

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 6th SEPTEMBER 2012
IN THE JUBILEE ROOM

Present: Cllr. B. Griffiths, Chairman Cllr. S. Oram
 Cllr. R. Bone Cllr. D. Paffett
 Cllr. B. Sims Cllr. P. Wilkins

In Attendance:

Mr. A. Stokes, Clerk; Cllr. M. Flood, TVBC; Mr. P. Kelly, Footpaths Officer; Mrs. L. Stockings, Burghclere Down; Mr. T. Tayler, Archivist; Mr. R. Lucas and Dr. J. Moon, Abbots Ann Action; Mr. P. Greenhalgh, Community Consultation Group; one member of the public.

The meeting opened at 6.34 p.m.

12/89. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from Cllr A. Gibson, HCC; Cllr. G. Stallard, TVBC; Cllr G. Whyte.

12/90. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 26th July 2012 were confirmed and signed. *Pro BS Sec DP*

12/91. Matters arising.

a. Playground. The Clerk was requested to pursue with RoSPA the question whether any problems concerning safety would arise from the use of local resources for construction of play equipment. *Action Clerk*

b. It was noted that the problems of the barking dog and of the hazardous barbed wire on Church Path remained unresolved.

c. The Clerk undertook to clarify the position regarding distribution of profits generated by the Parish Magazine. *Action Clerk*

d. Jubilee Memorabilia. There were still outstanding orders for commemorative mugs. Cllr Oram would investigate. *Action Cllr Oram*

e. It was noted with satisfaction that the traffic calming measures near the Primary School were complete and that Little Ann Road and Church Road had been re-surfaced under HCC's Operation Resilience. The Clerk had expressed the Council's appreciation to Cllr Gibson.

12/92. Planning.

- a. **It was resolved** to register No Objection to the following applications:
- i. 12/01612/ADV N: re-locating Village Shop sign. *Pro RB Sec SO*
 - ii. 12/01682/FULL N: redeveloping old Dell Engineering site *Pro PW Sec BS*
- b. In connection with ii above, the Clerk was instructed to comment on the need for the developers to avoid encroachment on to the footpath at the rear of the premises and to protect the pavement from damage or restriction. *Action Clerk*
- c. Note was taken of decisions of the Planning Service, and disappointment was expressed that no notice had been taken of this Council's views on the redevelopment of the old Primary School site.

12/93. Clerk's Report.

- a. The Clerk had arranged with TVBC for the provision and emptying of two refuse bins on the Sports Field.
- b. A meeting was being arranged with TVBC officers to discuss the arrangements for bins at the War Memorial Hall.
- c. New forms for Declaration of Interests were now available and had been circulated. Cllr Paffett expressed concern that personal signatures should not be published on the web-site. The Clerk undertook to seek clarification of the position.

Action Clerk

12/94. Organisations.

- a. TVBC Councillor. Cllr Flood emphasised the importance of giving positive responses to the forthcoming consultation on the Borough's Local Plan, especially concerning the Local gap and the Village Envelope. As well as an official response from the Council, it was important that individuals should also express their views.

Test Valley was running a pilot scheme for Community Budgets for Ward Councillors. The sum available for Anna Ward would be £2,000.

- b. Abbotts Ann Action. See Item 12/96 below.
- c. Archivist. Mr. T.Tayler reported on his continuing work on the digital recording of archival material. He was dealing with several requests for information about local families.

He had set up an extensive photographic display for the school re-union, the Jubilee celebrations and the fete. This had been much appreciated and the Council congratulated Mr. Tayler on the quality of the display.

- d. Burghclere Down. Mrs. Stockings was still concerned about parking problems. She asked that more consideration be given to publicising Parish events, such as the Fete or events in the War Memorial Hall, in Burghclere Down. It was suggested that ways of involving the area more closely in Parish affairs should be included in the remit of the Community Consultation.

- e. Footpaths. Attention was drawn again to the state of Pitt's Path, which had become hollowed out and too narrow for comfortable walking. Since funding could be available from HCC's Countryside Access scheme, Mr. Kelly was proposing to apply for help from the County Council.

Also to be considered was the re-surfacing of Short Path to make it more suitable for wheel-chairs.

- f. Neighbourhood Watch. It was noted that there had been a burglary on the Salisbury Road and other thefts, including one from the Fete.

- g. Nursery School. Cllr Bone discussed the need for the play equipment to be visible from the street. It was not practicable or the sheds to be moved, and it was suggested that the northern area of the hall grounds could be the setting of a "trail" close to the boundary, which would not restrict other uses of the open area.

- h. Trees. The drastic pruning of the Jubilee Oak was noted with dismay. The Chairman, the Clerk and the Tree Warden had written to the County Council expressing the community's resentment at the wrecking of a significant feature of the village landscape, which had been carried out without any forewarning or consultation. An unapologetic reply had been received from the Arboricultural Officer for Hampshire Highways. The Chairman undertook to write to the Leader of Hampshire County Council pointing out the significance of the tree and its position in a Conservation Area and requesting assurances that similar work should not be undertaken without prior consultation.

Action Chairman

i. Village Shop. All concerned were to be congratulated on ten years of successful operation, which had been celebrated recently with an enjoyable party in the forecourt. Appreciation was expressed for the essential contribution to this success by the many volunteers involved.

12/95. Code of Conduct.

a. **It was resolved** to adopt the Code of Conduct as drafted by TVBC.

Pro SO Sec RB

b. All Councillors were now obliged to complete the Declaration of Interests on the form provided by TVBC for the Clerk to lodge them with the Legal Department of TVBC.

Action All Councillors

12/96. Finance.

It was resolved to approve the following payments:

Cheque No	703	Administration	£703.00
“	704	B.Sims: Fuel	£ 89.07
“	705	Enham: July & August	£330.02
“	706	Broker Network : Insurance	£1,839.45
“	707	Audit Commission	£342.00
“	708	Gillett & Johnston (Clock)*	£256.80
“	709	T.C.Hook: July & August	£387.00

*Authorised under Section 137

12/97. Community Consultation and Neighbourhood Plan,

A report by Mr. Ray Lucas on the proposals for a Community Consultation and the possible production of a Neighbourhood Plan had been circulated, though not all Councillors had had time to read it. Mr. Lucas explained that a properly drafted Neighbourhood Plan would have the legal status of a Development Plan Document to be incorporated into the Borough's Local Plan.

It was vital that the Parish Council should take the lead in dealing with these proposals and Councillors were asked, as a matter of urgency, to consider the questions:

i. Whether or not to promote a Parish Plan, Neighbourhood Plan, Neighbourhood Development Order or Community Right to Build Order.

ii. What arrangements or working parties to set up for the purpose, bearing in mind that Abbots Ann Action and the Community Consultation groups already exist.

Mr. Lucas and Mr Greenhalgh would be arranging a meeting to consider the relationship between the two groups and would report to the next Council meeting, at which the issue would be discussed as a separate Agenda item.

12/98. Other Business.

a. First Aid Training. Cllr Oram pointed out the importance of the presence of first-aiders at functions such as the Jubilee Picnic or the Village Fete and had investigated the provision of First Aid training. A course could be run by the Red Cross. Cllr Oram was asked to obtain further details.

Action Cllr Oram

b. Trees at Bulbery. Cllr Sims drew attention to two on the boundary between No 37 and The Drove, which were thought by residents to be possibly dangerous. These had been seen and declared safe by Mr. Dermot Cox, Test Valley arboriculturalist. The Clerk was requested to contact Aster Homes.

Action

Clerk

12/99. Next meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for 4th October 2012.

The meeting closed at 8.59 p.m.

Signed

Date