

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer – Mrs Angela Papworth  
Telephone: 01733 203246. Mob 07850749647  
E-mail: [ABBOTSRIPTONCLERK@GMAIL.COM](mailto:ABBOTSRIPTONCLERK@GMAIL.COM)

**A Meeting of Abbots Ripton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2019 at 7.15pm at the Abbots Ripton Village Hall**

Present: Cllr G Richardson (Chair), Cllr J Leaver (Vice Chair), Cllr S Brown, Cllr J Hemsley, Cllr D Brennan, Cllr Tuplin (District).

**Angela Papworth –Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer to Abbots Ripton Parish Council.**

20<sup>th</sup> June 2019`

## Minutes

- 01/06/19 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**  
Apologies were received from Cllr C Miller, Cllr S Bywater (County & District) & Cllr T Rogers (County).
- 02/06/19 To receive declarations of interest.**  
Cllr Richardson -Matters pertaining to the cricket club  
Cllr J Leaver -Matters pertaining to the Village Hall Refurb  
Cllr Hemsley-Matters pertaining to Events on the Estate
- 03/06/19 Public Participation.**  
No Members of the public were present.
- 04/06/19 To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> May 2019**  
Cllr Richardson proposed to approve the minutes Cllr Leaver seconded,  
**ALL** were in favour and it was **Resolved** to approve the minutes.
- 05/06/19 Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.**

### **Grange Farm Event**

Cllr Richardson advised Members that the concerns raised at the last Events meeting had been addressed by the Events Co-ordinator's in a letter to the Parishioners. i.e. Traffic through the village and vehicles being dumped in the village due to the high car parking fees. The Events Manager assured Cllr Richardson that traffic would be directed to go around the village and any vehicles dumped in the village would be removed. Cllr Richardson voiced his concern that the traffic management plan was based on the B1090 being closed, however the road closure would not be in place at the time of the event which could cause problems even though the amount of people attending the event is expected to be less than previous events which should help with the traffic issues.

Cllr Hemsley asked if the police were involved, Cllr Richardson advised that the police would not be involved.

### **Cycle Race**

Cllr Richardson advised Members he had officially complained to the County Council's event's organisers regarding the way the race had been organised, the length of hard road closure times, the last-minute change of route and the way the Marshalls were unco-operative towards parishioners.

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Cllrs Richardson & Hemsley had personally updated Parishioners with information of the change of route and Cllr Richardson had spoken to the Marshalls regarding the time the roads were closed, i.e. two hours before the first cycles went through the village.

Cllr Leaver advised the organisers had ran out of water for the cyclists, and Parishioners were handing water out. Cllr Brown added that the rerouting was not a success.

Cllr Richardson advised Members that tacks had been found on the road just outside of Wennington village causing punctures to 3 police motorbikes. Cllr Hemsley advised he was not aware of this.

Cllr Tuplin advised Members that the Marshalls had no idea where they were situated and was not able to advise Cyclist where they were when they asked the question.

Cllr Richardson advised that he would address all the issues at the next Neighbourhood Forum meeting. Cllr Hemsley advised that the PC should push for more soft road closures.

### **06/046/19 Reports from County and District Councillors.**

Dignity Proposed Crematorium.

Cllr Tuplin advised Members that there was a hearing for the proposed Crematorium at Kings Ripton. Dignity who had previously been refused planning had top barristers and experts at the hearing to fight their case even though it wasn't a full appeal hearing. He advised costs against HDC could be up to tens of thousands of pounds.

He advised he will keep the PC updated.

Adopted Development Plan up to 2036.

HDC is no longer in tilted balance. There were only 5 items to address at the last meeting as opposed to 22 items previously.

There needs to be 804 houses a year built in the District. Unfortunately, it is in the hands of the developers, if they stop building then HDC will be back in tilted balance! If it goes back into tilted balance then HDC will have to approve anything anywhere to get back on track and out of tilted balance.

He advised there was nothing in the plans regarding Wyton. Cllr Hemsley advised that the MOD bought the land back.

Cllr Tuplin advised that if the developers build on the airfield it would relieve the problems in Cambridgeshire, however it would be very profitable to the developers if they sold the airfield instead of building on it.

In his absence Cllr Rogers sent the Clerk the following report: -

LHI - the County Council has increased its contribution from £10K to £15K and at last has recognised that applicants have different means and resources as regards funding. Hence the question of the amount of contribution within the formula is now scored lower.

