

**ABBOTSKERSWELL PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting Held Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2015 at  
Parish Rooms, Abbotskerswell  
Meeting commenced at 7.30pm**

**Present** Cllr K Eales (Chair), Cllr Mrs J Kniveton (Vice-Chair), Cllr Mrs W Grierson, Cllr D McNee, Cllr B Chambers, Cllr K Farrelly, C Cllr A Dewhirst.

**In Attendance** 1 member of the Public, Mr John Lewis (Tree Warden), Mr Nicky Scott (Community Composting Initiative).

**Apologies for Absence** Cllr R Whiffin, D Cllr D Smith, D Cllr Mrs M Colclough, Mrs M Crompton (Allotments).

**Declarations of interest**

- 1) Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting – Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2015.  
Minutes of the Planning Meeting – Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> February 2015.

The above minutes have been distributed and read - proposed by Cllr D McNee & seconded by Cllr Mrs W Grierson with all in agreement and duly signed by the Chairman – Cllr K Eales.

**2) Public Time (Limited to 15 Minutes)**

- a) Police Report – no report received.
- b) Community Composting – Nicky Scott from Devon Community Composting Network was welcomed by the Parish Council. The composting scheme was started back in the 1990s at Chagford. A group had to be formed to get funding from DCC, there are now many groups all over the country running various schemes. Chagford have now gone further and opened a shop which is linked to food and other various items which can be sold. By keeping composting in the community it reduces the amount of waste going to landfill. Nicky presented a slide show to the Parish Council and to those present regards the various aspects of the project, which can be on different scales and designs to fit an individual community need.

Questions raised -

All projects of this scale need a champion and volunteers. Nicky confirmed that shredding is offered free at present by the council, the turning of the compost can be paid for by the money received by the selling of the compost. There are also grants available for start-up costs. Groups can also do a slow composting which does not involve turning, which is the bit that takes up time and needs volunteers.

Does fly tipping occur – Nicky confirmed usually there is a little bit of fly tipping at the start but this usually stops as the site develops and opening times are distributed so that people know when to come and drop off waste.

Chairman – Cllr K Eales confirmed that the Parish Council would support a composting initiative and suggested an article could be put into AbbTalk to ask for volunteers to take the project forward to see if there is wide interest in this scheme. The question of a site would then need to be looked into further, if sufficient interest was raised, with a possibility of locating it at the allotments.

### 3) Planning Applications & Decisions

**Applications received from Teignbridge District Council – none.**

#### **Decisions Received from Teignbridge District Council**

- a) General Permitted Development Order – 14/03321/NPA – Mr & Mrs Hoare – Manor Farm – Application for Prior Approval under part 3 class MB (a) and (b) and paragraph N of the GPDO for change of use of barn from agricultural use to a dwelling and building operations.
- b) Refusal of Planning Permission – Application no 14/02802/MAJ – Linden Homes – Land at Manor Road – Outline application for up to 53 new dwellings with approval sought for means of access.

#### **Planning Matters**

- a) Ruby Farm Application is going to TDC Committee Meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> March 2015. Chairman – Cllr K Eales, Cllr Mrs W Grierson and Cllr Mrs M Colclough attended a site meeting. The concerns over what would be stored in the outside area were voiced to District Cllrs present. The general feeling was that the outside storage use could present a risk as no one knew what would be stored there until the buildings had been let.

### 4) Matters Arising

- a) Neighbourhood Plan – Chairman – Cllr K Eales reported that this is progressing well at present, the questionnaire has now been printed and is ready to go out with the March edition of the AbbTalk magazine. A Freepost address has been applied for from Royal Mail and this is now in place and the envelopes will be printed. A meeting was held with Newton Abbot Town Council who are further ahead and in the process of writing their plan which will be presented after the election and expected to go out to a referendum in Autumn 2015.
- b) TDC Local Plan Challenge – Chairman – Cllr K Eales confirmed that at the moment we are still waiting for the outcome of the permission to appeal stage, so there is little to report.
- c) Teign Housing – Possible site for Affordable Homes – nothing further has been heard at present.
- d) Public Toilet – New Toilet Roll holder needed – this has been purchased by Cllr K Farrelly.

### 5) Correspondence

- a) Teignbridge Food Bank – Donation request – sorry but unable to donate at the moment.
- b) Ipplepen Beating the Bounds – 25<sup>th</sup> May 2015 – Invitation to meet at Fermoy's accepted, further details will follow.
- c) Letter from Parish Church – Donation request – proposed £100 by Cllr Mrs W Grierson and seconded by Cllr D McNee with all in agreement.

