

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 27th August 2019 at 7.15pm at the Abbots Ripton Village Hall

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

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

28/08/2019

Minutes

- 01/08/19** **To receive and approve apologies for absence.**
Apologies were received from Cllr S Bywater (County & District)
- 02/08/19** **To receive declarations of interest.**
Cllr Richardson -Matters pertaining to the cricket club
Cllr J Leaver -Matters pertaining to the Village Hall Refurb
Cllr Miller-Matters pertaining to the Estate
- 03/08/19** **Public Participation.**
No Members of the public were present.
- 04/08/19** **To receive and approve the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 16th July 2019**
Cllr Richardson proposed to approve the minutes Cllr Leaver seconded,
ALL were in favour and it was **Resolved** to approve the minutes.
- 05/08/19** **Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.**
Abbots Ripton Village Phone Box
The Clerk advised Members that she had received emails from Hunts Planning Department & Hunts Conservation team both confirming that planning permission and listed building consent are not required for the adoption of the village phone box. She advised that the PC can now go ahead with the adoption.
Cllr Richardson signed the contract for the Clerk to send back to the adoption team at BT payphones.
Cllr Hemsley asked if the Clerk had received any quotations for the cost of the defibrillator and the associated works. The Clerk advised she had received quotations for the electric works, a defibrillator and a cabinet. The cost of all three would be covered from the £3,000 budget that had been set aside in a separate holding fund account as shown on the budget control sheet. Cllr Brown proposed that the PC should get quotations for refurbishing the phone box. The Clerk advised Members that she was looking into this already as there is a charity that may be able to help with this.
The Clerk advised Members she would update them at the next meeting.

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06/08/19

Reports from County and District Councillors.

Cllr Rogers advised Members that there was very little to update them on other than the County Council are in the process of viewing the Capital programme to see what savings can be made. Also, the pension fund has had two major managerial links transferred in.

Cllr Richardson asked Cllr Rogers if he knew the problems that the P.C. were having in getting the LHI 2018/19 works completed. Cllr Richardson also advised that the costings had been over estimated and found this very disturbing. Cllr Brown added that if Highways overestimated on a third of all applications that is a lot of cumulative money being overestimated which could make a difference in some LHI funding being approved or not. Cllr Rogers advised he would look into this and report back.

Marshalls Presentation

Cllr Tuplin advised Members that 6/7 years ago the District Council visited Marshalls to see how they operate; and seeing just a part of the operation was a real eye opener.

Cllr Richardson advised that it is a speculative situation with 3 options but no decisions to date. Cllr Richardson advised it was a good presentation, very informative. The long-term cost of maintaining a runway for one aircraft to land seemed extortionate. The airport would be staying at Cambridge and they would be redeveloping the land for housing.

Hunts DC are very keen to see the project moving forward whereas Cambs CC are not so keen. The majority of the workforce would be between St Ives, Hunts & Cambs.

Cllr Tuplin added that Cranfield would have a disadvantage as it has the shortest runway whereas Wyton has one of the longest. One thing that wasn't mentioned at the presentation was the re-positioning of the A141. Cllr Tuplin advise Members he would keep them informed.

07/08/19

Solar Farm Grant Fund New Bid Process

The Clerk had drafted a poster advertising the new Solar Farm bid invitation.

Cllr Hemsley proposed that the amount up for tender of £20,000 should be added to the poster letting Parishioners and voluntary organisations in the villages know that this amount could be bid for as a single or multiple amount.

Members agreed that this should be added so Parishioners knew what they would be bidding for.

Cllr Brennan advised He would put the link on Facebook.

Cllr Richardson advised Members that the Rotary Club & Abbots Ripton Estate had previously planted 400 trees near Home Farm. Some of these trees had died off and he thought it would be a good idea to plant some fruit trees as community memorial trees. Cllr Brown stated that there is no public footpath at the location where Cllr Richardson was proposing the trees could be planted, Cllr Leaver said that the trees couldn't be called community trees if there is no public access to them but added he liked the idea of planting some more trees in the village. Cllr Richardson proposed that the trees could be planted as part of the Solar Farm bid.

Cllr Miller said it's a good idea the PC just needed find a different location. Cllr Rogers said he would check the Highways insurance and let the PC know.

Members supported Cllr Richardson's idea in principle if a suitable site could be found.

08/08/19

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 24th August 2019 showing expenditure of £6,203.70 and income of £9,035.87 (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.

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It was **Resolved** that the Financial Officers report was approved, and **All** were in Favour.

09/08/19

To approve accounts for payment:

Cllr Hemsley asked what the £300 payment to Abbots Ripton Farming Co was for. Cllr Richardson advised that 7/8 years ago the County Council decided to cut back on the number of cuts to the footpath grass verge in the village. The County Council would only cut twice a year which wasn't enough. The PC asked Abbots Ripton Farming Co if they would do the additional cuts if the PC contributed to the cost of this. ARFCO agreed to do the additional cuts and an annual contribution of £300 was approved by Members of the P.C. Cllr Hemsley thanked Cllrs Richardson for the explanation. Cllr Richardson proposed that authorisation of all the payments listed below should be approved. Cllr Leaver seconded, all were in favour and it was **Resolved** that payments would be made.

