

Abbotts Ann Parish Council

Minutes Of the meeting for December 2007

Update provided by Adrian Stokes (Parish Clerk)

The next Parish Council Meeting will be on Thursday, 10th January 2008
and held in the Jubilee Room, Abbotts Ann War Memorial Hall, commencing at
7.00 p.m.

All members of the Public are welcome to attend Parish Council Meetings
and are encouraged to do so

December Meeting

Present:

Cllr B.Griffiths, Chairman
Cllr G.Whyte, Vice-chairman
Cllr D.Alleway

Cllr J.Holmes
Cllr S.Oram
Cllr P.Wilkins

In

attendance: Mr. A.Stokes (Parish Clerk)
Mr. D.Downey Footpaths Officer
Cllr. A.Peters, TVBC

Apologies

Cllr. P.Stanton
Cllrs. M.Woodhall, HCC
G.Stallard, TVBC

Matters Arising

1261. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 1st November 2007
were confirmed and signed as amended in Minute 1252. *Pro GW Sec 50*

a. Minute 1250 d. Cllr D.Alleway reported on the presentation at John
Hanson School.

b. Minute 1252. The Chairman was consulting Dell Engineering about the
fence around the War Memorial Hall; it was clear on inspection that some
fairly extensive repair work was required in any case.

c. Minute 1253. It was noted that the Planning Committee meeting
scheduled for December 3rd had been postponed pending completion of the
submissions from the Highway authorities and the developers.

d. Minute 1257 b. Cllr Stanton had arranged for a white band to be painted
on each of the bollards outside 50 Abbotts Ann.

e. Minute 1258 a. The Chairman and the Clerk had not completed their
researches into the modifications to the Church Path cuckoo-pen. *Action
Chairman and Clerk*

Planning

a. It was resolved to raise no objection to the following applications:

TV No 07/02738/FULLN: 23 Red Rice Road; retain fence
TV No 07/03241/FULLN: 110 Salisbury Road; rear extension
TV No 07/03006/TREEN: Nether House; Thin 2 trees, fell 1
TV No 07/03122/TREEN: Greenways; Fell 2 trees, 1 laurel
TV No 07/02740/TREEN: Ash Cottage; Crown lift willow
Pro PW Sec 50

b. It was resolved to object to Network Rail's Application 07/03409/HRWN: Removal of 10 metres of hedge, East side of Cattle Lane, North of viaduct, on the grounds that there was an existing gap close by, which appeared to be in use by Network Rail already, and that there was no commitment to re-instatement of the hedge. *Pro PW Sec DA*

c. The Chairman and Cllr Peters had been approached by the agents of the developer of the site at 33 Cattle Lane (Application No 07/01355/FULLN, which had been refused). They had replied that no discussions would take place except in the context of a formal application.

d. Cllr J. Holmes raised the question of solar panels; Cllr A. Peters undertook to consult the Planning Department about the criteria for such installations.
Action Cllr Peters

e. Cllr D. Alleway reported that he had not yet received a response from HCC to his enquiries about the legality of the barring of the gate from Catherine's Walk onto a strip of apparently non-HCC ground at the side of the playing field at Manor Close. He was continuing to pursue the matter.
Action Cllr Alleway

f. The decisions listed in the Appendix were noted.

Clerk's Report

a. The Clerk reported on a seminar at Longstock introducing the new e-planning programmes to be launched in the New Year. It would in future be possible to transact all planning business, including applications and consultations, electronically; however it would be possible to continue using hard copy for the foreseeable future. The problem of viewing plans on line or printed onto A4 paper had yet to be resolved.

b. His efforts to secure repairs to the faulty street-lights on Church Path met with limited success; the previously non-functional light had apparently only stayed on for one night. He was continuing to pursue the matter. *Action Clerk*

c. He drew attention to the solar-powered coloured star which had been placed in the Garden of Remembrance. The Clerk was asked to take appropriate action. The Council reinforced the view that any exceptions to the rule that floral tributes only were permitted should be referred to the Council; for approval; the Clerk would amend the regulations accordingly.
Action Clerk

d. He reported that he had had several queries about the regulations and scales of charges for the burial ground; he was asked to simplify the regulations and to revise the scales and their presentation, with a measure of rounding-up where appropriate. *Action Clerk*

Parish Organisations

a. Abbotts Ann Action. Cllr G. Whyte presented an update on the proposed development of the Airfield site prepared by Dr. J. Moon. See Appendix to these Minutes.

- b. Fete Committee.** Cllr. Whyte reported on the very successful Fete. The Committee had hoped that representatives of all the organisations benefiting from the Fete's takings would attend the AGM to receive and acknowledge the contributions. The Council expressed warm appreciation of the work of the many volunteers involved.
- c. Footpaths.** Mr.D.Downey reported that a tree had fallen on the Drove. The Clerk undertook to contact the Abbotts Ann Estate. *Action Clerk*
- d. Neighbourhood Watch.** Mr.Downey reported that the 101 number for non-emergency calls was still functional despite the withdrawal of funding by central Government.
- e. Sports Field.** Cllr P.Wilkins reported on the very successful Bonfire Night, which was continuing to attract many visitors from outside the village. The Council expressed warm appreciation of the work of the many volunteers involved.
- f. Village Shop.** Cllr Whyte reported that the shop had again been short-listed for the Southern Regional Finals of the Best Rural Retailer Competition. It was noted that the Goodworth Clatford shop was also on the short list.

