

## Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019, 7:30 pm at Tanners Wood Hall, School Mead, Abbots Langley.

Those present:

Councillors:	Councillors Sara Bedford, Liz Burns, Jean Bowman, Brenda Kersey (Chairman), Jane Lay, David Major, Robin Powell and Owen Roe. (8)
Apologies:	Councillors Lyn Ferguson, Stephen Giles-Medhurst, David Monk, Hitesh Taylor Alison Ward and John Wyatt. (6)
Officers:	Tim Perkins (Clerk to the Council), Janet Pearce (Planning and Meetings Officer) and Jodie Copeland (Bookings Officer).
Others:	Terry Morris - OWL Messaging, Neighbourhood Watch. Heather Houston - Ambassador, The Hospice of St Francis.
Public:	13
Press:	1

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The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

### 1. Welcome

Councillor Brenda Kersey, Chairman of the Parish Council, welcomed all attendees to the meeting.

Attention was drawn to the committee reports and the various consultations to which the Parish Council has responded during the past year, also that the tenth defibrillator in the parish is due to be installed shortly.

The Chairman also drew members attention to the recently updated and much improved Parish Council website, which now includes extensive information on the work of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

### 2. Apologies

Apologies from Councillors as detailed above were noted.

### 3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2017-2018

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2018, were accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

### 4. Annual Report and Committee Reports

The Chairman summarised her report for the past year and introduced the committee Chairmen.

The Chairman of the council's Planning & Highways and Vice-Chairman of the Leisure Committee introduced and summarised their committee reports.

The Chairman explained that as the work of the Staffing Committee involved the employees of the Parish Council much of its business was confidential.

The Review Panel deals with formal complaints raised against services the council provides. The panel had not met this year as no such complaints were received.

The reports having been summarised the Chairman asked for questions.

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Questions from residents:

**Q:** *When will the water fountain in the Manor House be back in service and also what are the plans for new fountains?*

**A:** The problems with the water supply are due to be fixed this week. The Leisure Committee has budget to install a further fountain next financial year and the location will be considered at the April Leisure Committee meeting.

**Q:** *Levels of litter in the wooded area of the Manor House.*

**A:** The Clerk will review with the Works Team, but there are resource constraints.<sup>[1]</sup>

Abbots Langley Transition Town Association will consider the area for a volunteer litter pick.

**Q:** *Concern about the use of the tennis courts by youths playing football*

**A:** The Council are aware. The courts are left open otherwise there is a risk of break-ins and vandalism. The new tennis club is due to start operating in April and that will see more organised and public use of the tennis courts.

<sup>[1]</sup> The area was checked the day after the meeting and there were very low levels of litter.

The Works Team litter pick the area once a week, but that may occasionally get missed due to the unavailability of staff. Litter does accumulate in the area particularly in the school holidays and it will be monitored.

### 5. Civic Awards

**The Parish Council's Civic Awards were announced by the Chairman.**

Outstanding Achievement

Sue & Peter North (Abbots Langley Festival)

Service to the Local Community

Laila Namdarkhan (AIMS Abbots Improvements)

Local Community Group

Abbots Langley Autumn Fest Committee

### 6. Carol Concert Collection Donation

The Chairman had nominated The Hospice of St. Francis as her charity for the year. A cheque for £450 was presented to Heather Houston, a Hospice Ambassador, who also gave a short talk on the work of the hospice.

### 7. Financial Grants

Grants certificate were presented to the following organisations.

**i. Abbots Langley Cricket Club**

£650 to support the cost of soil, seed and fertiliser to maintain the cricket table.

**ii. Henderson Hub**

£29,000 to support the activities of the Hub.

*The following grants were awarded under three-year Service Level Agreement*

**iii. CAB in Three Rivers**

£2,000 to support home visiting & Case Worker at Abbots Langley CAB.

**iv. St Lawrence Church**

£2,000 to support the cost of churchyard maintenance and maintaining the environment.

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- v. **St. Paul's Church Langleybury**  
£1,500 to support the cost of maintenance and improvement of church grounds.
- vi. **Lions Club of Watford**  
£2,000 to support the cost of staging Abbots Langley Carnival & Fireworks.

**8. Speaker - OWL Messaging - Neighbourhood Watch**

Terry Morris gave an overview of the OWL Messaging service and also general advice on financial and telephone scams that have been prevalent in the county.

**9. Meeting Closed**

There being no further business the Chairman closed the formal meeting at 8:40 pm, thanking colleagues and the Parish Council staff for all their hard work during the year.

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

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

*[Draft minutes noted by the Parish Council min. 17 - 13/05/2019.]*

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