

**ABBOTS BROMLEY PARISH COUNCIL**  
 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting  
 Held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 7.00 pm  
 At the Village Hall, Abbots Bromley, pursuant to notice having been given

**Present:** Cllrs Dr C Whorwood (Chair); Mr K Baker, Mrs K Haywood, P Freeman, N Taylor-Brown

**In attendance:** Mrs S Meads (Clerk),

**Members of the Public Attending: 6**

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117. Apologies for absence  
 Cllr M Hobbs

**118. Public Session**

A member of the public raised concerns over the stiles and gates that had been installed on the public footpaths by Abbots Bromley School. The Clerk updated on the situation and said that a meeting would be held with the school to reach a solution and hopefully have the stiles and gates changed or removed.

**119. Co-Option of New Councillors**

Several members of the public had attended the meeting with the view to being co-opted on to the council to fill the remaining three vacancies. Each person said a few words about themselves.

**Mrs C Spratt** – lived in the area for 35 years and used to teach at the prep school. She said she is particularly interested in what does on in the village and with the young people of the village. She does lots of volunteering including working with guide dogs for the blind and would be happy to be considered for one of the vacancies.

Cllr K Baker asked if Mrs Spratt would support the Neighbourhood Plan and would she be willing to support the environment and health objectives of the PC. Mrs Spratt confirmed that she would be happy to support these.

**Mr M Lockey** – said that he first came to the area in 1968. He has had a professional career as a teacher, an inspector of school and is an ordained priest. He has been in the village for

two years. He has always tried to build bridges with the community and always tries to serve the communities he has lived in. Very much like to be involved in serving the community.

Cllr Baker asked the same questions regarding the Neighbourhood Plan and health and wellbeing. Mr Lockey said that he has helped with Neighbourhood Plans before and is particularly keen on health and wellbeing of the community, in particular addressing loneliness and mental health issues.

**Ms R Lynch** – Originally from Scotland and moved down to the village about two years ago. She retired last year. Since moving in to the village she has joined the WI and the Choir. She said she would like to find out more about the village and what is happening and who to approach if she needed to raise a complaint.

She confirmed that she would be happy to support of the three PC objectives and is known for speaking her mind.

**Mr R Love** – said that he is now 46 years old and has lived in the village for 42 years. He has a very deep love of the village and would like to give something back. He went to school in the village and so did his children. He currently coaches football and cricket in the village. He has a desire to support the Parish Council and understands that there are lots of challenges to be faced.

He said he supported the Neighbourhood Plan and believed it was very important as a degree of development is essential and inevitable but needs to be done in a controlled way. He confirmed that he would like to play a role in it. With regard to health and wellbeing he said that everyone is living longer and experiencing greater challenges but he supported the PC's objectives.

It was agreed by councillors to consider co-option of new members at the end of the meeting.

#### **120. Declarations of Interests**

Cllr N Taylor-Brown declared an interest in the planning application for Grange Farm.

#### **121. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

**RESOLVED:** *that the minutes of meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 with two amendments.*

#### **122. Neighbourhood Development Plan Update**

Cllr Baker gave an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

There have been a couple of meetings with the consultant from Urban Vision. A format for the draft plan has been decided and work is taking place on putting together the various policies. In order to put the policies together there is a need to understand the national and local planning policies and each policy needs to be justified. The consultant has recommended one or two amendments.

The next stage is to prepare the draft plan and invite the community to comment on it – possibly just after Christmas.

Mr Pratt asked what will happen if the 30 acres at the school goes for building. Cllr Baker said that the Neighbourhood Plan will have a policy within it for the school site. He said that the plan can try to influence where development can and can't take place. The principles of the Neighbourhood Plan would not be affected by the school. Cllr Baker confirmed that part of the school's grounds have been included as potential Green Space which should give it similar protection to green belt.

Mr Pratt said that developers will bulldoze through the plan as money talks. Mr Love said that if a sensible plan is put forward then it could be considered if it is consistent with the plan.

Cllr Taylor-Brown said that planning appeals can be taken to the Secretary of State.

