

Abbots Langley Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 14th January 2019 at 7.30 pm in the Council Offices, Langley Road, Abbots Langley.

Those Present:

Chairman: Councillor Brenda Kersey

Vice-Chairman: Councillor Robin Powell

Councillors: Councillor Liz Burns
Councillor Sara Bedford
Councillor Jean Bowman
Councillor Jane Lay
Councillor David Major
Councillor David Monk
Councillor Owen Roe
Councillor Alison Ward

Officers: Tim Perkins - Clerk to the Council

Also present: Peter Warman - Chairman, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

301. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received, accepted and recorded from Councillors Lyn Ferguson, Stephen Giles-Medhurst, Alex Michaels, Hitesh Tailor and John Wyatt (all unavailable).

302. Public Participation

None.

303. Hertfordshire Police

None present.

304. Declarations of Interest

Councillor Jane Lay declared an interest in agenda item 8, Fees & Charges 2019-2020 as Secretary of Abbots Langley Gardening Society.

305. To confirm the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay, seconded by Councillor Jean Bowman and **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th November & 17th December 2018, 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.

Councillor Sara Bedford requested an amendment to minute 285 (17th December), noting her abstention from the vote was due to her position as Leader of Three Rivers District Council.

306. 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 - 21st November, 5th and 19th December 2018.

Finance & Administration Committee - 26th November and 17th December 2018.

Leisure Committee - 12th December 2018.

307. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Report

Members noted the above report.

Mr Peter Warman advised that Three Rivers District Council Green Belt Review is not expected until at least the end of the year.

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308. Fees & Charges 2018-2019

It was proposed by Councillor Liz Burns, seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the schedule of Fees and Charges (v1c) for Halls, Open Spaces and Sports Facilities, as recommended by the Leisure Committee (min. 268.) be approved.

309. Budget & Precept 2019-2020

Councillor Brenda Kersey, Vice-Chairman of the Finance & Administration Committee, introduced the budget and summarised the discussions that had been held in committee and with members.

a. Budget 2019-2020

It was proposed by Councillor Brenda Kersey, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's budget for 2019-2020 be set at £876,886. (Expenditure = £1,022,094 and Income = £145,208).

b. Precept 2019-2020

It was proposed by Councillor Brenda Kersey, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Precept for 2019-2020 be set at £720,500.

Both of the above had been recommended by the Finance & Administration Committee (min. 278).

310. Annual Report 2016-2017

The Chairman thanked Councillor Jane Lay for stepping in and drafting the Leisure Committee report in the absence of the committee chairman.

It was proposed by Councillor Robin Powell, seconded by Councillor Liz Burns and **RESOLVED** that the annual report be approved and delegated authority granted to the Clerk to finalise the Annual Report, following consultation with the Chairman of the Parish Council.

311. Henderson Hub - Grant Application (2019-2020)

It was proposed by Councillor Liz Burns, seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that a grant of £29,000 be awarded under The General Power of Competence, Localism Act 2011 Sec 1 (1) to the Henderson Hub for the purpose of supporting the Hub's activities.

The grant will be paid in one tranche in April 2018.

The Managing Trustees had advised the Clerk that they supported the grant application.

312. Henderson Hub Managing Trustees

No nominations have come forward.

Members were again asked to advise the Clerk if they had any suitable candidates.

313. District and County Council Member's Reports

County Councillor Sara Bedford

- Leavesden Cycle Hub has been very successful since opening. Courses being run for children's early years cycling and also escorted road rides for all age groups.
- The DDA accessible toilet outside the café entrance is currently unusable due to disused gas main that needs to be capped. Cadent Gas are due to carry out work imminently.
- There is a DDA accessible toilet in the YMCA building. There have been some issues with users gaining access and these have been resolved.
- Leavesden Hive soft launch prior to Christmas. Multiple activities planned for the spring and summer are being arranged along with the Park Ranger.

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- The Wheeled Park in the Manor House has been approved. Initial site meetings have been held, works are due to commence in January/February with opening planned prior to the spring half term.
- The “missing footpath” on Aerodrome Way adjacent to the Warner Bros fence line is currently being constructed, funded via S106 contributions.
- Flooding and ponding still on-going issue in various parts of the County division. Gulley cleaning is still only taking place on a eighteen month cycle.
- On-going issues with the 320 bus service are being addressed with Aviva. Drivers no longer carrying a cash float to give change is being seen as a particular issue.

314. Chairman’s Report

The Chairman has attended the following events.

15th November - Planning Meeting for Christmas Carols and Lights On, Manor House.

6th December - Christmas Carols and Lights On, High Street.

18th December - Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, Parmiters School.

20th December - Carols Around the Tree, Church of the Ascension, Bedmond.

20th December - Presented Allotment Awards, Abbots Langley Gardening Society Christmas Social, Manor House.

23rd December - Read the first lesson at the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols, St. Lawrence Church.

7th January - Meeting of the Joint Parishes in Three Rivers, Sarratt Parish Council

315. Clerk's Report

Members noted:

- Small Grants - Breakspeare Community Pre-School, thanks received.
- Croxley Green PC - Neighbourhood Plan approval.
- Manor Lodge lease completion.
- Office Copies.
- Diary dates.
- “A County at War” DVD, available in office.

316. Monthly Statement of Accounts

It was proposed by Councillor Robin Powell and seconded by Councillor Alison Ward and **RESOLVED** that the Statement of Accounts for November & December 2018 as notified to the Council be approved and published on the Parish Council's website.

317. Review of Ward Boundaries

The Chairman added the following item to the agenda on the grounds of urgency. (Standing Order 14 refers.)

Councillor Sara Bedford introduced the Community Governance Review being carried out by Three Rivers District Council that will shortly be going out to consultation.

The review addresses the parish ward boundaries and proposes the creation of an Abbots Langley West ward (2 members) and a Hunton Bridge ward (1 member), which will effectively balance the proportion of members to electors. The ward boundaries will return to those in place for the 2015 Parish Council elections, although with different ward naming.

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It was proposed by Councillor Brenda Kersey and seconded by Councillor Jane Lay and **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council support this proposal and that delegated authority be granted to the Clerk to respond to the consultation when it opens.

318. Exclusion of the Press and Public (Part II)

It was proposed by Councillor Jane Lay and seconded by Councillor Jean Bowman and **RESOLVED** that as the following matters related the early stages of a dispute into which the Parish Council may be entering, the press and public be excluded from the discussion, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972, ss100 & 102.

319. Advice from the Parish Council's Legal Advisors

Members noted the legal advice received and the Clerk will follow up with Penman Sedgwick.

The meeting closed at 9.04 pm.

Signed: _____

Dated: _____