

ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer – Mrs Angela Papworth
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A Meeting of Abbots Ripton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 9th April 2019 at 7.15pm at the Abbots Ripton Village Hall

**Present: Cllr G Richardson (Chair), Cllr J Leaver (Vice Chair), Cllr S Brown, Cllr Miller, Cllr D Brennan
Cllr S Bywater (County & District) Cllr T Rogers (County)
Angela Papworth –Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Abbots Ripton Parish Council.**

20th April 2019

Minutes

- 01/04/19 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**
Apologies were received from Cllr J Hemsley & Cllr R Tuplin (District)
- 02/04/19 To receive declarations of interest.**
Cllr Richardson -Matters pertaining to the cricket club & the grass cutting contract Jubilee Gardens
Cllr C Miller -Matters pertaining to the Estate
Cllr J Leaver -Matters pertaining to the Village Hall Refurb
- 03/04/19 Public Participation.**
No Members of the public were present.
Cllr Richardson advised Members that he wanted to mention the sad demise of Ernie Moscrop an ex Cllr and well-respected man who had lived in the village many years. He will be sadly missed.
- 04/04/19 To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 26th February 2019**
Cllr Richardson proposed to approve the minutes Cllr Leaver seconded,
ALL were in favour and it was **Resolved** to approve the minutes.
- 05/04/19 Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.**
P.C. Owned Tree & Cambs CC owned Trees
Cllr Richardson advised Members that the work to the diseased trees had been completed without too much disruption to the village.
Adopt the BT phone boxes in Wennington & Abbots Ripton villages.
The Clerk advised Members that she had completed the on line forms to enquire about adopting both the Wennington & Abbots Ripton phone boxes.
Bt. responded by advising that the Wennington phone box has a live phone line in it and as it was in a conservation area it needed to go to planning on a 90-day consultation and then to the Conservation Officer with details of what the PC intended to do with it. Cllr Hemsley had previously emailed the Clerk proposing to leave the Wennington phone box as it is, considering the phone line was live and that it was in a conservation area. He suggested the PC should just concentrate on the Abbots Ripton phone box as this was where the defibrillator was hopefully going to be housed.

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All Members Agreed with Cllr Hemsley's proposal and the Clerk advised that she would cancel the adoption application for Wennington.

Bt. advised that the Abbots Ripton phone line was not live and would not be affected by the 90-day planning consultation or conservation department. However, they did advise it could be on private land and this needed to be confirmed before they could process the adoption request.

Cllr Miller advised Members that he would find out who the land belonged to and would report back at the next council meeting.

Village Hall refurb update

The Clerk advised Members that Mathew Fido had been nominated as the new Chairman following Nicola Molloy's resignation. The Clerk had received an email from Nicola confirming that Matthew would be attending the next council meeting to give Members an update as there was a village hall meeting at the end of the month. Cllr Miller advised that to date the Lord had not been contacted by the Village Hall refurb committee to discuss any new proposals to the project.

Grange Farm Event

Cllr Richardson advised Members that the meeting is to be held on the 17th April and that He and Cllr Leaver will be attending and will update Members at the next council meeting.

06/04/19

Reports from County and District Councillors.

Cllrs Bywater and Rogers advised there was nothing to report this month other than there was a printing error on the council tax forms. It stated that the District council tax had increased by 3.2% when in fact it should have read 2.99%. Anything over 3% council tax rise should go out to consultation and this is why it caused grave concerns with the typo error. However, the council decided not to reprint the forms as it would be too costly. The County Council were aiming for a shortfall of 5% in the 2018/19 financial year's budget. The shortfall was in fact 4.6% which was lower than the anticipated figure of 5%. The shortfall will be covered from Reserves.

A meeting was held at the beginning of April between Hunts DC and Dignity regarding the proposed crematorium. Transport and access were discussed along with other planning proposals. Planning dept have advised they will look at the new proposals and will get back to Dignity within 8 weeks.

07/04/19

Grass cutting contract Jubilee Gardens.

The Clerk advised that three contractors submitted a price for the grass cutting service at Jubilee Gardens.

Company A £660 minimum of 13/14 cuts

Company B £630 14 cuts and thereafter £45 per additional cut.

Company C £973 based on 14cuts with additional costs for waste removal

The Clerk advised that Company A's quotation would give the PC best value. They carried out the grass cutting service last year and the work was of an acceptable level.

The Clerk advised that the contract should be a rolling contract to be reviewed every financial year.

It was **RESOLVED** that Company A should be awarded the contract as per the quotation submitted. The contract to be a rolling contract to be reviewed at each financial year.

