

**PARISH OF ABBOTS LEIGH**  
**Meeting of Abbots Leigh Parish Council**  
Held in the John Butler Room of the Village Hall, Church Road  
**Tuesday 16th May 2023 at 7.30 pm**

**MINUTES**

**Present:** Cllrs Talbot-Ponsonby, Walker, Das, Delany, Ho Marris & J Smart (Clerk)  
**Apologies:** None

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Parish Council

Cllr Das nominated Cllr Talbot-Ponsonby for the position of Chair, Cllr Delany seconded. Cllr Talbot-Ponsonby was elected Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. **Action Clerk.**

Cllr Talbot-Ponsonby nominated Cllr Das, Cllr Walker seconded. Cllr Das elected Vice-Chair of the Parish Council for the forthcoming year. **Action Clerk.**

2. Declarations of Acceptance to Office

All present signed their Declaration of Acceptance to Office. **Action Clerk.**

3. Declarations of Interest in items on the agenda

None.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2023, previously circulated, were signed as a true record. **Action Clerk.**

5. Matters arising

None.

6. Planning

**Applications:-**

<b>23/P/0779/HHPA</b>	<b>3 Ashgrove Avenue BS8 3QE</b>	Prior approval request for the erection of a single storey rear extension with a pitched roof and would 1) extend beyond the rear wall of the original house by 6.00 metres; 2) have a maximum height of 3.45 metres and 3) have eaves that are 2.82 metres high.  <b><i>Reiterate previous comments regarding drainage.</i></b>
<b>23/P/0830/MMA</b>	<b>Greenwood Stables Beggar Bush Lane</b>	Minor material amendment to planning permission 22/P/0972/FUL (conversion of existing barn to 1No. residential dwelling (C3)) to allow for slight increase in footprint and changes to windows and doors.  <b><i>No objections.</i></b>

<b>23/P/0916/AOC</b>	<b>Orchard Lodge Manor Road BS8 3RS</b>	Request to discharge condition 7 (external lighting scheme) from application number 21/P/0425/FUL.  <b>No comments.</b>
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**Approvals/Refusals/Withdrawn:-**

<b>23/P/0009/FUL</b>	<b>Atcost Barn Glen Farm Sandy Lane</b>	Demolition of existing building and erection of 1No. dwelling. <b>Withdrawn by applicant.</b>
<b>23/P/0321/LDP</b>	<b>3 Ashgrove Avenue BS8 3QE</b>	Certificate of lawful development for the proposed erection of a single storey rear extension. <b>Withdrawn by applicant.</b>
<b>23/P/0438/FUL</b>	<b>Orchard Cottage 252 Pill Road BS8 3RA</b>	External alterations to doors/fenestration to the south-east elevation of the building. Construction of additional hardstanding to the south-east of the building. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>22/P/1631/FUL</b>	<b>Hernhill Manor Lane BS8 3RU</b>	Removal of Condition 4 of permission 20/P/1489/FUL, to allow the use of the garage for commercial/business purposes. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>22/P/0266/FUL</b>	<b>Land to the South of Round Hill Clump Manor Road</b>	Retention of agricultural building. Removal of non-agricultural fixtures and fittings. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>22/P/2030/FUL</b>	<b>Clifton College Sports Club Abbots Leigh Road</b>	Demolition of existing indoor sports "dome" and replacement with new indoor sports hall and associated toilets and changing facilities. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>22/P/2346/LDP</b>	<b>19 Dennyview Road BS8 3RD</b>	Certificate of Lawful Development for the proposed erection of a rear extension to existing original garage less than 8m deep, matching height and width of garage. Construction of a detached gazebo to rear and adjacent oil tank. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>23/P/0192/LDP</b>	<b>Land off Abbots Leigh Road BS8 3QB</b>	Use as an allotment in agricultural use with ancillary parking; and the laying of the matting for access and parking. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>23/P/0194/LDP</b>	<b>Land off Abbots Leigh Road BS8 3QB</b>	Certificate of Lawful Development for the creation of allotments on existing agricultural land alongside hard standing for up to 80 car parking spaces. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>23/P/0467/FUH</b>	<b>30 Dennyview Road BS8 3RB</b>	Proposed demolition of existing conservatory, rear extension, front porch and South side lean-to. Proposed garage conversion and erection of a new front porch, single storey wraparound extension to the South elevation and two storey rear extension. Internal and external alterations, to include the replacement of 2No. windows to the front elevation and removal of existing garage door. <b>TBC.</b>
<b>23/P/0480/AOC</b>	<b>Leigh Lodge 3 Church Road BS8 3QP</b>	Discharge of Condition No. 3 (hard surface material details) from application 21/P/2944/FUH. <b>Approved.</b>

23/P/0549/MMA	Cowshed Glen Farm Sandy Lane BS8 3SE	Minor material amendment to permission 22/P/2286/MMA (change of use of redundant agricultural building (cow shed) to residential use, demolition of existing agricultural building and construction of new bat house, to allow for the retention of one of the two existing timber sheds schedule to demolition prior to occupation of the dwelling. <b>TBC.</b>
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#### Other Planning Matters

STP reported on the Roots Allotments scheme. JHM had telephone conversation with Richard Kent (NSC), who had not thought it necessary to get outside legal advice on the matter. STP had written on behalf of the Parish Council to Richard Kent, reminding him that the Planning ventures objection submission, commissioned by local residents and referred to in the Parish Council objection had included legal advice from Polly Reynolds specialist planning lawyer from Temple Bright and asked that no decision should be made until additional counsel opinion had been received.

