

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 16th December 2019 at 7.30 pm

MINUTES

Present: Cllrs Talbot-Ponsonby, Butler, Narracott, Stewart, Walker & J Smart (Clerk)
Apologies: None

1. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

RN declared an interest in Item 4i, as an immediate neighbour of Hunters Lodge.

2. Previous meeting held on 18th November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th November 2019 (previously circulated), were signed as a true record. Clerk to change NR to RN.

3. Matters arising

See below.

4. Planning

i. Applications:

19/P/2854/FUH – Oaklea Lodge, Blackmoor Road. Erection of a six car garage (retrospective). ***No objections in principle, but it should be conditioned that the building can only ever be used as a garage.***

19/P/2876/FUH – Hunters Lodge, Harris Lane. Side extension, an additional dormer and a material palette refresh. ***Councillors OBJECTED to this application on the grounds of the increased scale, height and massing of the proposed two storey gabled element, which being over-glazed and timber clad, was in direct contrast to the existing bungalow's character.***

The two storey element would dominate the property, increase the ridge height, and would impact on the neighbouring Chelmwood House and its rear garden, even more significantly than the design that was refused at Appeal Reference 17/P/0961/F.

The use of timber cladding remains contrary to the recommendations of the Abbots Leigh Village Character Statement. RECOMMEND REFUSAL.

ii. Approvals:

19/P/2768/AGA – Forestry Office, Off Abbots Leigh Road. Application for prior notification of forestry development for a proposed single storey extension on the eastern side of the building. ***Prior approval not required.***

iii. Other Planning Matters

21 Church Road – Following consideration of the amended plans, Councillors were pleased to see that the applicant had taken the PC's comments on board, but if amendments could still be made the PC would recommend a steeper pitch on both roofs (similar to the property next door).

Proposal for dwelling at Bosley, Fishponds Lane.

Following discussion, as there was no demonstration of any extra special circumstances to site a new dwelling on the Green Belt site, Councillors agreed not to support this proposal.

Enforcement

DD had complained about the dumping of soil on land behind the kennels on the A369. NSC Enforcement would take up this issue.

5. Ward Councillor's Report

The NSC draft budget would be out tomorrow. There was a proposal to charge for collection of green waste. The parking strategy would also be published.

It was agreed that when the Leigh Woods residents parking scheme was published, that the PC should write in response to the consultation. The earliest this could be implemented was August 2020. The clearway on Beggar Bush Lane was not enforceable.

FirstBus – a consultation on the bus services would be held in January.

Ash dieback – the PC needed to consider how to deal with this. STP had spoken to Jason Cox of NSC at Abbots Pool meeting about Ash Dieback, which was now prevalent in the South East. Not happening here just yet, but need to start planning for it.

6. Neighbourhood Plan

MS updated all on the current situation with the Neighbourhood Plan. The exhibitions had taken place over the last couple of weeks. 171 people had attended the three exhibitions. A housing survey had taken place as part of the exhibitions. 118 responses had been received:- 5 = favoured 1,000 dwellings at Markham, 72 = preferred the clusters. 41 = no change to present. MS had spoken to Celia Dring of NSC, who had been very helpful. She had commented on the draft and suggested some alterations. It would take slightly longer than MS had thought, as it needed to go for consultation during January/February. Only after that did it go out to local consultation. It would then be submitted to NSC consult on. It would be late summer 2020 before it was completed.

Open Spaces section - in addition to all Abbots Leigh open spaces, there were also a lot of recreational areas along the A369/Beggar Bush Lane. The NP Group recognised the potential for this, and subject to the NSC Core Strategy and considering the green belt, it could be appropriate for more development here.

Environment – Comments from AL Wildlife Group were read and discussed by members. MS had suggested some alterations, and these were agreed.

STP – Solar Streets – Was the PC happy to continue to support the scheme. All agreed. IDDEA would organise meetings with residents.

7. Financial

i. Approval of Accounts for Payment for December 2019

MW proposed approval of the accounts for payment, STP seconded. Agreed. **Action Clerk.**

The Clerk had circulated an up to date budget with projected figures to the end of March 2020.

8. Village Matters

- i. Police Report – October crime statistics were 1 burglary in Dennyview Road, 1 vehicle crime on Manor Lane and 1 theft from Clifton College sports ground.
- ii. Village Hall – STP reported that the replacement notice boards had been put up today. JB had spoken to JP about the circuit and PAT testing. Paul Hares had still not contacted JP about this. Fire alarm tests would be carried out in January. STP would contact Sean Dorrington to discuss the problem with water ingress from the large end window of the hall. RN & STP would investigate this in early January. JB had looked at VH pricing. He suggested increasing weekend costs from 1st April. JB would circulate the suggested costs and agenda for the next meeting. **Action JB/Clerk.**
- iii. Former Skittle Alley – Nothing to report.
- iv. Traffic Issues & Footpaths – Residents parking discussed above.
- v. Verges – Nothing to report.
- vi. Playing Fields & Events – The annual inspection had taken place. Kevin Weekes had been asked to work through any items that needed attention.
- vii. Village Orderly – Clerk to discuss with Nigel Mail. **Action Clerk.**

9. Communications

Nothing to report.

10. Clerk's Report

Contact SwitchSafe regarding the report which was still incorrect. **Action Clerk.**

Open Spaces Society magazine.

Countryside Voice magazine.