

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 4th April 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. B.Sims Cllr. P. Wilkins

In Attendance:

Mr. A. Stokes, Clerk; Cllr. G. Stallard, TVBC; Mr. D.Downey, NHW; Mr. P. Kelly, Footpaths Officer; 5 Members of the Public.

The meeting opened at 6.30 p.m.

13/30. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from Cllr A. Gibson, HCC; Cllr. M. Flood, TVBC; Mr. R. Lucas, AAA; Mr. T. Tayler, Archivist; Mrs. L. Stockings, Burghclere Down; Mrs. W. Davis, AAGA.

13/31. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7th March 2013 were confirmed and signed. *Pro BS Sec PW*

13/32. Matters arising.

a. Reporting. Mrs. R. Griffiths was thanked for recording the proceedings in the absence of the Clerk.

b. Burghclere Down. The Chairman reported on the meeting with representatives of the Burghclere Down residents. Although the Community Centre was well used it was felt that community cohesion in the area was not strong, and that there was little chance of any close integration of the residents with the village and its rural surroundings. There was some interest in the possibility of holding a separate consultation for the area.

c. Project Funding. The Clerk was proceeding with applications for Section 106 funding for the equipment for the Recreation Ground as well as for the re-surfacing of Donkey Path and the replacement of the gate at the War Memorial Hall. *Action Clerk*

d. Roadside litter. It was acknowledged that businesses such as Macdonalds could not be held responsible for litter outside their own premises, but also that local authorities lacked the resources for controlling or clearing litter, including dog-mess. The Clerk undertook once again to mention the latter in the newsletter, but was not optimistic about the outcome. *Action Clerk*

13/33. Planning.

a. **It was resolved** to register No Objection to the following application:
TV No 13/00658/FULLN: Hillbury, extensions and garage/office.

Pro SO Sec RB

b. TV No 13/00622/FULLN and 13/00632/LBWN: Water Cottage, conversion of garage to residential accommodation and erection of pool house. **It was resolved** to register an objection to these applications on the following grounds:

1. The Garage. The cladding for the garage was considered unlikely to give a sufficiently traditional appearance as to comply with the Village Design Statement.

2. The Pool House. i. Scale, materials and location were out of keeping with a country cottage and garden.

ii. Amenities were more suitable for a club-house than a changing-room.

iii. It would require very little adaptation to convert it for residential use.

iv. It constituted inappropriate development in the countryside, bearing in mind the nature of the surrounding water-meadows. *Pro GW Sec DP*

13/34. Clerk's Report.

a. Playground slide. It was noted that the slide was liable to contamination by bird-droppings. A solution to the problem was being sought.

b. Council Tax Support. The Clerk circulated a memo from NALC expressing concern over the effect of the Government's new policy on Council Tax Support on Parish Councils' Precept.

13/35. Manor Close Field.

Standing Orders were suspended from 7.20 p.m. to 7.38 p.m. (*Pro GW Sec SO*). The Chairman summarised the outcome of a meeting on site with Cllr Thornber, leader of HCC. It was hoped that HCC would grant a lease of the property to the Parish Council, who would guarantee the preservation of the whole field as green space. On the basis of this agreement it was understood that the application for registration as a Village Green would be withdrawn.

13/36. Organisations.

a. Borough Councillor. Cllr G. Stallard reported that TVBC was to hold "Sparkle Days" for voluntary litter-picking in urban areas. One was scheduled for Burghclere Down in 22nd May. It was hoped that these activities would encourage community engagement.

Cllr Stallard drew attention to the questionnaire about the possible appointment of a Town Centre Manager for Andover. The Clerk undertook to circulate this to Councillors in the near future. *Action Clerk*

TVBC was organising a litter-pick on the A303 and slip-roads starting April 8th.

The new Mayor from 15th May would be Cllr Janet Whitely and the new Deputy Mayor would be Cllr Jan Lovell.

Cllr Stallard emphasised the importance of responding to the Consultation on the revised Local Plan, particularly with reference to the preservation of the Local Gap. An exhibition was to be held at Beech Hurst on 18th April from 5.0 to 7.0 p.m.

b. Archives. The Clerk circulated a programme of events arranged by the Hampshire Record Office.

c. Footpaths. Mr. Kelly drew attention to the problem of overgrown hedges obstructing footpaths. It was strictly the responsibility of landowners to deal with this, and the Clerk regularly mentioned this in the Parish Magazine, but it was acknowledged that it was often necessary for the Council, and individuals, to take direct action.

It was noted that the barbed wire on Church Path was now fixed to the back of the fence, but Councillors considered that it still constituted a Health and Safety hazard. Despite repeated requests by the Chairman and Clerk, neither the landowners nor the farmer had taken any action. The Clerk was instructed to put the matter into the hands of HCC as the Highway Authority concerned. *Action Clerk*

d. War Memorial Hall. Cllr Stallard reported that the Committee would commission deep cleaning three times a year.

A review of hire charges was being undertaken.

A Hog-roast with jazz was planned for 22nd June.

13/37. Finance.

a. **It was resolved** to approve the following payments:

Cheque No	736	Administration	£695.99
“	SO	Hants Playing Fields Assoc.	£ 20.00
“	737	TVBC: Dog-bin service	£ 346.08
“	738	B.Sims: Fuel	£ 32.07
“	739	Enham	£ 66.01
“	740	Local Council Review	£ 16.00
“	741	P.O.Ltd: PAYE & NI	£574.26
“	742	AAPCC: Clock maint. (S.137)	£240.00
“	743	HALC: Subscription	£486.00

It was further resolved that the payment of Cheque No 742 be authorised under the provisions of Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972. *Pro GW Sec SO*

b. The Clerk presented a draft Summary of Accounts for 2012-13 and forecasts for 2013-14 as annexed to these Minutes.

13/38. Correspondence.

The Clerk distributed a memo from HALC concerning initiatives to foster local economic development, and a newsletter from HCC about Broadband.

A seminar on Community-led Planning was to be organised by CPRE in Winchester on 7th May. Cllrs Griffiths, Oram, and Paffett wished to attend.

13/39. Other Business.

a. Recreation Ground. Estimates for replacing the gate were discussed. Subject to confirmation that the specification matched the other quotations, **it was resolved** to place the order with Chalk Valley Engineering. The Clerk was working on funding. *Pro GW Sec RB Action Clerk*

b. Burial Ground. It was noted that a number of graves had recently suffered from subsidence. The Clerk was investigating possible solutions. *Action Clerk*

c. Speed Limits. Cllr Sims mentioned that a number of local villages had a 20 mph limit on their streets and asked that HCC should be approached about enforcing a similar limit in Abbots Ann.

13/40. Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for 2nd May 2013 in the Pavilion

The Meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed

Date