Cambridgeshire Cycle - At a recent meeting The Member for Transport/Highways has been asked to investigate certain observations/comments/complaints as to road closures, route, benefit to the County as compared to Peterborough and pot hole repair in advance. Hope to have an answer before your next meeting.

Normal report on the budget - still looking for funding and in this context will report on "This Land" and Council's future objectives in increasing property portfolio at next meeting.

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### Village Hall Refurb

The Clerk advised Members that she had received a letter from the Chairman of the Village Hall committee withdrawing its original application. She had also received a new application and proposed plan from him for the village hall refurb.

Cllr Richardson advised Members that the PC should start again with a new tender process by inviting new tenderers to apply.

Cllr Hemsley advised Members that those that have vested interests in the bids should not be present at the opening of the bids.

Cllr Brown advised Members that it should be made clear to both village Parishioners that the remaining Solar Farm grant money is to be retendered, and ask them for ideas where the funds could be applied to for the good of the villages.

Cllr Leaver asked if the PC could go back to the funders for more grant money as it has benefited from the Villages. Cllr Hemsley advised that the funders have had to pay out for security costs due to theft, therefore would be unlikely that they would grant any more funds.

It was **RESOLVED** that a new bid application process should be done by inviting new applications and asking Parishioners for ideas on how they would like to see the grant money spent to benefit the villages.

08/06/19

### Approval of Internal Auditors Report

Members had before them a copy of the Internal Auditor's Report and his signed certificate of the Annual Return for the year to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019. Members noted that the Auditor had no issues that he wished to draw to the attention of Members.

The Clerk advised Members that the end of year accounts had been finalised and completed within the timescales set by the External Auditor. The Notice of Public Rights and Publication along with the Certificate of Exemption are on display on the village's noticeboards. The full AGAR and associated documents will be on the website from 22<sup>nd</sup> June.

It was **RESOLVED** that Members approved the Internal Auditors report and noted that the documents went on public display and accounts were completed in accordance with the accounts and audit regulations 2016 (SI2015/234).

09/06/19

### 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 31<sup>st</sup> May 2019 showing expenditure of £2,626.53 and income of £9,018.22 (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. 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.

10/06/19

### To approve accounts for payment:

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. Cllr Leaver proposed that the salary budget should be revisited if need be as the actual spend to date was 2/3rds of the annual budget and it was only the first quarter of the

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financial year. The Clerk advised Members that the first quarter is always a busy quarter due to end of year accounts, AGM & APM meetings. This first quarter has been exceptionally busy with additional work regarding the phone box adoption and associated works. There has also been an overdue back payment of holiday pay for 2018/19 and a national pay rise on the hourly rate.

The Clerk advised Members that the overall total budget for 2018/19 was underspent by approx. £1,387 in the last financial year and funds went back into the general fund. She advised Members that she would monitor the next ¼'s payroll and estimate payroll for the remaining year to see if an adjustment to the budget would be necessary. She would advise Members accordingly.

Parish Clerk/Financial Officer	May 2019 Payroll	596.75
HMRC	May 2019 Payroll	141.20
BT Payphones	Adoption of the of the Abbots Ripton village phone box	1.00
Brian Cox& Co	Internal Audit Fee	84.00
LCR	Renewal of magazine subscription	17.00
Beam	Village grass cutting service 2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> cut 2019/20	304.00
<b>Total</b>		1,143.95

**11/06/19**

### **Update on Village Phone Box adoption re defibrillator**

The Clerk advised Members that BT had sent her a contract for signature regarding the Abbots Ripton village phone box. The cost of the adoption would be £1. BT advised the Clerk that the PC should contact planning department to let them know that the PC intended to use the phone box to house a defibrillator. Cllr Hemsley proposed that the Clerk should do this and get approval from planning before the PC go ahead with finalising the adoption. All Members agreed with Cllr Hemsley that the PC needed to be sure the Phone box could be used to house the Defibrillator before completing the adoption process. The Clerk advised Members that she would contact planning and update Members at the next council meeting.

**12/06/19**

### **Planning Application Update.**

#### **Planning Applications received: -**

The Clerk advised Members that no planning applications had been received since the last meeting.

