

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer – Mrs Angela Papworth  
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## MINUTES 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019

**A Meeting of Abbots Ripton Parish Council was held on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.15pm at the Abbots Ripton Village Hall**

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

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

28/11/19

- 01/11/19 To receive and approve apologies for absence.**  
Apologies were received from Cllr J Hemsley, Cllr S Bywater (County) & Cllr R Tuplin (District)
- 02/11/19 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
- 03/11/19 Public Participation.**  
No Members of the Public were present
- 04/11/19 To receive and approve the minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> October & the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (Extra Ordinary Meeting)**  
All were in favour and it was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of both meetings.
- 05/11/19 Matters arising or carried forward from the previous meeting.**  
None
- 06/11/19 Reports from County and District Councillors.**  
Cllr Rogers advised Members that Purdah is causing problems at Cambs CC and will delay the Precept.  
The last financial years accounts should be signed off by audit on the 28/11/19.  
At the recent Alconbury meeting it was advised that the proposed plans for 1600 new houses would be dependent on taking some land away from the country park, therefore the application has been pulled for the time being.  
The pension fund was 82% funded last month and is now 100% funded which is good news.  
Cllr Brown asked details of the accelerated A14 opening part of it in December and would Spittle's be left open. Cllr Rogers advised he would send the information on.  
Cllr Miller asked about the extended guided bus way. Cllr Rogers advised that it is in place and would increase as the development increases. The railway is not happening yet as Network Rail are not funding this at the present time.

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

07/11/19

## Solar Farm Grant Fund 2019 Update

Members were reminded that a meeting was held on the 30<sup>th</sup> October to consider and approve applications received.

The Clerk advised Members that she had sent letters out to all the applicants advising them of the decisions made and the processes used by the committee.

Cllr Richardson asked about the benches for the village and where Members proposed they should go. The Clerk advised that she would be sourcing quotes for the benches & bases in the new year as she didn't think the benches would be going in until the spring.

Members agreed to discuss the positioning of the benches in the new year.

The Minutes of the Solar Farm Grant fund meeting will be posted on the website for public viewing.

08/11/19

## Financial Assistance to the Church LGA 1894 (1894 Act)

The Clerk advised Members that the Church had questioned why the PC could not approve a grant from the Solar Farm funding as it had been given to the P.C. from an individual. The Church asked the Clerk to provide them with the relevant documentation regarding the 1894 Act.

The Clerk explained that she had exhausted all possible avenues and went to CAPALC (a membership organisation) affiliated to NALC (the National Association of Local Councils).

The Clerk advised that as the Solar Farm funds had been donated to the P.C. it came under the PC's Financial Regulations and the 1894 Act. The Clerk gave the church a copy of the 1894 act and explained the reasons why the P.C. could not grant the funds to the Church. The Church were grateful that the Clerk had done all she could and realised that the PC's hands were tied. The Church thanked the Clerk for her efforts.

09/11/19

## 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 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 showing expenditure of £8,692.82 and income of £10,186.45 (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.

10/11/19

## To approve accounts for payment

The Clerk tabled a late payment request from Cambs CC for £552.15 for the AR village Street Lighting Energy. The Clerk advised Cllrs there was no option to pay this invoice by cheque and asked Cllrs to approve payment via the online system.

Cllr Richardson proposed that authorisation of all the payments listed below and the Cambs CC late tabled payment request of £552.15 should be approved, Cllr Leaver seconded, all were in favour and it was **Resolved** that payments would be made.

Parish Clerk/Financial Officer	Oct 2019 Payroll	446.15
HMRC	Oct 2019 Payroll	99.40
Parish Clerk/Financial Officer	Nov 2019 Payroll	431.73
HMRC	Nov 2019 Payroll	99.60
Capalc	Local Cllr Guide Book	14.99
<b>Total</b>		<b>1,091.87</b>

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

11/11/19

## **Draft Precept Budget 2020/21 for Approval**

Members had before them a draft budget of £22,333 for 2020/21 (attached) for consideration and approval. New budgets for Grants to Voluntary Organisations and the Clerks Cilca training had been included in the draft budget. The draft budget showed a precept amount of £9,000 with the remaining expenditure being covered from income and transfer from the general fund. The Clerk advised Members that the Precept budget could remain the same as last year due to the amount being held in the general fund. Cllrs were concerned that the general fund would be left with very little contingency and felt that the Precept could be increased slightly to allow for this. The Precept hadn't been increased for the last two financial years and had been set at £9,000 since 2018/19. It was proposed that the Precept should be increased by £500 making the Precept £9,500.

