

PARISH OF ABBOTS LEIGH - NOTICE OF MEETING
Meeting of Abbots Leigh Parish Council
Held in the John Butler Room of the Village Hall, Church Road
Monday 17th December 2018 at 7.30 pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Talbot-Ponsonby, Butler, Telling, Ward Cllr Davies & J Smart (Clerk)
Apologies: Cllr Stewart

1. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

None.

2. Previous meeting held on 19th November 2018

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 19th November 2018 (previously circulated), were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

None.

4. Ward Councillor's Report

DD reported that the NSC budget was not yet clarified, but the potential Council Tax increase could be between 2 and 5%. NSC was short by £2m on the budget, as there had already been an overspend on special educational needs. Transport had not been arranged for children, there were longer journeys, and no proper provision beyond that. NSC had cut non-statutory (preventative) services. NSC would take funding from adult budget to put into children's budget.

There was nothing further to report on the Joint Spatial Plan or MetroWest.

There were currently problems with reliability of the buses.

5. Planning

i. Applications:-

18/P/4707/FUH – 4 Dennyview Road – Demolition of existing small single storey extension to rear. Proposed single storey rear and side extension. **No objections in principle, but Councillors disliked the proposed flat roof, which was out of keeping with surroundings.**

18/P/4832/TPO – The Coppice, Home Farm Road – T1 Sycamore – reduce canopy by 2m; T2 Ash – reduce canopy by 2m. **Jason Cox (NSC) to make decision.**

18/P/4833/FUH – Priory Cottage, Manor Lane - 2 Storey rear extension. **Object – out of keeping with existing building.**

18/P/4997/LDP – 7a Knightcott Road – Lawful Development for the proposed demolition of existing conservatory and replacement with new porch. Enlargement of existing windows. "Stone" wall to be rendered to match remaining elevations. **No objections.**

ii. Approvals:-

18/P/4609/FUH – Fair Provence, Blackmoor Road – Replacement car port.

iii. Other Planning Matters

Following discussion on the proposals for a wild workshop pottery on land at The Gables, Ashgrove Avenue, Councillors had no objections in principle, but the applicants should check for any covenants over the land and also with the NSC Highways Department.

6. Abbots Leigh Charity

JB reported on an AL Charity meeting last week. The Charity meets twice per year to discuss the 4/5 charities. John Walke (Chair) and Steve Livings (Correspondent) would like to step down, and would like to know if the Parish Council would like to take over the administration of it. The total balance of the funds was £1,242. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Parish Council to take this on, and suggested winding up the accounts and giving the remaining funds to a relevant charity. JB would discuss this with Cllr Stewart, who was a Trustee.

7. Financial

- i. Approval of Accounts for Payment - AT proposed approval of the Accounts for Payment, JB seconded. Agreed. **Action Clerk.**
- ii. External Auditor - Completion of Review – PKF Littlejohn had finally completed its review of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR) for the year ended 31st March 2018. *‘On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR), in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the AGAR is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Clerk to update and send to all members’.*

8. Village Matters

- i. Police Report – No report. PC Phil Rudden had been promoted to Sergeant and would no longer be working in this area.
- ii. Village Hall – STP had received lots of compliments about the Christmas decorations. JB had forwarded information and a quotation from Mark Thyer, for the replacement projector and screen to all members. The price was £2,089, which was higher than Kevin Dimond’s quote. Two spots lights were not working, and Mark could also provide a quote for these. Agreed to go ahead and order from Mark Thyer. STP would write to the Civic Society to ask if it could contribute to this. STP and Sean Dorrington had investigated the drainage under the kitchen floor, as there was still an unpleasant smell emitting from somewhere. It looked like there could be problems with corrosion of the pipes. This would need to be investigated further. **Action STP.**
- iii. Former Skittle Alley – Nothing to report. The Clerk was to check the lease for when the first payment should be made by Fit Tank. **Action Clerk.**
- iv. Traffic Issues & Footpaths – The footpath by St Katherine’s School had been cleared. STP would need to contact NSC (Phil Bush) again regarding the road surface/drainage at Sandy Lane. DD would also chase up Colin Medus. STP reported on the work that had been carried out whilst Beggarbush Lane was closed for resurfacing. NSC had now cleared the cycle path. Blocked soakaways at Leigh Warren and opposite Ashgrove Avenue (not a blocked drain, but soakaways can’t cope). Drain opposite North Road blocked pipe (outlet into Ashton Court does not seem to be working properly). Clerk to report all these three. Drain on Church Road on junction with A369 is blocked). **Action Clerk.**

- v. Verges – Nothing to report.
- vi. Playing Fields & Events – Nothing to report.
- vii. Village Orderly – Nothing to report.

9. Communications

Nothing to report.

10. Clerk's Report

The Clerk requested all members to consider items for the budget for the next meeting, to be held on Monday 21st January 2019.