

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday 2nd March 2022, 7:30 pm at The Manor House, Gallows Hill Lane, Abbots Langley, WD5 0DD.

Those present:

Chairman: Stephen Giles-Medhurst

Councillors: Ruth Clark, Jane Lay, David Major, Robin Powell, Owen Roe, John Swallow, Jon Tankard and Roxanne Yau. (8)

Apologies: Councillors: Sara Bedford, Liz Burns, Fran Deschampsneufs. (3)

Officers: Isabel Montesdeoca (Chief Officer & Clerk to the Council), Jayshree Patel (Financial Officer & Deputy Clerk), David Abbots (Facilities Manager)

TRDC Councillors: Councillor Matthew Bedford

Public: 9

Press: 0

The meeting opened at 7:30 pm.

1. Welcome

Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst welcomed all attendees to the meeting and requested a minute's silence at the start of the meeting in solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

Councillor Stephen Giles-Medhurst summarised the key events and highlights from the current fiscal year noting that as the year ends activities within the parish have started to return to normal. The Chairman updated residents on the Council's plans to host a Queen's Jubilee Beacon Event on June 2nd. The Chairman thanked County Councillor Sara Bedford for the Locality grant provided to fund the installation of a bespoke gas and fire beacon to be lit on the evening of June 2nd alongside others across the country to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

Attendees attention was drawn to the committee reports.

The Chairman thanked staff and colleagues for all their support during the past year.

2. Apologies

Apologies from Councillors as detailed above were noted.

3. Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting 2019-2020

The minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting, held on 4th March 2020, were proposed and seconded from the floor and accepted as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

4. Annual Report and Committee Reports

Copies of the Annual Parish Report were provided to all attendees. The Chairman invited residents to raise any questions on the Annual Parish Report. No questions were received.

The Chairman then invited residents to raise any general questions.

Questions from residents:

Q: A number of years ago the Parish Council carried out an eco-audit. When is the next eco-audit planned? What is the carbon footprint for the Parish Council? What is the Parish Council doing across all areas - electricity, heating, solar, water, etc.- in response to recent reports published on the escalating urgency of the climate emergency?

A: Councillors do not have those figures at this meeting and commit to following up with those responses and figures in due course. ^[1]

^[1] *Information Provided After the Meeting:* The Council carried out an eco-audit in 2010 (F&A Jan 2011, min 476). The Council subsequently had an update audit in 2013 (F&A July 2013, min 105). These reports are available from the Council Office upon request. The Council agreed in 2019 to re-run the audit in the summer of 2020 (F&A Dec 2019, min 284) however these plans had to be put on hold due to the pandemic. The Chief Officer has requested an updated audit to be run in the summer of 2022/2023 financial year. As part of the audit update, a report will be published detailing all of the recommendations implemented since the last audit. The final audit report will be brought to the Finance & Administration Committee in due course.

5. Financial Grants 2022-2023

Grants certificate were presented to the following organisations.

- i. Abbots Langley Festival 2022
£2,000 to support the cost of staging the festival (deferred grant from 2020 as event was not held due to the pandemic).
- ii. Abbots Improvement Group
£500 to support the activities of the collective in maintaining and enhancing community gardening projects in Abbots Langley.

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

- iii. Citizens Advice Service in Three Rivers
£2,500 to support a Sickness and Disability Case Worker at Abbots Langley CAB.
- iv. St Lawrence Church
£3,000 to support the cost of churchyard maintenance and maintaining the environment.
- 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.
- vii. Henderson Hub
£20,000 to support the activities of the Henderson Hub.

A short recess was called at 7:55pm for refreshments.

The meeting reconvened at 8:08pm.

6. TRDC Abbots Langley Local Area Forum

Cllr Matthew Bedford, Three Rivers District Council, responded to residents' questions submitted ahead of the meeting.

7. Meeting Closed

There being no further business the Chairman closed the formal meeting at 8:37 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.16 - 09/05/2022.]

[https://alpcouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/alpcbudgetsmeetingsplanning/shared documents/alpc meetings/alpc meetings 2021-2022/annual parish meeting/alpc-apm-minutes-2022-03-02-final.docx](https://alpcouncil.sharepoint.com/sites/alpcbudgetsmeetingsplanning/shared%20documents/alpc%20meetings/alpc%20meetings%202021-2022/annual%20parish%20meeting/alpc-apm-minutes-2022-03-02-final.docx)