Finance

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

Cheque No 403 Administration £653.61
Cheque No 404 Shaw & Sons Ltd £ 15.95
Cheque No 405 SLCC Subscription £113.00

- b. Clerk's remuneration.** An increase in the national salary scales had been agreed, but the Clerk had been able to reduce his work-time to 15.5 hours per week. It was further resolved to authorise the reduction of the Clerk's working time, to be paid at the new rates, to 15.5 hours per week, and to increase the allowance for use of his home as an office to £21 per month. This would result in no change to the budgeted figures. *Pro GW Sec*

- c. Audit.** The Audit Commission had completed the audit of the accounts for 2006-07. No comments or queries had been raised. The Clerk had posted the statutory notices.

- d. Internal Audit.** The Clerk reported that the latest regulations required an independent review of the accounting arrangements, separate from the annual official internal and external audits. Professor Gibson had kindly offered to carry out this review, probably on a quarterly basis.

Correspondence

- a. Electronic speed-check signs.** Details of permanent and temporary signs had been received by the Clerk. It was considered that no decisions on these and other traffic-calming measures could be made until more details were available of the traffic arrangements at the new school site.
- b. TVAPC.** Meetings usually clashed with the Council's regular meetings. It was suggested that a Councillor should be delegated to attend on occasions

when important matters affecting this Parish were on the Agenda.

c. House names. In response to a query about the address of the new dwelling being built next to Rosebank, the Clerk had asked for the developers to send in some suggested names, with the proviso that they should not contain the word "Rose".

d. HALC was updating its website with new web and email addresses, which would include a "Members only" section accessible to Councillors and Clerks, who have been issued with new user names and passwords.

e. AMA UK (Ahmadiyya Muslim Association UK) had offered to run a presentation for our parish, with an emphasis on the condemnation of terrorism and the understanding of the culture and beliefs of Islam. It was not considered appropriate for the Council to sponsor this, but it was suggested that other village organisations might be interested.

Other Business

a. Electronic Speed Indicators. Longparish P.C. was to hold a demonstration event on Friday January 11th at 10 a.m. Five Councillors expressed interest.

b. A Workshop for Councillors, detailing the working of the planning system and the ways of successfully influencing decisions, was recommended by HALC; the date, 7th February, unfortunately clashed with the scheduled Parish Council meeting.

c. HALC had drawn attention to Safer Young Drivers' Courses being run by Youth Cubs Hampshire and Isle of Wight. In the absence of an appropriate youth organisation in the Parish, it was not considered possible for the Parish to sponsor such a course.

d. Cllr S.Oram pointed out that parking in Church Road on the occasions of important church functions were causing a hazard at the Manor Close corner. It was suggested that ways should be found to place a warning notice on the approaches to the corner.

e. The Chairman and Cllr P.Wilkins requested that the attention of HCC should be drawn to a broken kerbstone outside the Eagle and to some newly-installed roadside posts at the junction of Cattle Lane and Red Post Lane.

Action Clerk

1269. Next Meeting. The date of the next meeting was confirmed as 10th January 2008.

The Meeting closed at 9.22 p.m.

For more information please contact Adrian Stokes (Parish Clerk) Phone 01264 710470

Appendix to Minutes

Airfield and Megashed Update

As you know, the Northern Area Planning Committee meeting scheduled for 3rd December was

postponed (until February, it is rumoured) because various issues have not been resolved.

Road and Traffic Issues The current situation appears to be as follows:

- 1) HCC Highways have accepted Goodman's October 2007 estimate of 1660 two-way HGV movements per day (i.e. in trips + out trips) as the likely maximum daily trip rate arising from Unit 4 (Tesco).
- 2) HCC have insisted that Goodman continue to assume their July figures of 100 AM outbound/250 PM inbound as the maximum peak hour HGV flows associated with Unit 4 in order to ensure that the revised 100-Acre junction is robustly designed. Note that Goodman, in response to earlier HCC traffic objections, produced revised estimates in October that were a small fraction of the estimates made in July.
- 3) These figures, and the light vehicle traffic estimates based on the latest proposed development mix in the Business Park, have now been fed into Goodman's Transyt model of the junction.
- 4) HCC says it is satisfied that the junction can handle the AM peak but still has concerns about the PM peak, particularly the length of the queue expected on the approach to the northern over-bridge signals and its potential to block the entry to the A303 w/b on slip. HCC say they also have concerns that the queue on the short link between the two overbridges will block back and hamper the entry to the southern over-bridge from the north.
- 5) HCC has also told Goodman that a queue of 160 vehicles on the Weyhill Road would be unacceptable.
- 6) The Highways Agency still have concerns about the merging of HGV traffic entering the A303 e/b due to the short distance between the 100-Acre e/b on-slip and the A343 (Salisbury) off-slip. The latest plan is to use a demand management system, similar to that on the M42, which uses cameras on gantries over the A303 to spot gaps in the traffic and then to control entry of HGVs onto the A303 by means of traffic lights on the slip road. 7) Unfortunately Goodman still appear to have made no proposals to prevent car traffic entering the Business Park via the villages south-west of Andover and Monxton Road. They have confirmed that the vehicle number plate recognition and control system will only apply to vehicles entering the Business Park that have three or more axles.

Noise Issue Goodman's report on the noise impact of the development, contained in the October Environmental Statement, was considered so full of errors and omissions by TVBC's Environmental Health Dept. that they asked Goodman to rewrite it. The revised report has not yet been received and the EHO will not be making their comments and recommendations until it is.

John Moon 05-12-07