JHM reported that Ash Stewart, JHM and Mark Canniford had met, following which they had written to Richard Kent to request that no decision was issued until counsel had responded, and before making any decision to hold a meeting with relevant Ward Councillors and Head of the Planning & Regulatory Committee. DD had been doing a lot behind the scenes, and had advised JHM that as Ward Cllr, she should write the P&R Committee to them to ask them to contact JHM so she could ask for it to be called into Committee. An email was received today from Richard Kent, who advised that NSC had decided that the containers did require planning permission, and Roots had been informed of this. NSC was still looking at the rest of the scheme.

Grangewood House - STP reported on the stable on the land that had been converted into an Airbnb. The PC had raised the issue with NSC, who had advised that it was permitted if it was only used by members of the household. It was being used as an Airbnb, so it was reported to NSC Enforcement, who had not followed it up. Planning permission was required but not applied for, or given, and the property was still being used as an Airbnb. STP had written a letter of complaint to NSC, and MW would forward the new Councillors a copy of this. **Action MW.**

The George - Ex-Councillor Stewart had applied to NSC to re-nominate The George Inn as an Asset of Community Value. Community Asset. A decision was awaited.

#### 7. Ward Councillor's Report

JHM was delighted to have been elected Ward Councillor for Pill. She was still settling into her new role as Ward Councillor and Executive Member for Housing and Health. She asked what the main issues for the PC were. STP stated that highways and planning were the main issues, and that the PC usually contacted the relevant NSC Officers directly. STP reported that North Somerset NSEC now carry out the highway maintenance.

JHM advised was very easy for anyone to report issues on the NSC website, and she suggested promoting this to residents of Abbots Leigh.

#### 8. Neighbourhood Plan Implementation

None.

#### 9. Financial

##### i. Approval of Annual Governance Statement 2022-2023

The Annual Governance Statement for 2022-23 had been circulated to all members. STP signed the statement.  
**Action Clerk**

ii. Approval of Accounts Statements 2022-2023

The Annual Accounting Statements for 2022-23 had been circulated to all members. STP signed the statement.  
**Action Clerk.**

iii. Approval of Internal Auditor 2023-2024

The Clerk advised that the current Internal Auditor had not confirmed whether he would be willing to continue for 2023-24. Clerk to chase. **Action Clerk.**

iv. Approval of Accounts for Payment for May 2023

The Accounts for Payment for May 2023 had been circulated to all members. With the exception of the Mick Dillon payment (Clerk to adjust the accommodation offset on the Caretaker's salary). Approved. **Action Clerk.**

10. Village Matters

i. Police Report – 1 x Burglary – Leigh Court, 1 x V&SO – A369 near kennels, 1 x Theft – Glen Avenue, 1 x V&SO – Dennyview Road.

ii. Village Hall - STP reported the issue with the leak in the large arched window, which Dave Venables would be investigating. STP suggested solar panelling for the village hall and skittle alley in the future. There could be grants available for this. JB had advised that he was still happy to stand in for the Caretaker when necessary. JHM asked about the 'Library of Things', and where it could be sited. Unfortunately, there was no storage at the Village Hall.

iii. Former Skittle Alley - Nothing to report.

iv. Traffic Issues & Footpaths - STP reported that Oliver Delany was in the process of setting up the Community Speedwatch Scheme in Abbots Leigh, but RD reported there had been a long delay in progressing it.

It had been noted that the Civic Society had installed an uplighter on the tree opposite The George.

The gullies near Leigh Warren and Ashgrove Avenue were still blocked. Clerk to report. **Action Clerk.**

Following a request from the Clerk, Pill & EIG PC had agreed to pay half towards filling in the muddy verge outside St Katherine's School with tarmac. Safety Green had quoted £1,500 for the works. All agreed to go ahead with the works at a cost of £750 to ALPC. **Action Clerk.**

v. Verges - It had been suggested that the PC install another dog bin in Manor Road. Consideration would be given to this, but a suitable site would need to be found.

vi. Playing Fields & Events - Kevin Weekes was now cutting the grass again regularly. STP had submitted an application to NSC to cut some low branches from a tree in the field. Maybe it didn't register properly. No response from NSC. **Action STP.**

vii. Abbots Pool - STP reported that the rope handrail would not now be installed as the negotiations with the many parties had become too complex.

viii. Civic Society - New Parish Councillors KD, JHM & RD would be meeting for an informal chat with the Civic Society on Saturday. The CS had said that there was not enough space for a Parish Councillor on its committee and it was proposed that the liaison should continue through Murray Stewart, even though he was no longer on the Parish Council.

11. Communications

The Annual Parish Meeting would be held next Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> May.

12. Clerk's Report

Steve Livings had written to the PC to advise that after 35 years as Trustee for the Abbots Leigh Charities, he wished to resign. He advised that there should be three Parish Councillors on the Board of Trustees. STP, RD & MW agreed to be Trustees for the Abbots Leigh Charities. **Action Clerk/STP/MW/RD.**

The next meeting of the PC would be held on 12<sup>th</sup> June. MW gave his apologies for this meeting and for the meeting to be held on 9<sup>th</sup> October.

Clerk to ask NSC if the PC could move the litter bin from near the telephone box to the George side of the A369. If permission given, ask Kevin Weeks to do the job. **Action Clerk.**