### 123. Matters of Report

#### i. **Welcome Pack**

Cllr Baker had emailed suggested contents prior the meeting. Due to time pressures on the meeting it was agreed to hold over until the next meeting.

#### ii. **Tourist Guide**

Hold off until next meeting

#### iii. **Climate Fight back**

Hold off until next meeting

#### iv. **Mission Statement**

Cllr Dr Whorwood said that many Parish Councils have a mission statement. Cllr Baker read out a suggested mission statement

“This Council will do all it can to protect Abbots Bromley's village status and to enhance the well-being of the community by moving towards a greener and more sustainable environment.”

Councillors discussed the statement and objectives. Objectives suggested were:-

- *To support the Neighbourhood Plan and see it through to completion;*
- *To support Staffordshire County Council's declaration of an environmental emergency;*
- *To focus on the health and wellbeing of the whole community*

It was suggested that a fourth objective for the PC could be suggested by members of the public and this would be asked for via the Bulletin.

**RESOLVED:** that Cllr Baker would email the mission statement and objectives to councillors prior to the next meeting so that it can be considered at the next meeting

#### v. **AB School – Stiles & Gates**

An update had been provided earlier the meeting, however, the Clerk stated that as some comments had appeared on social media it needed to be minuted that the Parish Council supported the company that had installed the gates at the school and does not support the derogatory comments that appeared on Facebook relating to the company.

#### vi. **War Memorial**

The Clerk reported that there had been no progress on this as awaiting a call back from the selected contractor.

#### vii. **Wild Flower Planting**

The Clerk reported that a grant had been applied for to help support this activity.

### 124. Planning

**1232 - P/2019/01118: Grange Farm (Plot 1, Barn B), Ashbrook Lane, Bromley Wood, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AL** Demolition of part of existing barn and conversion of two barns including single storey link extension to form one dwelling (Class C3)

Received: 09/10/19    Reply due: 30/10/19    No Objections

**1233 - P/2019/01249: The Barn, Pinfold Lane, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3AF** Prior Approval for the conversion of agricultural barn to form dwelling, conversion of stables to ancillary accommodation and conversion of store to a car port and garden store.

Received: 16/10/19    Reply due: 06/11/19    The Parish Council objected to this application as the work required to change the building in to a residential property would be extensive. It seemed that a complete re-build would be required.

**1234 - P/2019/01254: Church View Farm, Goose Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3DF** Erection of an attached Verandah No Objections

Received: 25/10/19 Reply due: 15/11/19

**1235 - P/2019/01318: Church View Farm, Goose Lane, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3DF** Listed Building Consent for the erection of an attached Verandah

Received: 25/10/19 Reply due: 15/11/19 No Objections

## Decisions

### Agreed

**1167 - P/2018/01390: Sycamore House, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AT** Felling of 3 leylandii trees

**1208 - P/2019/00634: Clematis Cottage, Lichfield Road, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, Staffordshire, WS15 3BA** Erection of a detached garage with attic study and new entrance gates.

**1223 - P/2019/00794: Moors Farm, Radmore Lane, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AN** Change of use of part of land to domestic curtilage and construction of tennis court with 3m high fencing

**1225 - P/2019/00848: Hurst Farm, Pinfold Lane, Bromley Hurst, Abbots Bromley, WS15 3AF** Conversion and extension to two existing barns to form a boarding kennel and a cattery (Sui Generis) and installation of septic tank

## 125. Finance Matters

### A Record of payments made after discussion with Chairman or Vice Chairman

### B Record of payments for which authorisation will be sought at meeting

Vch/Chq	Payee	Amount	Details
53/1884	S Meads	576.69	Salary for October
54/1885	SCC Pensions	219.52	Pension contribution for June
55/1886	S Meads	63.04	Expenses
56/1887	Toplis Associates	165.14	Internal Audit
57/1888	Mr G McCulloch	1120.00	Grounds Maintenance & Horn Dance
		<b>2144.39</b>	

### C Record of payments received

Date		Amount	Details
27/9/19	HMRC	1,874.48	HMRC Refund
27/9/19	ESBC	12,370.00	ESBC 2 <sup>nd</sup> Precept Payment & Grants
		14,244.48	

**RESOLVED:** Councillors approved these payments

## ii. **Monthly Finance Report**

The Clerk reported that the report was not available due to bank statements not arriving on time.

