

All members present were in agreement.

The Finance & Administration Committee were asked to review the latest Eco Audit update report and to report to the Parish Council on any projects that needed to be considered.

326. Annual Report 2014-2015

Members noted the Chairman's and committee reports.

The Clerk was asked to update the budget data as above and make any minor corrections as necessary.

327. Neighbourhood Plan

The Clerk was asked to review with HAPTC if an overview session could be set up for members.

328. Planning & Highways Committee

The Clerk was asked to draft an amendment to Standing Orders covering substitute members for the Planning and Highways Committee.

Draft to be available for the March Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 8.23 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____