Parish Clerk/Financial Officer	July/August 2019 Payroll	727.48
HMRC	July/August 2019 Payroll	170.20
Beam	Village grass cutting service 7 th &8 th cut 2019/20	304.00
Abbots Ripton Farming Co Ltd	Contribution to footpath grass cutting service	300.00
Total		1501.68

10/08/19

Street Lighting Parish Energy Handover from County Council.

The Clerk advised Members that she had looked at the process for obtaining the right information with regards to sourcing a direct electricity supplier for the street lights in Abbots Ripton as the County Council had announced its handover of the service. She added that it was a lengthy process and would be very time consuming.

She advised that a company called Utility Aid had contacted her advising that they are dealing with many Parish & Town Councils street lighting handover. The company explained that there is no fee to the PC for obtaining the information needed to source an electricity supplier. Once the process has been completed Utility Aid provide the PC with a number of competitive quotes. If the PC choose one of the suppliers from their list of quotations then Utility Aid will get their fee from the successful electricity supplier.

The Clerk advised that when she receives the quotes from Utility Aid, she will check the rates to ensure the quotes are competitive. She added that the County Council have always added an admin fee on for arranging the supply of the street lighting electricity, therefore she would expect the costs to go down or worst-case scenario the cost would remain the same. There are only 9/10 street lights in Abbots Ripton so the annual costs are minimal.

Members agreed it made sense to allow Utility Aid to complete the process of the street lighting handover due to the amount of work involved and there being no cost to the PC for the service provided by Utility Aid.

All were in Favour and it was approved.

The Clerk confirmed she would give Utility Aid all the relevant paperwork to complete the process.

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11/08/19

Planning Application Update.

Planning Applications received: -

19/01591/REM Alconbury Weald Ermine Street- Reserved Matters approval of access, appearance, landscaping, layout and scale following 1201158OUT approval- up to 84 car parking spaces & 8 motorcycle spaces, and associated landscaping and engineering works. **PC comments- Approved, No objections**

3 Audley Cottage Enforcement Case 19/00172/ENPLAN

The Clerk advised Members that the Enforcement Officer had emailed her stating that she hadn't had chance to do a site visit and would be doing so in the next two weeks.

Cllr Hemsley confirmed that the dimensions are to scale but no dimensions for the width of the property. The plan dimensions do not represent the work. Cllr

Richardson added that the hedge was left on the plan drawings but has been taken down and this is not acceptable. The Clerk advised she would continue to chase.

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

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

12/08/19

Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2018/19 (Abbots Ripton Mvas, speed reduction)

Cllr Richardson voiced his concerns that the works have still not been completed for this scheme. There is only one pole up for the Mvas to attach to. The Clerk advised Members that she would chase Highways to see if they had got a date for the completion of the works.

Cllrs Richardson, Leaver & Miller will be attending a training day on the 26th Sept 2019 to be shown how to operate the Mvas. They will collect the Mvas from the depot at the same time.

13/08/19

Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative Update 2019/20 (Wennington Mvas)

Cllr Hemsley confirmed that he had met with the Highways Officer to establish where the Mvas posts needed to go. He confirmed that the road from Wood Walton would have a new post to be located where an existing small 30 sign is facing out of the village.

The road from Little Raveley has an existing post currently showing a sign 'bends ahead', the Mvas unit can be attached to this.

The road from Abbots Ripton has not yet been decided. One option discussed was to extend the 30mph zone 100m down hill and then using the existing 30mph sign and Mvas. This would need an additional request for the speed zone increasing. The cost of the whole installation should be reduced by using existing posts and not ones.

Members agreed this was a good idea and asked the Clerk to write to Highways to get a quote to move the 30mph sign in Wennington.

The Clerk said she would advise Members of any updates at the next meeting.

14/08/19

Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative consider new application for 2020/2021

The Clerk advised Members that she had completed the application and was waiting to hear if the PC had been successful in their LHI bid application.

She would update Members at the next meeting.

15/08/19

Police Matters; To receive an update

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The Clerk advised that Members had received all correspondence as it was received and that there was nothing to report.

16/08/19

Alconbury Plans Update

Cllr Leaver advised Members that there was nothing to report. He advised that he would be attending the next meeting on the 3rd September and will update Members at the Council meeting in October.

17/08/19

Health & Safety: To receive an update

Cllr Hemsley advised Members that he would be doing a routine check on both villages at the weekend and would update them at the next meeting.

18/08/19

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.

19/08/19

Traffic & Highways Issues

Members had all correspondence regarding this and there were no additional issues to report.

20/08/19

Correspondence & Communications

All correspondence received has been circulated to Members prior to the meeting.

21/08/19

To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising (AOB)

Cllr Leaver asked if there had been any feedback received from the 'We Out There' Event? Cllr Richardson advised he had received some complaints that there was a certain amount of noise after the licensed cut off time. He added that the PC should receive a copy of the sound info recorded. Cllr Miller asked where this information could be sought. Cllr Richardson advised the Licensing team at Hunts DC. Other than the noise issues the event seemed to go ok. Rubbish was cleared and no traffic problems.

The Clerk advised Members she would contact Hunts DC and ask them for the information. She would update Members at the next meeting.

22/08/19

**Proposed 2019 dates for Parish Council meetings: Abbots Ripton Village Hall,
8th October, 19th November**

23/08/19

Items for next agenda

CLOSE OF MEETING 20.40