## 126. **Group Reports**

### i. **Recreation**

The Clerk reported that permission for tree works needs be sort soon so that work can be carried out at The Nuttery

### ii. **Village Property**

**Bike Racks** – it was suggested that the Parish Council should ask the community where they would wish for these to be located if the Parish Council went ahead with them.

**RESOLVED:** *to put an article in the Bulletin asking the question.*

### iii **Traffic, Parking & Highways**

**Verges in Lanes:-** Councillors reported that all lanes are the same although particularly bad on Radmore Lane. Some people are trying to create passing places and eroding the verges. It was suggested that an article should appear in the Bulletin asking people to contact Highways to report damage to the verges.

Mr Pratt asked which part of Radmore Lane was being referred to. He stated that he, along with other businesses, campaigned for the resurfacing of Radmore Lane several years ago. He said that the lane is a main route to those businesses and said that speeding cars are also an issue on the lane. Cllr Dr Whorwood said that he feels that it is important that everyone should be able to use the lane safely, walkers, horse riders, etc. He stated that everyone should be mindful of other users.

Mr Pratt suggested that a letter is sent to all those that use the lane and not just farmers that live down the lane. A resident mentioned that lorry and tractor drivers are more courteous than car drivers. A general discussion on this matter took place. The Clerk mentioned that in other parishes Staffordshire County Council had helped provided additional passing places which may reduce the damage to verges.

**School House Lane:-** Cllr Baker reported that there is a problem with people parking outside the surgery. This often means that farm, emergency and larger vehicles are not able to pass. Cllr Baker confirmed that he had spoken to the surgery staff and a sign would be put up to advise people not to park on the lane. Cllr Baker said that he is happy to put cones out to stop people parking. The police are supportive of this.

**RESOLVED:** *that Cllr Baker would put cones out to stop people parking. All members in favour.*

**Mud on Lanes** – It was reported that there had been a lot of mud on Woodmill Lane but thanks to go to the farmers for clearing this up.

**Pedestrian Crossing** – Cllr Baker suggested that a crossing is needed in the centre of the village as there are many children that cross the road to go to school or catch buses along with many residents crossing the road.

**RESOLVED:** *that the Clerk should contact Highways to ask if this may be a possibility in the future.*

**Vehicle Charging Points** – Cllr Baker suggested that it wouldn't do the village any harm to investigate having a village charging point and it may be worth looking at some supply companies.

**RESOLVED:** *to ask the community via the Bulletin if and where one of these could be located.*

### iv **Competitions**

Cllr Taylor-Brown said that we were all shocked and proud to have won again. Thanks to all those involved.

### v. **Newsletter**

The Clerk reported that the next Bulletin would be ready to go out towards the end of November. All articles to be forwarded to The Clerk by 11<sup>th</sup> November.

### vi. **Village Hall**

Nothing to report

### vii. **ABSA**

Nothing to report

**127. Correspondence, bulletins and reports**

- SPCA Bulletins circulated
- Letter from Mr Brown – agreed to consider an independent opinion as to whether this Land fits with Open Green Space
- Letter from Mr Gallimore – Councillors agreed to provide written clarification regarding Green Space
- Letter from Mrs S Brandreth-Wright – Councillors agreed to send a letter of acknowledgement
- Email from Scouts regarding tree planting. Councillors discussed and it was agreed that a £200 grant could be given to this from the prize money received for Best Kept Village.

**128. Meeting Dates for 2020**

Circulated prior to the meeting and approved

**129. Agenda Items for the next meeting**

Horn Dance, Budget Planning, Welcome Pack, Tourist Guide, Big Climate Fight Back, Mission Statement, Co-option of new members

**Co-option of New Members**

After some discussion it was agreed that this should be deferred to the next meeting so that councillors had time to consider candidates before voting.

**130. Date, time and place of future meetings**

Wednesday, 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019, 7.00pm, Abbots Bromley Village Hall.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019