

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 6th March 2014
IN THE JUBILEE ROOM

Present: Cllr. B. Griffiths, Chairman Cllr. G. Whyte, Vice-Chairman
Cllr. S. Oram Cllr. P. Wilkins Cllr. B. Sims

In Attendance:

Mr. A. Stokes, Clerk; Cllr G. Stallard, TVBC; Mr. R. Lucas, AAA/AAV; Mr. D. Read, AAGA; Miss R. Groves, Press.

The meeting opened at 6.35 p.m.

13/30. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from Cllr. D. Paffett; Cllr. R. Bone; Cllr. A. Gibson, HCC; Cllr. M. Flood, TVBC; Mr. T. Tayler, Archivist; Mr. P. Kelly, Footpaths.

13/31. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th February 2014 were confirmed and signed.
Pro BS Sec GW

13/32. Matters arising.

a. Manor Close Field. Completion of the lease was reported to be delayed until the expiration of the Village Green application on 19th March. Meanwhile a developer had been making enquiries under the Freedom of Information Act, but this was not considered to be a matter for concern by the County Council.

b. The Council approved the draft, with minor alterations, of the side letter to be attached to the lease. This confirmed this Council's undertaking to use reasonable endeavours to promote the building of at least six affordable housing units within the Parish.

c. Highways. The Clerk repeated his request for Councillors to supply lists of problems affecting the roads in the Parish.
Action All

13/33. Planning.

a. **It was resolved** to register No Objection to the following applications:

TV No 14/00207CLEN	Willow Farm: Certificate of lawful residential use	<i>Pro GW Sec BS</i>
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“ 14/00300/FULLN	Upper Mill House: replace weir	<i>Pro BS Sec PW</i>
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“ 14/00342/FULLN	Jubilee Oak Cottage: raise garden wall	<i>Pro GW Sec SO</i>
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“ 1400323/FULLN	Badgers Corner: alterations and extensions	<i>Pro GW Sec PW</i>
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b. Note was taken of delegated responses and decisions of the Planning Service.

13/34. Organisations.

a. County Councillor. Cllr Gibson had emailed to say that all was in order for the lease of the Manor Close Field. The fact that a developer was making enquiries was not a matter for concern.

Following a complaint about the condition of the western part of Cattle Lane, he was pressing the Highways Department for action.

b. Borough Councillor. Cllr G. Stallard paid tribute to the 24/7 work of staff of the Borough in coping with the recent severe weather, which included the provision of 45,000 sandbags. Co-operation with the Army and the Environment Agency had been close and successful.

The Borough Council had frozen the level of Council Tax and of Car Park charges.

The design of an art-work commemorating the historic importance of the former Andover Airfield had been approved, and could be seen on the website. The developer was to pay for the project.

A schedule of "Sparkle Days" was ready, and Abbots Ann was the first on the list for cleaning up the neighbourhood. Volunteers would be required.

A Boundary Review was planned for late 2015 to be implemented in 2019. This would concentrate on Borough Wards. Changes to Parish boundaries would be subject to a Community Governance Review.

c. Abbots Ann Action/Abbots Ann Vision. Mr. R. Lucas had circulated the Council's response to the Borough's consultation on the Local Plan drafted with the much appreciated help of Dr. John Moon. The response was critical of the estimated numbers of new dwellings and emphasised the importance of retaining the Local Gap between Abbots Ann and Andover. Cllr Stallard suggested inserting a sentence in support of maintaining the present settlement boundaries. Subject to this addition **it was resolved** to approve the draft for submission.

Pro

GW Sec BS

It was noted that provision of Local Gaps was not part of national planning policy, but land could be designated as unsuitable for development. It was clear that Ilchester Estates would strongly support development in Little Park, and Andover College was pressing parents to support this, as it would bring massive financial benefits to the college.

Abbots Ann Vision was continuing to work on a number of projects involving countryside, communication, public services and the Localism Act.

The Chairman expressed the appreciation of the Council and the community for the massive contribution of Mr. Lucas, Dr. Moon and their associates to the well-being of the Parish.

d. AAGA. The Chairman welcomed Mr. David Read as the new Chairman of AAGA. He reported on the progress of current activities, including the issue of the promotional leaflet, the thermal imaging campaign and work on a community energy policy. AAGA would have a stall at the Plant Fair. Apple Day was scheduled for 12th October

e. Village Shop. Cllr Whyte reported that morale was high among staff and volunteers. A substantial programme of re-fitting the shop was due to start with the old counter and display cabinets replaced by attractive wooden units in an improved lay-out.

f. War Memorial Hall. Cllr Stallard reported on the hard work put in by the Committee on activities such as fund-raising and the Parish Directory. The 100 Club was to increase the subscription to £15, with a corresponding increase in the prize-distribution.

The flat roof needed urgent attention at an estimated cost of £3,700. TVBC had been asked for a 50% grant, and it was hoped that the Parish Council would consider a grant of 25%. **It was resolved** in principle to offer a grant of £1,000. *Pro GW Sec SO*

13/35. Finance.

a. It was resolved to approve the following payments:		<i>Pro GW Sec BS</i>
Cheque No	802	Adam Rose: Playground construction
	£1,020.00	
“	803	Administration
		£696.59
“	804	P. Wilkins: Playground items + travel
		£94.83
“	805	British Red Cross: Defibrillator
		£1,853.30

b. It was noted with appreciation that a donation of £50 each had been received from David Downey and Jo Dixon towards the World War One commemorations and that the County Council had awarded a grant of £435 for the same cause.

13/36. Correspondence.

Manor Farm. It appeared from correspondence with Peter Farrington of Corporate Property Solutions, Bath, that negotiations were in progress over the possible relocation of the businesses at Manor Farm to the Andover Airfield Industrial Park. A developer would be interested in acquiring the property for housing, providing an opportunity for this Council to promote the use of part of the site for affordable housing.

13/37. Other Business.

a. Build-outs. Cllr Oram questioned the effectiveness of the reflectors on the build-outs near the Primary School.

b. A recent document had mis-named the Old Coach Road as Old Church Road. Councillors were aware that the road was almost certainly part of the original highway to Salisbury, continuing the line along Church Road, Mill Lane, Green Lane and part of Farm Road. It was considered that it might be appropriate to raise the question of ownership, and to correct this error, in the foreseeable future.

c. Cllr Sims drew attention to the fact that the arrangements for clearing the remains of the November bonfire from the Sports Field were not working satisfactorily.

d. Cllr Whyte drew attention to the request from the PCC for help with funding for the replacement of the boiler in the Church. The Clerk was instructed to take advice about the legality of funding this and other repairs to the Church premises. *Action Clerk*

13/38. Next Meeting. The next meeting was scheduled for 3rd April. The Annual Assembly would be held on 4th April.

The Meeting closed at 8.53 p.m.

Signed

Date