Company A had previously advised there was some additional works that needed doing in the Jubilee Gardens. The cost to carry out these additional works is £100-£120.

It was **RESOLVED** that these additional works to be approved at the cost quoted.

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08/04/19

New Bridal Way following closure of the level crossing -Rectory Lane

Cllr Brown raised the issue of the bridleway not being a hard surface and that it won't function in the winter months. He advised Members that it would be impassable therefore will cut off the houses on the other side of the railway bridge to the village. Cllr Brown proposed that the PC should go back to Network Rail and advise them that they need to make the bridleway into a suitable surface. Cllr Richardson advised Members that the road surface was in accordance with the Network Rail document & notices that had been previously available for public comment for 12 weeks and no issues had been raised then, therefore he didn't feel the need to go back to Network Rail with this complaint. Cllrs Brown & Brennan didn't agree with this and proposed that Network Rail should be doing something about the surface of the bridleway as it was important not to cut off the 3 houses.

The Clerk had received an email from the County Council advising that there is no set legal requirement for a surface of a public Right of Way.

Cllr Miller advised Members that there is a permissive footpath plus cycle route granted by the Estate that many locals use from Home Farm to the Arches so there is an alternative route. If the bridleway is not suitable in the winter then the permissive footpath runs by the fishing lakes to the village. Cllr Miller advised that he would send the Clerk the map of the permissive footpath to go on the website and noticeboards.

Cllr Rogers advised Members that a cycle route was being put in from Alconbury Weald to Huntingdon. Cllr Brown proposed that the PC should be canvassing for a rear entrance for cyclists to be created on the Alconbury Weald to link in with Abbots Ripton. Cllr Richardson advised that it was council policy that there should be no rear access from Alconbury Weald and the gateway is restricted access.

As this was not an Agenda Item no decision could be made as to whether the policy should be changed.

09/04/19

Approval of PC Certificate of Exemption

The Clerk advised Members that as the PC's gross income & expenditure for the financial year ending 31st March 2019 did not exceed £25,000, it can certify itself as exempt from a limited assurance review under Section 9 of the Local Audit (smaller Authorities) Regulations 2015.

The Clerk had completed the Certificate of Exemption which showed an annual gross income for the authority 2018/19 of £10,777 and annual gross expenditure for the authority 2018/19 of £10,901.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Certificate of Exemption was approved by Council and certified by the Financial Officer and the Chairman.

10/04/19

Financial Officers Report to include checking and approval of bank statements

Members had before them a budgetary control statement for the Revenue (Precept) Account as at March 2019 showing expenditure of £10,090.59 and income of £10,776.93 (includes a full year's precept income) compared with budgets, along with a bank reconciliation statement and a summary statement of reserves and funds balances.

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Members checked, approved and signed off statements and balances to date. It was **Resolved** that the Financial Officers report was approved, and **All** were in Favour.

11/04/19 To approve accounts for payment:

Parish Clerk/Financial Officer	End Feb Mar/2019 Payroll	378.88
HMRC	End Feb Mar/2019 Payroll	80.60
Abbots Ripton Farming Co	Sportmaster Renovator fertiliser	64.32
Cambs CC	Reimbursement of incorrect payment received	139.20
M West	Jubilee Gardens grass cutting service final payment 2018/19	220.00
Beam	Village grass cutting service 1 st cut 2019/20	152.00
Total		1,035.00

Cllr Richardson proposed that authorisation of all the above payments were made. Cllr Leaver seconded, all were in favour and it was **Resolved** that payments would be made.

12/04/19 Planning Application Update. Planning Applications received: -

For planning application searches please click and control the following link below: -

<https://publicaccess.huntingdonshire.gov.uk/online-applications/>

Planning Application Ref: 19/80094/COND Alconbury Airfield, Conditional Information for 1201158OUT:

PC Comments: No Objections

Planning Application Ref:19/00342/FUL Manor Farm Wennington Rd Wennington, Conversion of approved B1 use structures to four residential dwellings

Application Withdrawn

Planning Application Ref 19/00569/REM, Alconbury Weald, submission of reserved matters (appearance, access, landscaping, layout & scale) in respect of construction of surface water drainage and attenuation infrastructure, a new highway section, re-use of existing runway/taxiway, and all associated works

PC Comments: Refuse, do not approve until a report has been received from Middle Level drainage.

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Cllr Miller advised Members that he has grave concerns as flooding is already an issue. He has spoken to David Thomas from Middle Level and asked him to report and comment re the attenuation infrastructure proposal. Cllr Miller will update Members as soon as he has received the report.