### **All were in favour of these changes.**

The Clerk advised Members that she would do a comparison report at the January meeting outlining savings and additional costs in 2019/20.

The Clerk proposed that any under spent budget for The LHI Highways, Tree Works & Elections budgets should be transferred to the designated holding accounts for when the associated works would be carried out.

Cllr Richardson agreed and proposed holding accounts to be set up as listed above.

### **All were in Favour.**

It was **RESOLVED** that the 2020/21 budget be set at £22,333 to include all the changes listed above and the Precept budget be set at £9,500 with the remaining expenditure being sourced from income and the general fund balances. It was also **RESOLVED** that holding accounts be set up for the above underspent budgets if not done so already.

12/11/19

## **Planning Application Update.**

**Planning Applications received: -**

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

No Planning applications had been received.

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

13/11/19

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

Cllr Richardson advised that another pole was needed in the village for the Mvas on Station Rd. He asked the Clerk to email Highways to remind them that the third pole had still not been erected. Cllr Brennan agreed to download the data from the Mvas. Cllr Brown advised that the Mvas needed reprogramming to show the speed and a Thankyou when the speed is under the limit. Cllr Richardson proposed that the PC should buy another Mvas for the village. All Cllrs agreed. The Clerk advised she would contact the Company direct who provides the Units to obtain a price.

14/11/19

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

The Clerk advised she would chase Highways for updates and advise at the next meeting.

15/11/19

## **Local Highway Improvement (LHI) Initiative update for 2020/2021**

The Clerk advised she had received nothing from Highways and would chase to see if any decisions had been made.

## ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

- 16/11/19**      **Street Lighting Parish Energy Handover Update**  
The Clerk advised that the new lighting contract had been signed and sent to Utility Aid who are the company organising the handover.  
The contract is with Haven Power commencing on the 26/11/19 with an expiry date of 30/09/2023.
- 17/11/19**      **Police Matters: To receive an update.**  
Members had received all correspondence prior to the meeting.
- 18/11/19**      **Alconbury Plans Update**  
Nothing to update.
- 19/11/19**      **Health and Safety: To receive an update**  
The Clerk advised Members that the Abbots Ripton village noticeboard was leaking and needed some maintenance work doing on it. She agreed to obtain a quotation for the repair works and advise at the next meeting.
- 20/11/19**      **Neighbourhood Forum/Joint Local Committee Update**  
Nothing to report
- 21/11/19**      **Traffic & Highways Issues**  
Cllr Leaver advised that there was still debris on the Station Rd near the Wennington Rd turning/Foxenfields. The Clerk advised she had reported it and would do so again.
- 22/11/19**      **Correspondence and Communications.**  
List of correspondence received circulated to all Councillors prior to meeting.
- 23/11/19**      **To receive verbal reports from Parish Councillors on matters arising (any other business)**  
Cllr Richardson advised Members that he attended the Cambs Councils Conference on the 8<sup>th</sup> November 2019.  
The first session was made up of various Speakers talking about working together to better understand the priorities of our communities and how we should be working together by sharing information and help to provide a better community for our residents, rather than working in isolation.  
  
The second session was conducted by Cambs County Council explaining that they felt Shire Hall and the new offices appeared to be too remote from their Communities. In order to try to address this problem they intended to create several hubs in the community where council staff would be working closer to the community they serve.  
  
Cambridgeshire Community Funding did a workshop explaining various elements required to obtain funding. This session was very useful in the event of any grant application being made.

# ABBOTS RIPTON PARISH COUNCIL

**24/11/19** Proposed 2020 dates for Parish Council meetings:

Abbots Ripton Village Hall, 7.15pm: 14<sup>th</sup> Jan, 25<sup>th</sup> February, 14<sup>th</sup> April, 19<sup>th</sup> May (APM AGM), 30<sup>th</sup> June, 18<sup>th</sup> August, 13<sup>th</sup> October, 24<sup>th</sup> November.

**25/11/19** Items for next agenda  
Operation London Bridge

**CLOSE OF MEETING**  
**9.00pm**