

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY 6th August 2009 IN THE JUBILEE ROOM

Present: Cllr. B.Griffiths, Chairman Cllr. S.Oram
 Cllr. G.Whyte, Vice-chairman Cllr. D.Paffett
 Cllr. D.Alleway Cllr. P.Wilkins

In Attendance:

Mr. A.Stokes	Clerk	Cllr. A.Gibson, HCC (to 8.11 p.m.)
Mr. D.Downey, Footpaths Officer		Cllr.G.Stallard, TVBC (to 8.51 p.m.)
5 Members of the Public		

The meeting opened at 6.32 p.m.

0975. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from Cllr.A.Peters, TVBC and Cllr. P.Stanton.

0976. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2nd July 2009 were confirmed and signed. *Pro PW Sec DA*

0977. Matters Arising.

a. War Memorial Hall fence. Two further estimates were required. Cllr Paffett undertook to approach another contractor and the Chairman was continuing his efforts to contact Faraday Fabrications. *Action Chairman and Cllr. Paffett*

b. Manor Close Playing Field. The Chairman reported on a meeting held on 8th July with Mr. Richard Barry of HCC , whose response on the County Council's proposals was awaited. It was felt that the prospects were promising for retaining the majority of the area as "green" space.

c. Retention of bungalow at "Formosa". Cllr. Wilkins had attended the meeting of the Planning Committee, which had decided to permit the retention only for the duration of its use as sheltered accommodation for an elderly relative.

d. Church Path notices. Cllr Alleway presented a new notice with aluminium backing, which, it was hoped, would prove more resistant to vandalism.

e. Graffiti. The graffiti on the Village Sign on Red Post Lane had been successfully removed by Mr. Alan Jenkins, for which the Council expressed appreciation.

0978. Planning

a. No 09/01334/FULLN: Stables and Store, described as adjacent to Rosecomb Farm. **It was resolved** to register No Objection to this application, but to comment that the appropriate address would be The Old Works, Cattle Lane *Pro GW Sec DA*

b. TVBC Core Strategy Consultation. The Chairman and Clerk had attended a seminar run by Mr. Tim Crouch, an officer of TVBC Planning Service. Parish Councils were being invited to delineate areas ("Village Envelopes") outside which development would not be permitted.

After discussion, including helpful contributions from Cllr. Stallard, it was decided to hold a special meeting on the subject at 6.30 p.m. on 1st September.

c. Note was taken of delegated responses and decisions by the TVBC Planning Service.

0979. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk requested guidance on the problem of inscriptions on the Memorial Stones in the Garden of Remembrance. There were still spaces for names on the western faces of the stones while remains were being interred on the eastern side. Clearly relatives would prefer names to be inscribed on the same side as the interment. After discussion **it was resolved** to alter the regulations so as to allow inscriptions to continue on the eastern faces of the stones.

Pro GW Sec SO

0980. Local Organisations.

a. County Councillor. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Andrew Gibson to the meeting. Cllr Gibson outlined the many County Council activities to which he was committed, and promised to provide a monthly report for the 23 Parish Councils in his ward. Like his predecessor, he would be able to make discretionary grants for small projects and would attend monthly "surgeries" in Andover in company with the MP and Borough Councillors. He wished particularly to see an improvement in the maintenance of roads and footpaths. He responded positively to the requests for the construction of a roundabout at St. John's Cross from Councillors and members of the public as represented by Mrs Christine Forrester whom he encouraged to go ahead with her proposed petition.

Action Mrs. Forrester

b. Borough Councillor. Councillor G. Stallard concentrated on the issue of street naming, indicating that the Borough had straightforward procedures for confirming or changing the names of roads. The residents of Red Rice Road, as represented by Mrs. Cherry Irwin and others in attendance, were concerned about problems experienced in connection with emergency services, confusing our two villages, particularly because of the proximity of Red Rice Road, Upper Clatford. Mrs Irwin undertook to approach all residents of Red Rice Road with a view to achieving consensus on the need for change and on a possible new name.

Action Mrs. Irwin

c. Abbotts Ann Action. Dr. Moon had circularised a summary of his complaint to the Local Government Ombudsman about Test Valley Planning Service's handling of his comments on the proposed development of Andover Airfield. Cllr Stallard stated that a confidential response had been received by Dr. Moon.

d. Footpaths. Mr. Downey was contacting HCC about the provision of a finger-post at Webb's Lane. Dog-fouling was reported as continuing unabated especially on Church Path.

e. Nursery School. In connection with the Nursery School's request for more storage, the Clerk had established that the eastern section of the existing shed was currently in use by the Village School. Accordingly, when the School had moved to its new site, this store would become available to the Nursery School. It was agreed that, in spite of the delay, it would be best not to provide additional storage in the meantime.

f. Village Shop. Cllr Whyte reported that the shop was making a satisfactory profit, although due to a curiosity of the electronic stock-control system, the accounts were showing a paper loss. Councillors did not ask for a detailed explanation.

g. War Memorial Hall. Cllr Stallard reported that the renewal of the heating system was due to start in mid-August. A window had been broken by children throwing stones, and there had been some graffiti.

981. Finance.

a. **It was resolved** to authorise the following payments:

Cheque No	506	Administration	£661.05
“	507	Andover Mencap	£128.00
“	508	Victim Support	£100.00
“	509	John Hanson Awards Foundation	£25.00

Pro GW Sec PW

b. **It was resolved** to authorise the payments of Cheques No 508 and 509 in accordance with the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Authorities Act 1972

0982. Correspondence.

a. Manor Close. A letter from Mr. G. Dinkle expressed the anxiety of himself and his neighbours concerning the future of the Manor Close Playing Field. The Clerk had assured him that all efforts were being made to prevent the area from being developed for housing.

b. A request had been received for the trimming of the lower branches of the Jubilee Oak to improve visibility at the junction. Cllr Whyte undertook the operation.

Action Cllr Whyte

c. Cllr P. Stanton had written to the Chairman to tender his resignation from the Council as from the end of the September meeting. The news was received with regret which the Chairman undertook to express in his reply.

Action Chairman

0983. Other Business.

a. Outlines of a proposed amendment to the 1972 Local Government Act had been received from HALC and was circulated to Councillors, who reacted with dismay, as it appeared to enact that a Parish Council could not operate or be quorate unless five elected members were present. HALC and other county associations were vigorously protesting, and the Clerk was writing to the Chief Executive of HALC. *Action Clerk*

b. Cllr Wilkins reported that the 50 mph speed limit sign near the Garden Centre roundabout had been turned round.

c. Cllr Oram had found that though School House was listed, the School building was not, although it had many interesting historical features. The Chairman undertook to contact the Conservation Officer. *Action Chairman*

d. Emergency Plan. It was decided to defer discussion of this item.

0984. Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for 3rd September at 6.30 in the Jubilee Room. The special meeting on the Core Strategy consultation was scheduled for 1st September at 6.30; venue to be notified.

Signed.....

Date