Planning Application Ref 18/01217/FUL, Erection of a building to accommodate the headquarters and air ambulance station for Magpas, building 252 RAF Alconbury, Further information received

PC Comments: No objections

13/04/19

Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2018/19

The Clerk advised Members that Highways had confirmed they had made some minor changes as agreed with the PC and were waiting for costing to come back from the contractor. If the costing came back within the budget as stated in the PC's LHI application then they would order the works and complete the Legal Order asap. If it is outside of the budget they will advise accordingly.

Cllr Richardson was worried that the costings may come in higher than the agreed £1,000 that was on the application form. He asked Members to consider a provisional approval of additional expenditure if necessary.

It was **Resolved** that all Members were in favour to provisionally approve any additional expenditure within reason to complete the LHI works as required. The Clerk to chase and update Members accordingly.

14/04/19

Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2019/20

The Clerk advised Members she had received confirmation that the PC had been successful in its LHI application for 2019/20. This had been approved by the Highways and Community Infrastructure Committee and the decision was formalised at the meeting held on the 12th March 2019. The Clerk advised that a member of the Highways project team would be contacting the PC shortly to agree a timescale for completion of the approved scheme.

15/04/19

Defibrillator in village

The Clerk advised Members that she had done some research and had obtained information & quotations for a defibrillator and cabinet.

She had been advised by a charity company called Defibrillators For All that the most popular defibrillator is a cardiac science powerheat G5 semi-automatic. This model would give the PC best value for money and is a top of the range, easy to use type of defibrillator that's on offer in the industry. The Clerk advised Members that the cost of this Defibrillator ranges from £995 to £1070 on varies different company websites. The Clerk had also been advised that the cabinet used to house the defibrillator needs to be an unlocked heated alarmed one. The cost of these cabinets varies from £335 to £499. The cabinet would need to be a heated cabinet as it will be placed outside (in the AR telephone box) and the battery needs to be kept above a certain temperature, the alarm is a deterrent to help prevent the defibrillator being stolen as the cabinet will be unlocked, however, by being unlocked it will give open access in cases of emergencies.

The Clerk recommended Members should approve the above defibrillator and cabinet. She proposed that funds should be transferred from the general fund into a new defibrillator holding account. She advised that as soon as the telephone box in the village was ready, she would obtain the best prices that were available at the time of purchase.

It was **RESOLVED** that all were in favour of purchasing the above-named defibrillator and cabinet, it was also **RESOLVED** that £3,000 should be transferred from the general fund into a new defibrillator holding account. These earmarked funds would be there to pay towards

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any works and materials including the new defibrillators and cabinet required to set up a defibrillator in the village of Abbots Ripton.

- 16/04/19 Traffic & Highways Issues**
Cllr Richardson advised the footpath to the school is in terrible repair and is a health and safety hazard.
Cllr Leaver proposed that it should be reported to Highways and asked the Clerk to report it accordingly.
- 17/04/19 Police Matters; To receive an update**
The Clerk advised that Members had received all correspondence as it was received.
- 18/04/19 Alconbury Plans Update**
Cllr Leaver advised Members of the following: -
There is an open day Next steps consultation at the Alconbury Weald on the 27th April with a free bus service picking up residents at the surrounding villages. The Clerk advised she would put this on the PC website.
There are no updates on the railway station.
200 houses have been sold; small retail shops are being considered for the near future.
Traffic calming is being processed through the Stukeleys. It has taken 3 years to obtain speed restrictions. Appropriate lighting is required to be able to implement traffic calming.
Urban & Civic have made a big scene regarding the Metro scheme. It is a serious venture and is not certain where the funding will be coming from.
879 homes to be built in phase 1 with an extension of another 1000 in the next 20 years.
- Alconbury Weald- transportation is less than adequate in getting materials on site. Signs are not clear enough and lorries are getting stuck.
Andy Brady from Urban & Civic had been contacted with this problem and he has confirmed that more signs will be installed.
- 19/04/19 Health & Safety: To receive an update**
As previously recorded the footpath near the school is in a terrible state of repair.
To be reported to Highways.
- 20/04/19 Neighbourhood Forum/Joint Local Committee Update**
Cllr Rogers advised Members that he is in the process of organising the next Neighbourhood meeting and will advise the PC of the date.
- 21/04/19 Correspondence & Communications**
All correspondence received has been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.
- 22/04/19 To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising (AOB)**
None received.
- 23/04/19 Proposed 2019 dates for Parish Council meetings: Abbots Ripton Village Hall,**
7th May, 16th July, 27th August, 8th October, 19th November

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24/04/19

Items for next agenda

Village Hall refurb

HMRC, Licenses & Subscriptions to be paid by variable Direct Debit.

Clerks wages

CLOSE OF MEETING 21.00