

Minutes of Abthorpe Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 4 November 2019
in the Old School, Abthorpe

Present: Councillors Chairman Greenhalgh, Councillor K Fenwick, A Hammon, F Noble, R. Stevens,
Parish Clerk T Emerton

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received and approved from Councillors Zachar and Cambray.

2. Members declaration of interest for items on the agenda

No declarations of interest were raised.

3. To receive and approve for signature the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16 September and 19 October 2019

These were accepted and signed.

4. To note any matters arising from the minutes

Action No.	Description	Action
August 2019 - 005 001	Parking at the entrance to the village	Clerk to contact the Highways to understand if a white line can be painted in the area outside Elizabeth Cottage and also get a cost for a new sign and the white line. Clerk will meet the Community Liaison Officer on 15/11/19 to discuss options. Clerk to purchase a No Parking Sign and discuss with the resident the location to display.
August 2019 - 007 005	Right of Way Improvement Plan	Clerk to contact the Sustrans.org.uk for advice on using the old railway as a cycle route or a footpath to Towcester.
September 2019 - 007 004	Safety at the crossroads	Clerk to contact the Highways Agency to improve the safety of the crossroads. Clerk will meet the Community Liaison Officer on 15/11/19 to discuss options as the response from the County Council was not acceptable and there are concerns for safety at this junction. It was also discussed that the hedge at the junction restricts vision.
September 2019 - 007 006	Vehicle speed through the village	Clerk to obtain a cost for an additional speed sign and contract the Highways Agency on what we can do to help alert drivers of the village and the change of speed from 60 to 30 miles per hour. Clerk to meet the Community Liaison Officer on 15/11/19 to discuss options and get an updated quote for the additional speed sign.
November 2019 - 007 001 Inclusive of September 2019 - 007 005	Maintaining the Village Green Project and the unadopted land near the notice board	Clerk to obtain 3 quotes to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Cut grass verges monthly - Keep weeds from church wall and paths - Complete the work on the paths that havent been cleared The Clerk will also contact the County Council to understand what maintenance they should do.
November 2019 - 007 002	Next year's meeting dates	Clerk to book the School Hall for the dates agreed.
November 2019 - 007 003	Next Year's Budget	Clerk to agenda next year's budget to the next meeting so the Council can agree the Precept.

November 2019 - 007 004	Planning Application S/2019/1981/LBC at Leeson House School Lane Abthorpe NN12 8QT	The Clerk to send Councils comments of no objections to the District Council.
November 2019 - 007 005	S/2019/2053/HRN at Highfield Farm Highfield Farm Wappenham Road Abthorpe NN12 8PD	The Clerk to send Councils comments of no objections to the District Council.
November 2019 - 007 006	Community Bus Service	An article to be placed in the next edition of Abtalk.

5. Public Forum

Opportunity for residents to bring along points they would like to discuss with the council
No residents attended.

6. Finance

1. Cash in bank as of 20/10/19

- Treasurer's Account - £7622.47 inclusive of £2k precept
- 30 Day Business Account - £5882.28
- Petty Cash - £31.00

The balances were agreed

2. Invoices for payment

Item no.	Payment to	Description	Net	VAT/ TAX	Total
6.2.1	Tina Emerton	Clerks Salary	289.90		
6.2.2	HMRC	Tax		72.60	
6.2.3	Geoff Gilbert	Completion of clearing village paths	265.00		265.00
6.2.4	EON	Light maintenance	6.60	1.32	7.92
6.2.5	EON	Electric usage	91.74	4.59	96.33
6.2.6	Tina Emerton	Paper	2.44	0.20	2.66

The invoices were agreed to be paid.

7. Specific items for discussion

1. Village Green Project - a plan to maintain

It was discussed about maintaining the paths and cutting the grass verges, monthly, Clerk will obtain 3 quotes to continue and maintain the work.

2. Next year's meeting dates

- Annual Parish Council Meeting - 4th May 2020
- County Election 7th May 2020
- Abthorpe Annual Parish Meeting - 18th May 2020
- 15th June 2020
- 27th July 2020
- 7th September 2020
- 19th October 2020
- 30th November 2020
- 11th January 2021
- 22nd February 2021

The dates were agreed

3. Next year's budget

This years spend and projected spend was reviewed and the proposed budget for next year discussed. The Clerk will ask for quotes for an additional speed sign and maintenance of the Village Green Project and agenda at the next meeting to discuss and agree budgets.

4. Planning consultation/Information for application reference S/2019/1981/LBC at Leeson House School Lane Abthorpe NN12 8QT

There were no objections raised. The Clerk will report this to the council.

5. Planning consultation/Information for application reference S/2019/2053/HRN at Highfield Farm Highfield Farm Wappenham Road Abthorpe NN12 8PD

There were no objections raised. The Clerk will report this to the council.

6. Community Bus Service

The council were reminded that there was an upfront cost of £500 per year when this was reviewed previously. There were only a small number of parishioners who would potentially need transport and they preferred to use a taxi service. It was decided to put an article in the next edition of Abtalk to see if there is any interest for using this scheme.

7. To consider the need to promote candidacy at the May 2020 elections

The Council agreed to advertise the vacancy we will have next year.

8. Village Website

Councillor Fenwick discussed that the current Abthorpe Village Website was built a number of years ago and it is not as simple as it could be. The Councillors agreed that the Parish Council should have their own website. Councilor Fenwick will investigate if there is a grant and what options there are.

9. VE Day Commemorations

The council have been asked to commemorate the VE 75 years with a number of activities. As the village are already organising a VE Celebration weekend the Clerk will understand if the activities we have been asked to do are already being planned or can be included in the celebration weekend .

8. Correspondence

1. Safety in the village

A parishioner wrote to the Council asking if we can review the safety of the village in light of the recent burglary in our village and other surrounding villages. It was suggested if cameras can be placed on buildings such as the Old School and the Church. The Councillors discussed and agreed we were unable to place cameras due to GDPR regulations, however Chairman Greenhalgh will speak to the previous Neighbour Watch Coordinator and contact the Scheme to understand how they can help and advise us. From this advice a flyer will be distributed to all Parishioners giving them advice on how to make their homes secure.

9. Any other business

Councillor Fenwick discussed the leaning trees in the churchyard and the potential health and safety risk if they fell. He will contact the local Tree Surgeon for advice and Chairman Greenhalgh will discuss this with the PCC.

10. Close

The meeting closed at 21.29

Signed
(Chairman)

Date