

Minutes of Abthorpe Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 16 December 2019
in the Old School, Abthorpe

Present: Councillors Chairman Greenhalgh, Councillor K Fenwick, C Zachar, D Cambray, F Noble, R. Stevens,
Parish Clerk T Emerton

1. To receive and approve apologies for absence

Apologies were received and approved from Councillor Hammon.

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 4 November 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. We met with the Community Liaison Officer who advised that a Yellow line can be requested. If agreed by the Parish Council we need to apply for planning application. Sign has been purchased and ready to display. - Clerk to apply for Yellow Lines to be installed... - Chairman Greenhalgh to discuss with residents of Thorpe End about installing yellow lines.
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 Sustrans said they have no funding, they normally work with councils once they have funding. - Closed
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 Council was not acceptable and there is a concern for safety at this junction. It was also discussed that the hedge at the junction restricts vision. Community Liaison Officer reviewed the current road signage and felt it was adequate and clear. She suggested we contact the land owner on the crossroads from Blakesley to see if we can ask them to cut the hedge back to provide better visibility. Discussion re letter from liaison officer, little more that we can do except improve the visibility by trimming hedge in towcester direction. - Councillor Cambray will speak to the land owner to see if their hedge can be reduced.

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. - Cost for an additional speed sign is £2572.55 ex VAT and £100 delivery Discussed and all agreed that a new sign would be helpful in reducing speed through the village. - Clerk to purchase 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: 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 council to understand what maintenance they should do.
December 2019 - 007 002	Next Year's Budget	- Clerk to inform South Northants Council that our Precept will be £4,000 for next financial year.
December 2019 - 007 004	Village Website	- Clerk to contact NCALC to see if there are any website packages available.
November 2019 - 008 001	Safety in the village	- Councillor Zachar will review what is available to help us with Neighbourhood Watch schemes. Long discussion and clear that more investigation is needed to get the right system to keep all villagers informed of issues relating to crime and also a way of highlighting when someone sees something suspicious, so that information is shared.
November 2019 - 008 002	Leaning trees in the Churchyard	Councillor Fenwick will get advice from the local tree surgeon and Chairman Greenhalgh will discuss this with the PCC.

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 6/12/19

- Treasurer's Account - £6874.38
- 30 Day Business Account - £5882.55
- Petty Cash - £31.00

The balances were agreed.

2. Invoices for payment

Item no.	Payment to	Description	Net	VAT/ TAX	Total
6.2.1	Texprep	Abtalk	67.10		67.10
6.2.2	Tina Emerton	Christmas Tree Event			93.98
6.2.3	Tina Emerton	No parking sign	5.97		5.97
6.2.4	Tina Emerton	Ink cartridges x 2	18.93	3.79	22.72

The invoices were agreed to be paid.

7. Specific items for discussion

1. Next year's meeting dates - amended

- Abthorpe Annual Parish Meeting - 4th May 2020
- Local Election 7th May 2020
- AGM Parish Council Meeting followed by the General Meeting - 18th May 2020

The meeting dates were agreed.

2. Next year's budget - agree Precept

The Parish Council currently have £12,788.16 in both the Business and Treasurers account. It was agreed to purchase an additional speed sign to help with controlling the speed through the village. Clerk will purchase a speed camera.

The Precept of £4,000 was agreed. Clerk will inform South Northants Council.

3. Parking at the entrance to the Village and safety on the roads approaching the Village

At the meeting with the Community Liaison Office it was discussed that the signage entering and exiting the village is adequate and in good order and there is no need for any additional signage. She suggested that we contact the owner of the hedge as you exit onto the mainroad from Blakesley to see if it can be reduced to aid visibility. Councillor Cambray will discuss this with the owner.

4. Village Website

Clerk to speak to NCALC to see if there is any Websites packages available.

5. Village Green Project - plan to maintain

Clerk is waiting for one further quote and will agenda this at the next meeting.

6. Old Railway Line

There is no budget available for this and also there are numerous private owners of the land. The Council decided not to pursue this.

7. Safety in the Village

Councillor Zachar will review Neighbourhood Watch schemes.

8. Correspondence

1. Installation of a dog fouling bin

As this correspondence was anonymous, the Council are unable to reply. However, when this proposal was previously considered, it was rejected as someone would have to empty them.

9. Any other business

1. Councillor Noble discussed that parishioners were unaware of the Defibrillator and also should they be trained on how to use it. The Clerk will add on the Village Facebook Group information about this and if anyone would like training to contact her, it will also be featured in the next Abtalk.
2. Clerk informed the councilors that the equipment to review the planning applications is now available, this will result in the Council being paperless.

10. Close 8.45pm

Signed
(Chairman)

Date

Next meeting dates

- Monday 27th January 2020
- Monday 9th March 2020
- Monday 20th April 2020