#### **Matters not requiring discussion placed in the folder to be circulated**

### 6) Main Agenda

- a) Report from County Cllr A Dewhirst – report attached to the minutes.
- b) Report from District Cllr M Colclough & District Cllr D Smith – no reports given, but TDC Full Council budget meeting will take place tomorrow.

- c) Emergency Planning Committee report – nothing to report, next meeting is in April 2015.
- d) Abbotskerswell Recreation Association report – Cllr B Chambers reported that no meeting has been held. Quotes are now being sought for new safety matting in the play park.
- e) Allotments Report – Mr John Lewis reported – 30th and 31st May – Open Gardens day. Stream is being cleaned and a general tidy up being done. The old shed is a mess and falling down and needs clearing up. Carl Bloxidge has agreed to tidy this up and take it away. Sadly, 4 car tyres have been dumped in the stream and need taking to the tip. The new water meter was installed on the 9th January and water has been turned off, so nothing at present has been used. One full plot currently is available and 2 ½ plots still available which will be advertised.
- f) P3 Report – nothing to report.
- g) Village Hall Report – nothing to report.
- h) Tree Warden Report – Mr John Lewis reported trees by Ladywell which have been taken down were looked at but they were not in the tree preservation area. Court Farm Triangle – dead mountain ash tree needs taking down and another tree needs pruning. Cllr D McNee to contact Celia Rose to ask if the Voluntary Action Group can help with this.
- i) Reports from Parish Councillors of any external meetings or Committees.
  - 1) TALC – Cllr K Farrelly attended – Police Commissioner - Mr Hogg was present and gave a presentation.
  - 2) Parish Cluster meeting.
  - 3) Stonycombe Liaison – 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 next meeting.
  - 4) Chairman – Cllr K Eales attended Parishes meeting with Anne Marie Morris, MP. The meeting was very poorly attended with only 4 Parish Councils present. Cllr K Eales raised the problem with VAT repayment claims, which at present are very slow for several Parish Councils. Broadband was also discussed and the fact that some homes had a slower broadband speed in the village than other homes was raised. Details were passed onto BT's representative who was at the meeting and it was later confirmed that there are 2 cabinets servicing Abbotskerswell. It depends on which one you are connected to as to how fast the broadband speed is. There is another round of funding available shortly for broadband and it is possible that more of the parish will be upgraded. The Council will continue applying pressure on BT to upgrade the second cabinet in this next phase.
- j) DCC, Highways, Potholes, Roads & Hedges – Court Grange Lane hedges need cutting. Storm drains around the Village are full up – C Cllr A Dewhirst confirmed that any drain clearance will need to wait until the new financial year unless there is a safety problem.
  - 1) Actions for Spring 2015
    - Railings need painting by school and top of the village.
    - Seat at the top of the village needs painting.
    - Weed spraying.
    - Clearance of Parish Council land adjacent to the Quaker burial ground.
- k) Primary School Report – nothing to report.
- l) Volunteer Action Group – nothing to report.
- m) AbbTalk – new bank account shortly to be sorted, next edition to be shortly published.
- n) Consultations – DCC strong communities.
- o) Parish Meeting Speaker – carried forward to the next meeting.

## **7) Cheques for Signature/Finances**

A copy of February 2014 financial report (Minute reference 118) has been distributed – Proposed by Cllr D McNee and seconded by Cllr B Chambers with all in agreement.

- 8) Any Items to go onto next Parish Council meeting Agenda.

9) ARA Draw February 2015

January Draw £50 to be redrawn – 390 – Mr S Williams – Hillcrest.

£50 – 412 – Mr & Mrs Craven – Moor Tang, Totnes Road

£20 – 279 – Mrs Bedward – 1 South View

£5 – 530 – Mr Tomlinson – 3 Corn Park Road

£5 – 340 – Mr McHardy – Selbourne, Totnes Road

£5 – 196 – Mrs E Gray – Jasmine Cottage, Odle Hill

£5 – 761 – Mr D J De Friend – The Glebe, Vicarage Road

**There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.32pm**

**Next Parish Council Meeting Abbotskerswell Parish Rooms – Monday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2015 @ 7.30pm.**

**ANY MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC WHO HAS SPECIAL NEEDS AND REQUIRES A COPY OF THESE MINUTES SENT TO THEM – PLEASE CONTACT THE CLERK – 01364 654607**