

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 20th January 2020 at 7.30 pm

MINUTES

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

Public Participation

Liz and Barry England were present, to ask if anything was going to be done about the parking in Church Road, which had become problematical when wedding and funerals were taking place at the Church. STP explained that the PC had no powers to do anything on the highway, and that this was the remit of North Somerset Council. MW suggested setting out cones at certain pinch points for weddings and funerals. LE reported that there was regular inconsiderate parking by one particular resident who had numerous cars. STP advised that nothing could be done about this apart from asking the resident to park more considerately.

1. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

None.

2. Previous meeting held on 16th December 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th December 2019, previously circulated, were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising

STP would respond to the request from Mr & Mrs Poland to build an eco-friendly home in their field (Green Belt), to which the Parish Council was opposed.

4. Planning

i. Applications:

19/P/3043/CQA – The Cowshed, Glen Farm, Sandy Lane. Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building (Sui Generis Use) to 1No. dwelling house (Use Class C3) with operational development consisting of the insertion of windows and doors. **No objections.**

19/P/2878/TPO – Leigh Court Farm, Pill Road. T844, T847, T850, T851, T853 – Fell. **NSC Tree Officer to make decision.**

19/P/3075/FUH – 2 Glen Cottages, Sandy Lane. 1.5 storey side extension to provide ground floor accessible annexe rooms and first floor bathroom and bedroom. **No objections.**

ii. Approvals:

19/P/2653/LDP – The Gables, Ashgrove Avenue. Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed demolition of existing conservatory, erection of a single storey side extension, and 3No. roof-lights to rear elevation.

19/P/2854/FUH – Oaklea Lodge, Blackmoor Road. Erection of a six car garage (retrospective).

iii. Other Planning Matters

21 Church Road – DD reported that NSC Planning Officer was not happy that the increase in size of the main house would be over 150% of the original building. He would respond to the applicant.

5. Ward Councillor's Report

DD reported that NSC had now withdrawn from the Joint Spatial Plan. NSC would now produce a Local Plan with due respect for the other three areas. Ideally any new developments would be close to the M5.

The First Bus consultation was currently taking place, and this was available to complete online. The implications were that the buses would reduce from 4 to 3 per hour through Abbots Leigh.

Leigh Woods residents parking scheme. DD advised that there would be formal consultation on this. Clerk to circulate to all when this was received. **Action Clerk.**

6. Neighbourhood Plan

MS would report on this at the next Parish Council meeting. He would also circulate the full Plan to all members. **Action MS.**

7. Financial

- i. Approval of Accounts for Payment for January 2020 - MW proposed, and STP seconded approval of the Account for Payment for January. Agreed. **Action Clerk.**
- ii. Budget – Actual 2019-2020 - The Clerk had prepared and circulated the predicted figures to the end of March 2020.
- iii. Budget 2020-2021 - The Clerk had prepared and circulated the draft budget for 2020-2021. Members considered each item and set budgets for the year.
- iv. Precept Request £30,500.00 - Following consideration it was agreed that the Precept request would be £30,500.00 for 2020-2021. This was an increase of 2% on the previous year. **Action Clerk.**

8. Village Matters

- i. Police Report - There was 1 crime reported in November 2019 – Violence and Sexual Assault in Dennyview Road. This was currently under investigation.
- ii. Village Hall - JB had circulated increased prices for renting the Village Hall . Following discussion, it was agreed to drop the proposed 'set up' charges. JS to discuss with JP about users who have discounted rates. Put the increase information on website ASAP, stating that prices would be increasing on 1st April 2020. **All.**
The four new chairs had arrived for the JB Room.
STP reported on the problems with the drain smells at the VH, and that John & Jan were not willing to stay in the property until it was sorted. The Clerk had called out a drain surveyor, who did not find anything obvious. The main smell was in the utility room at the bottom of the stairs. Now waiting for a quotation for clearance and lining of the drain. Sean Dorrington came on Saturday and capped off an old drain, checked under the floor and boarded up afterwards. Need to arrange for a new floor in the utility room. JB had talked to John & Jan this afternoon, who advised that unfortunately, this had not got rid of the smell. **Action STP/Clerk.**
STP reported that the big window had been sealed in the main hall.
Clerk & STP to call Gigaclear to chase them about the broadband not working at the VH. **Action STP/Clerk.**

- iii. Former Skittle Alley – Clerk to check refuse bin situation. STP advised that he had visited the FitTank with RN, and suggested that the ventilation needed improving. A friend of James would provide a quote for extractor fans at each end of the building. **Action Clerk.**
- iv. Traffic Issues & Footpaths - Nothing to report.
- v. Verges - Nothing to report.
- vi. Playing Fields & Events - Agreed to order a dog waste bin for the playing field (in budget for 2020-2021). Kevin Weekes to empty when necessary at £6.00 per empty. **Action Clerk.**
- vii. Village Orderly - The Clerk had met with Nigel Mail, who wanted to continue with his work in the village.

9. Communications

STP reported that the litter pick would be held on Sunday 29th March.

STP reported that the Solar Streets scheme was proceeding, which the Parish Council was supporting together with Pill & Easton-in-Gordano, and that there would be a public information evening on 12th March in the Community Centre in Pill.

10. Clerk's Report

Graffiti on the electricity box in Manor Road had been reported and removed. Some fly tipping in the woods behind the new noticeboard had been reported and collected.

Know Your Place Project. Information had been passed to members.

RN & STP had discussed the Conservation Area, and RN would be taking this forward. **Action RN.**

STP – Information about the last Parish Boundary Review. STP would investigate the possibility of this. **Action STP.**