

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN**MINUTES**

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 2nd FEBRUARY 2012
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; Mr. D. Downey, Neighbourhood Watch; Mr. P. Kelly, Footpaths Officer; Mr. T. Tayler, Archivist; Mr. R. Lucas, Abbots Ann Action; Mrs. W. Davis, AAGA; one member of the public.

The meeting opened at 6.32 p.m.

12/11. Apologies.

Apologies were recorded from Cllr. A. Gibson, HCC; Cllr G. Stallard, TVBC; Cllr. M. Flood, TVBC.

11/12. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 5th January 2012 were confirmed and signed. *Pro GW Sec PW*

11/13. Matters arising.

a. Playground. Cllr Bone had been working on a ground-plan for development of the playground at the War Memorial Hall. It was suggested that residents should be asked to put forward ideas for new installations and to communicate them to Cllr Bone or the Clerk. *Action Cllr Bone; Clerk*

b. Lost lorries. Cllr Paffett reported yet another example of a lorry attempting to negotiate West Hill. It was clear that existing warning signs were not fit for purpose. The Chairman and Clerk were asked to consult Cllr Flood before making direct contact with TVBC officers. *Action Chairman; Clerk*

c. Grit Bins. There had been no change in the situation since the last meeting. The Clerk was instructed to contact Cllr Gibson again. *Action Clerk*

12/14. Planning.

a. After discussion **it was resolved** to register an Objection to the following:
TV No 11/02786/LBWN & 11/02688/FULLN: Water Cottage, extension and conversion of garage block to residential use and construction of a detached leisure/changing facility.

It was considered that many features of the conversion were out of keeping with the design of the existing listed cottage and were not in accordance with the Village Design Statement. The detached building contained facilities which could be considered as residential in nature and would need little work to convert it to a residential annexe, thereby constituting unsuitable development in open countryside. *Pro GW Sec PW*

It was further noted that although notification had been delivered to two neighbouring properties, nothing had been received at Pennymarsh, and no public notices had been seen on display outside the property.

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b. Note was taken of delegated responses and decisions of the Planning Service.

12/15. Organisations.

a. Abbots Ann Action. Mr. R. Lucas reported that he had met with colleagues to consider the response to the consultation on TVBC's Core Strategy. He confirmed that the protection of the Local Gap was maintained, but warned that the landowners would still fight for development of Little Park. The plan also contained the possibility of development adjacent to the boundaries of "village envelopes." It was proposed in the document that Test Valley villages should provide 30 new dwellings per year between them. Landscape policy still seemed to contain a "presumption in favour of development." He advised that the Manor Close field should no longer be excluded from the village settlement area.

He undertook to produce a draft response in time to meet the deadline of 17th February.

b. AAGA. Mrs W. Davis reported on past and planned activities of AAGA. These included continued involvement with committees for the fete and the Jubilee; organisation of Apple Day and plant sales; support for the plans for an apple press. It was also planned to promote energy conservation, to be publicised by circulation of a leaflet, which could be included in the Welcome Pack for new residents.

c. Archives. Mr. T.Taylor outlined his current activities, including attending a course on Family History, collection of old photographs; plans for an exhibition and competition for the Jubilee. He also reported on the digitisation of Tithe Maps by the Hampshire Record Office.

d. Neighbourhood Watch. Mr.D.Downey confirmed that Mr. M.Butt was standing down as co-ordinator to be succeeded by Mr. C. Davis. **A Vote of Thanks** by Acclaim was passed for Mr. Butt's 23 years of service as Co-ordinator.

e. Village Shop. Cllr Whyte reported that the year's takings for 2011 were slightly down on 2010, but results so far for 2012 were encouraging.

f. Jubilee Committee. Cllr Oram reported on the results of two meetings of representatives of parish organisations. It had been agreed that the celebrations should cover the Saturday and Sunday of the holiday week-end, with Saturday's activities centred on the Sports Field, with a family picnic, music, competitions, tree-planting, children's activities and displays. The main concern was provision for wet weather.

The focus of the Sunday's celebrations would be the village centre, with water-sports in the big meadow, a quiz walk, exhibitions in the War Memorial Hall, where there would also be a big TV Screen for following national ceremonies, and a special quiz evening at the Eagle.

A questionnaire was being prepared to establish the number of children under 12 who would be eligible to receive free mugs. It was agreed that mugs would be available for purchase by others.

A donation of £700 had been received; the Clerk was instructed to thank the donors on behalf of the Council. It was proposed to ask for further donations through the website and the parish magazine.

Action Clerk

12/16. Finance.

It was resolved to authorise the following payments: *Pro SO Sec GW*

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| Cheque No 660 | Administration | £795.44 |
| “ 661 | Andover Garden Machinery | £160.61 |
| “ 662 | Clerk: SLCC manual | £ 32.00 |

12/17. Correspondence.

a. Localism Act. i. This was to require adoption of yet another Code of Conduct coming into force from July 2012.

ii. Pre-determination. Local Councillors would no longer be required to refrain from expressing views on topics prior to their being debated. They were still required to maintain an “open mind” at the time of a debate.

b. TVAPC. The next meeting was to be on 9th February. Cllrs Oram and Paffett were planning to attend.

c. CPRE was to hold a seminar on Localism on 8th March, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

12/18. Other Business.

a. Traffic Calming. The Clerk distributed detailed plans prepared by HCC for provision of traffic calming measures in the area of the new Primary School. After discussion it was decided to ask for “build-outs” to be sited as in Option A, and for both to be grassed. The Clerk was to inform the authorities accordingly. *Action Clerk*

b. Community Consultation. The Chairman had delayed calling a meeting to avoid clashing with consideration of Jubilee celebrations and to allow time for consideration of the substantial Community Action Hampshire’s “toolkit” provided by Ms Jo Dixon. He intended to hold a meeting shortly. *Action Chairman*

c. Road signs. Further to item 12/13b above, it was noted that the “Unsuitable for HGVs” notices at St. John’s Cross were so sited that drivers would not see them in time to avoid turning into Duck Street. The signposts at St.John’s Cross facing the exit from Fullerton Road were badly worn, and the “Cattle Lane” sign had disappeared from the junction with Red Post Lane. The Clerk was instructed to contact the authorities about rectification. *Action Clerk*

12/19. Future Meetings.

The next meeting was scheduled for 1st March. The new date for the Annual Assembly was Friday 30th March. It was noted that Council meetings were to be held on 22nd May (Tuesday) and 26th July, with no meeting in June or August.

The meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.

Signed

Date