

## **PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN**

### **MINUTES**

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON THURSDAY 7<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2013  
IN THE JUBILEE ROOM

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

**In Attendance:**

Mrs. R. Griffiths, reporter; Mrs. L. Stockings, Burghclere Down; Mr. R. Lucas, AAA; Mr. D. Downey, NHW.

*The meeting opened at 6.35 p.m.*

**13/21. Apologies.** Apologies were recorded from Cllr. B. Sims; Cllr. A. Gibson, HCC; Cllr. G. Stallard, TVBC; Cllr. M. Flood, TVBC; Mr. P. Kelly, Footpaths; Mrs. W. Davis, AAGA; Mr. A. Stokes, Clerk.

**13/21. Minutes.** After discussion and amendment of the circulated draft the Minutes of the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> February 2013 were confirmed and signed. *Pro GW Sec SO*

**13/22. Matters arising.**

a. Community Consultation. Mr. Lucas reported on the ongoing activities of the Abbots Ann Vision Joint Working Party, including the organisation of discussion groups, on-line surveys, workshops and publicity.

A meeting between The Chairman, Mr. Lucas and residents of Burghclere Down had been arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> March.

The consultation period for the TVBC Revised Local Plan was starting; the Working Party was prepared to advise the Council on preparing a response, with particular attention to housing and the Local Gap. Mr. Lucas would report shortly.

b. Manor Close. A recent meeting with Cllr Thornber, leader of HCC, attended by the Chairman and Cllr. Gibson, had clarified the situation. Cllr Thornber would be visiting the site shortly and it was now much more likely that an agreement could be reached that would be satisfactory to all parties.

c. Moss. Successful application of moss-killer had greatly improved the safety of the Churchyard paths.

d. Highways. i. Poplar Corner. Instead of replacing the reflectors on the traffic island, the authorities had applied white paint to the entire kerb.

ii. Duck Street. The authority was proposing to lower the kerb opposite the Village Shop and to apply white paint to the road surface. Mr. D. Downey asked that assurances should be obtained that the posts would remain in place and that drawing should be available to the Council before work started. *Action Clerk*

e. Defibrillator. It was noted that an appeal for funds was already under way at the Village Shop.

**13/23. Planning.**

a. No new applications had been received.

b. Note was taken of decisions of the Planning Service.

**13/24. Clerk's Report.** The Clerk sent apologies for absence. He would be on light duties for about ten days following a minor operation. He wished to remind Councillors that the Annual Assembly was scheduled for 5<sup>th</sup> April.

**13/25. Organisations.**

a. County Councillor. The Clerk had circulated copies of Cllr Gibson's monthly report. He was actively participating in meetings and discussions with the purpose of settling the future of the Manor Close playing field.

b. Abbotts Ann Action. See 13/22a above.

c. Archivist. Mr. T. Tayler had emailed to report that Mr. D. Downey had generously donated his Memorial Book to the archive; this contained detailed information about the men listed on the War Memorial, together with other valuable items, for which the Council expressed appreciation for the hard work put in by Mr. Downey. Other activities had included help towards the dating of a resident's house and showing the Virgins' Crowns to a visiting group.

d. Footpaths. Mr. P. Kelly had organised the re-surfacing of Short Path and the levelling of the surface of Pitts Path with a team of volunteers. The unsafe barbed wire on Church Path had been moved to the field side of the fence. He indicated that the County Council could not provide materials for re-surfacing Donkey Path. It was suggested that the County and Borough Councillors be approached for contributions from their discretionary funds. About £300 was needed. *Action Clerk*

e. Sports Field Committee. An Astronomy Evening had been arranged at the School on 14<sup>th</sup> March, and a Fun Run on 24<sup>th</sup> March.

f. Village Shop. It was noted that the shop was continuing to thrive under the new Manager, who was working on a number of new ideas.

g. War Memorial Hall. The Nursery School had reported a damaged fence. The Clerk would ask Trevor Hook to repair it. *Action Clerk*

**13/26. Finance.**

a. **It was resolved** to approve the following payments: *Pro SO Sec PW*

Cheque No	734	Administration	£695.39
"	735	Hampton Tree Care	£540.00

**13/27. Correspondence.**

HALC had issued a new introductory leaflet, which was distributed to all Councillors.

**13/28. Other Business.**

a. Recreation Ground. Adam Rose had presented an estimate for the play equipment. It was very unlikely that a third estimate would be nearly as economical as Mr. Rose's, which included some voluntary input from the Parish. No estimate for the gate had been received from Martyn Dean, despite reminders; the Chairman was willing to approach Chalke Valley engineering for a quote. It was suggested that the County and Borough Councillors be approached for funding for the gate. It was understood that the Council's budget did not allow for the full cost of the equipment, so the Clerk was to approach the Borough regarding Section 106 funding. *Action Clerk*

**It was resolved** that, subject to a third quote if necessary, and provided that it would not prejudice grant applications, an order be placed with Adam Rose for the construction of the playground equipment without further referral to the Council. Cllr Bone emphasised that it was desirable that the playground be completed by the summer.

*Pro GW Sec SO*

b. Cllr Oram distributed a note in clarification of his concerns regarding their understanding of the agenda of the Joint Working Party.

c. Cllr Wilkins drew attention to the amount of litter in the area, much of which was generated by the Macdonalds "Drive-thru" at the SCATS warehouse. As this litter was a health issue, it was suggested that the Clerk should register a complaint to the Borough Council.

*Action Clerk*

**13/29. Next Meeting.** The next meeting was scheduled for 4<sup>th</sup> April at 6.30 p.m. in the Jubilee Room. The Annual Assembly would take place in the War Memorial Hall on 5<sup>th</sup> April at 7 p.m.

*The Meeting closed at 7.57 p.m.*

Signed .....

Date .....