

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk – Mrs Victoria Pryce. 1 Wheatsheaf Cottages, Alconbury Hill, Alconbury Weston. PE28 4JH  
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**AGM of Abbots Ripton Parish Council was held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015 following the APM at 7.15pm at Abbots Ripton Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllr Richardson, Cllr Leaver, Cllr Pickard, Cllr Brennan, Cllr Hemsley

**In Attendance:** V Pryce (Clerk), 3 members of the public

7<sup>th</sup> June 2015

## DRAFT MINUTES

- 101-05/15 Elected Councillors to sign and formally accept their positions**  
All Cllrs signed and formally accepted their positions.
- 102-05/15 Election of Chair and Vice-Chair (Nominations)**  
The Clerk invited any nominations for the position of Chair, Cllr Leaver nominated Cllr Richardson, Cllr Brennan seconded, all were in favour and it was **resolved**. Invitations were requested for the position of Vice Chair, Cllr Pickard nominated Cllr Leaver, Cllr Hemsley seconded all were in favour and it was **resolved**.
- 103-05/15 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**  
Cllr Wilkinson – Work Commitment  
Cllr Tew – Work Commitment
- 104-05/15 To receive declarations of interest.**  
Cllr Richardson – Cricket Club  
Cllr Pickard – matters pertaining to the estate  
Cllr Hemsley – P Yates  
Cllr Brennan - Church
- 105-05/15 Public Participation.**  
None
- 106-05/15 To receive and approve the minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> March 2015**  
Cllr Richardson proposed that the minutes be approved, Cllr Hemsley seconded and it was **resolved** to do so,
- 107-05/15 Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.**  
Cllr Richardson advised the Parish Council website was under construction.
- 108-05/15 Finance**  
**108-05/15.1** To approve accounts for payment 14<sup>th</sup> May 2015

| Date     | Cheque No. | Payee        | Description      | Amount  |
|----------|------------|--------------|------------------|---------|
| 14.05.15 | 000749     | B Cox        | Internal Audit   | £72.00  |
| 14.05.15 | 000750     | Village Hall | Meetings         | £200.00 |
| 14.05.15 | 000751     | NALC         | Subscriptions    | £17.00  |
| 14.05.15 | 000752     | V Pryce      | Wages/Exps April | £255.06 |

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| 14.05.15 | 000753 | HMRC    | PAYE                | £52.12  |
| 14.05.15 | 000754 | P Yates | Maintenance Fencing | £350.00 |

All above payments were approved.

- 109-05/15.2** Finance position and statements to be presented and approved.  
The internally audited accounts were presented to the Council along with the cash sheet and bank statements and approved.
- 110-05/15** **Ripton Area News – Parish Council Contribution.**  
Cllr Richardson proposed that the Parish Council continue to pay £250 towards the running costs of the RAN, Cllr Leaver seconded all Cllrs were in favour and it was **resolved** to do so.
- 111-05/15** **Solar Farm Funding Applications – Report on meeting from 29<sup>th</sup> April**  
Cllr Leaver reported that the meeting that took place consisted of eligible Cllrs only none of which had any interest in any of the bids. Bids were received from the School, Cricket Club and Village Hall. The Cricket Club had advised at the beginning of the meeting that they would be joining the Village Hall bid. Cllr Leaver reiterated that the Parish Council wanted to add value to the community. Caveats had been put in place for both of the successful bids. Additional funding for the Village hall/cricket club bid had a time limit of 5 years, with a time limit of 18mths for the School bid. Cllr Leaver advised that the Cllrs voted unanimously on the projects and emphasised that although Cllr Richardson opened the meeting he did not participate in the meeting. Cllr Richardson thanked all Cllrs for their attendance and added that issues had arisen through investigations regarding the 1894 Local Government Act. Cllr Richardson thanked the Clerk for all of her work during this period. Cllr Brennan requested that the Parish Council adopt guidelines to ensure if the Parish Council were to receive any money in the future the Parish Council and applicants are fully aware of the legalities. Cllr Hemsley reminded Cllrs that he had put forward the argument that following discoveries regarding the 1894 Act and the exclusion of the Church bid, the Parish Council was not an appropriate body to give the money out, Cllr Richardson explained that the money was given directly to the Parish Council and once the money was received it became public money and therefore the situation remained the same. Cllr Brennan reported that the biggest concern from the Church was the timescales. Cllr Richardson advised that he was not aware of any other Parish or District Council that had previously been aware of the 1894 Act. Cllr Pickard advised that the only contributions that the Parish Council could make to the Church through the 1894 Act were to its Clock or Churchyard.
- 112-05/15** **Solar Farm Bids – VAT claims**  
Cllr Richardson spoke of the possibility that if the Parish Council were to fund various items rather than give the money directly to the bidders, the Parish Council can claim back the VAT. Cllr Hemsley asked if individuals could not do this themselves. Cllr Brennan agreed with Cllr Richardson that in the case of the school, they would be able to 'draw down' the money and realise the full value of the £5,000. Cllr Leaver agreed that it would offer maximum value for money. Cllr Richardson advised that any VAT claimed back would go back to the bidding party, the Parish Council would not benefit financially from this. The Parish Council are happy to facilitate these 2 projects for the purchase of materials. Cllr Leaver emphasised that the interest accrued would be apportioned between the 2 projects. Cllr Leaver proposed that the Council facilitate the projects as above, Cllr Brennan seconded, all were in favour and it was **resolved** to do so.
- 113-05/15** **Parish Council Reserves**

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To be carried forward to the next Agenda.

**114-05/15**

**Correspondence and Communications.**

The Pensions Regulator – Clerk to contact and advise contact for PC  
Community Chest Fund – Previous to the meeting the Clerk had circulated to the School, Village Hall and Church  
SCS Sessions email – Clerk to circulate to all Cllrs for information.  
Hemingford Parish Council Meeting email – to be circulated.

**115-05/15**

**Reports from County and District Councillors.**

No reports received.

**116-05/15**

**To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising.**

Cllr Leaver advised that the next Urban & Civic meeting was being held on 4<sup>th</sup> June.  
Cllr Richardson reported that he and Cllr Leaver had attended a meeting regarding SGP, Cllr Richardson advised that a leaflet had been sent out regarding how you can apply for tickets, Cllr Richardson had advised SGP that he had not received one and queried if anyone else had been missed. Cllr Richardson had requested that they utilise the village noticeboards to allow any parishioners who had potentially missed the leaflet drop the opportunity to be notified. The traffic plan was also discussed, Cllr Richardson expressed dissatisfaction for the ideas that had been put forward as he felt they were detrimental to the village. Cllr Leaver reported that they gave out double the number of tickets to locals compared to the previous year and advised the SGP will not be offering cheap tickets to the residents of Wood Walton. Cllr Leaver also advised Cllrs that expenses forms will need to be sent in by 12<sup>th</sup> June.

**117-05/15**

**Date of next meeting: 25<sup>th</sup> June 2015 Abbots Ripton Village Hall, 7.15pm.**

**CLOSE OF MEETING 9.06PM**