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

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

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- 13/06/19**      **Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2018/19 (Abbots Ripton Mvas, speed reduction)**  
Cllr Richardson advised Members that a price for the works had been received from Highways and was less than originally quoted. He advised that He and the Clerk had pushed and chased to get a date for the commencement of works and yet still hadn't received an imminent date from Highways.  
The Clerk said she would continue to push and hopefully would have an update for the next meeting.
- 14/06/19**      **Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2019/20 (Wennington Mvas)**  
The Clerk advised Members that she had received no further updates with progress of this LHI. She advised Members that she would chase and advise Members at the next council meeting.
- 15/06/19**      **Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative consider new application for 2020/2021**  
The Clerk advised Members that completed applications for the 2020/2021 LHI bid needed to be submitted to the County Council Highways Local Projects team by the 4<sup>th</sup> August 2019. Cllr Richardson advised Members to bring suggestions to the next council meeting for discussion.  
The Clerk advised Members shew would add this to the next agenda.
- 16/06/19**      **Footpath/Cycle access Alconbury Weald /Clay Lane**  
Cllr Brown proposed that the PC should lodge an interest at the Alconbury Weald meetings regarding cycle and footpath access from Huntingdon into the Abbots Ripton village by linking up and connecting to their planned cycle route network.  
Cllr Richardson objected to this advising Members that in 2012 it was agreed that no access should be permitted from Alconbury via Clay Lane. He was concerned if access was allowed it would be a security issue to the village. Cllr Hemsley advised it was vehicular access that was not permitted and as it is already a public right of way for footpath and cycle only, he could see no problem with pursuing the link up. Cllr Brown advised Members that it would be a healthy access to the village without any risk and could potentially bring trade into the village.  
Cllr Hemsley proposed a consultation could be put to the parishioners for a cycleway/footpath to Huntingdon through the Alconbury Weald but no vehicular access permitted. Urban & Civic have agreed to a cycle route from Huntingdon to Alconbury Weald and this could be connected at Clay Lane. Stukeley Rd to Huntingdon already have one. There is already 3 exits from the village this will be a fourth. The PC could look at other ways to secure the village to give parishioners peace of mind.  
Cllr Brown proposed the PC should advise Alconbury Weald that it wanted them to include pedestrian & cycle access to the village from Alconbury Weald by connecting to their planned cycle route network.  
Cllr Leaver advised Members he would propose this at the next Alconbury meeting then will follow it up with an official letter outlining the PC's proposals.  
The majority of Members were in Favour of a cycle/pedestrian link to the village and it was agreed to pursue this.
- 17/06/19**      **Police Matters; To receive an update**  
The Clerk advised that Members had received all correspondence as it was received.

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- 18/06/19 Alconbury Plans Update**  
Cllr Leaver advised Members of the following: -  
He attended the last meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019. Urban & Civic have acquired a nine-acre site north of the airfield for commercial buildings.  
HDC are still trying to sort out the Magpas location as they have had complaints about the noise.  
Raf Wyton is not in the district planning, however the country park is going to planning at the end of June.  
In 2022 the Dioceses of Ely school will be opening, and the old Nissan hut is opening as a community Centre/Library.  
There is still no news on the railway station or the four-track proposed project. Urban & Civic are very frustrated as they have the funds.  
Traffic calming problems were raised for further discussion.  
The next meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019.
- 19/06/19 Health & Safety: To receive an update**  
Cllr Hemsley advised Members that the pond in Wennington is rather high but not overflowing. Everything else in the villages are in order.
- 20/06/19 Neighbourhood Forum/Joint Local Committee Update**  
Cllr Richardson advised there is nothing to report as there had been no meetings. He said he would contact Cllr Rogers to see if there is a date set for the next meeting and would update Members accordingly.
- 21/06/19 Traffic & Highways Issues**  
Members had all correspondence regarding this and there are no additional issues to report.
- 22/06/19 Correspondence & Communications**  
All correspondence received has been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.
- 23/06/19 To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising (AOB)**  
Cllr Brennan added to the Cycle Race comments. He had received many complaints regarding the Cycle Race. The complaints included rubbish left behind, road closures too long, poor clean up processes and last-minute change of route with lack of communication to Parishioners. Cllr Richardson advised he had officially complained to the County organisers and was waiting a response.  
Cllr Brown asked Members if they knew when the Mistress Mary Event was taking place as Parishioners would need to be advised.  
Cllr Richardson advised that he would find out the dates and advise Members accordingly.
- 24/06/19 Proposed 2019 dates for Parish Council meetings: Abbots Ripton Village Hall,**  
16<sup>th</sup> July, 27<sup>th</sup> August, 8<sup>th</sup> October, 19<sup>th</sup> November
- 25/06/19 Items for next agenda**  
BT Phone Box Adoption  
LHI 2020/2021

**CLOSE OF MEETING 21.00**