

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 5th March 2009
IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE WAR MEMORIAL HALL

Present:	Cllr. B.Griffiths, Chairman	Cllr. D.Paffett
	Cllr D.Alleway	Cllr. P.Stanton
	Cllr S.Oram	Cllr. P.Wilkins

In Attendance:		
Mr. A.Stokes	Clerk	Cllr. A.Peters, TVBC
Mr. D.Downey	Footpaths Officer	Dr. J.Moon, Abbots Ann Action

The meeting opened at 7.05 p.m.

0922. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from Cllr.G.Whyte, Cllr.P.Wilkins and Cllr.G.Stallard TVBC .

0923. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th February 2009 were confirmed and signed. *Pro DP SecPS*

0923. Matters Arising.

1. Street name signs. The Clerk had met Mr. Drew of TVBC on site at the Poplar Farm junction. Mr.Drew promised that the correct signs would be installed within part of the current year's budget. Mr. Drew also undertook to repair or replace the signs at the entrance to Abbots Hill, and to assess the state of those at Abbots Close.

2. War Memorial Hall plaque. The Chairman had the matter in hand.

3. Tree in War Memorial Hall grounds. The broken limb had been removed, but the removal of a number of other dead or decaying limbs was recommended.

4. Highway matters. Two large pot-holes in Church Road had been very promptly repaired after being notified via the internet. The raised kerbstone outside the Village Shop, which had already caused an accident, and the blocked drains elsewhere had been similarly notified, but no action had yet been taken. Attention was also drawn to the repair of the footpath in Duck Street opposite Ash Cottage. It was considered that this had been unnecessary, whereas the footpath on the eastern side did require attention. The Clerk was asked to query this activity with the Highway Authority and also to draw attention to other highway problems. *Action Clerk*

0924. Planning.

1. After discussion **it was resolved** to raise no objection to the following applications:

TV No 08/02256/FULLN Abbots Hill House: Tree House (Retrospective)
Pro PS SecSO

“ 09/00222/FULLN “ “ Fish Pond (Retrospective)
Pro SO Sec PS

“ 09/00079/FULLN Far End, Abbots Hill: Alterations to garage to
provide office; change of use of old office to
residential. *Pro PS Sec DA*

2. Note was taken of delegated responses and of decisions of the Planning Service as noted in the Appendix to these Minutes.

3. Airfield development. Councillors were reminded that the application had been referred back to the Planning Control Committee. The meeting was to be held in the Guildhall on 10th March at 5.30 p.m.

4. The Planning Service was offering three training sessions for Parish Councillors in March and April. The Chairman and Cllr Oram were planning to attend.

5. The Clerk circulated a Summary of common planning considerations from TVBC, indicating those which could, or could not, be taken into account when determining applications.

0925. Clerk's Report.

Owing to his absence during the following week, the Clerk would be unable to produce a Newsletter for March, but it was hoped that Ms Joanna Dixon would submit a progress report on the Test Valley Energy Initiative instead.

He had repaired the jammed lock in the door of one of the Jubilee Room cupboards and by removing a quantity of past Planning Applications had cleared space for current files as well as for storage of Archive material.

He reported on problems accounting for delays in the framing of the print of the “Village Politicans”, but hoped to resolve these shortly.

He asked for Councillors' views on the possibility of starting Council meetings at an earlier time. Councillors were prepared experimentally to move the start of the meeting to 6.30 p.m. from May.

0926. Parish Organisations.

1. TVBC Councillor. Cllr Peters reported that the aim of the forthcoming meeting of the Planning Control Committee was to close off all outstanding issues concerning the Airfield development application. The documentation indicated that this Council's concerns were only partly met; in particular it was not clear whether the proposals for sound barriers were at all beneficial to this Parish.

Cllr Peters also outlined the problems for the Borough arising from the current economic situation.

He was planning to attend a meeting of the Trustees of the Burghclere Down Community Centre. It was noted that no invitation had been sent to the Parish Council.

2. Abbots Ann Action. Dr. Moon had drafted a further letter of complaint about the handling of the Airfield Development Application to the Chief Executive of TVBC in response to the reply to his earlier letter from the Head of Planning. The draft was approved with acclaim, and the Chairman was to sign and despatch the letter.

Dr.Moon had written to the Planning Officer regarding other unsatisfactory issues, including those concerning control of car traffic and responsibility for payment of fines for breaches of traffic regulations. He mentioned one improvement to be written into the legal agreement which would provide on-site overnight parking for lorries.

He had applied to speak at the meeting of the Planning Control Committee on March 10th, and was authorised to act as this Parish Council's representative.

2. Neighbourhood Watch. Mr. Downey described incidents in the neighbourhood where burglars had gained entrance to properties by pretending to be local council officials. Also, although the Police seemed to be less willing to act against door-to-door salesmen, he stressed the importance of refusing to deal with them.

3. Website. The Webmaster had queried the use of the website for advertising the hiring of the Pavilion for running art classes by a professional teacher. It was considered that this constituted a commercial venture and therefore was not suitable for the website, though of course advertisements could be placed on the Village Shop notice-board or in the Parish magazine.

0927. Finance.

1. It was resolved to authorise the following payments:

Cheque No 472	Administration	£670.25
“ 476	C. Watson: tree work	£160.00
“ 477	TVBC: dog-bin emptying	£139.04
“ 478	HALC/NALC Subscription	£399.00

Cheque 476 was to be withheld until the work was completed.

Pro PS Sec SO

2. The Clerk was requested to enquire whether the cost of emptying dog-bins was calculated per bin, or whether there would be a reduction if four bins were emptied at the same time.

Action Clerk

3. Interest. It was noted that the monthly interest paid on the Parish Account was reduced to £28.07 compared with £121.83 the previous February on a similar balance.

4. Section 106. The Clerk circulated details of the sums available from TVBC as a result of the development of the land adjacent to Rosebank.

5. War Memorial Hall railings. A further quotation for a substantial new fence had been received from Faraday Fabrication in the sum of £5,496.27 + VAT. The contractor was not in favour of attempting to re-use the old fence. However the height of 1100 mm was considered insufficient for the purpose. The Chairman undertook to seek adjustment to Faraday's estimate and to obtain at least two other estimates.

Action Chairman

0928. Other business.

School Playing Field. The chairman gave an up-date on informal discussions on the future of the Manor Close Playing Field.

0929. Future Meetings.

The next meeting was scheduled for April 2nd.

The Annual Assembly would take place on March 27th.

THESE MINUTES REMAIN IN DRAFT FORM UNTIL APPROVED AND SIGNED