

PARISH COUNCIL OF ABBOTTS ANN

MINUTES

OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON THURSDAY 3rd APRIL 2008
IN THE JUBILEE ROOM OF THE WAR MEMORIAL HALL

Present: Cllr. G.Whyte, Vice-chairman Cllr. P.Stanton
 Cllr. D.Alleway Cllr. P.Wilkins
 Cllr. S.Oram

In Attendance:

Mr. A.Stokes Clerk Cllr. A.Peters, TVBC
Mr. D.Downey Footpaths Officer
Mr. A. Hayter; Mr. P.Greenhalgh; Brigadier C. Burson; Mr. C. Teasdale;
Ms. A.Shapiro; Mr. M.Saunders.

The meeting opened at 7.02 p.m. The Vice-Chairman took the Chair.

1304. Apologies. Apologies were recorded from The Chairman, Cllr D.Paffett; Cllr G. Stallard (TVBC) and Cllr M.Woodhall (HCC).

1305. Minutes. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6th March 2008 were confirmed and signed. *Pro SO Sec DA*

1306. Matters Arising.

a. Planning queries. The Clerk explained that the Planning Office could not give a definitive answer to the questions whether tree-houses or solar panels required Planning Permission, because these were judged on a case-by-case basis. The Enforcement Office was investigating works at Abbots Hill House.

b. Church Path "Chicane". It was suggested that it was not necessary to preserve the insecure panel; the Clerk was requested to arrange for its removal.

Action Clerk

1307. Planning.

a. TV Nos 08/00717/FULLN and 08/00720/FULLN: New dwellings at 33 and 34 Andover Road, Red Post Bridge. After discussion **it was resolved** to register No Objection to these applications. It was noted that the revised designs fell within the Planning Service's definition of single-storey dwellings. *Pro PS Sec DA*

b. TV No 08/00497/FULLN: 2-storey extension at 6 Farm Road, Little Park. **It was resolved** to register No Objection to this application. *Pro SO Sec PW*

c. Note was taken of the responses to delegated items and of Planning Service decisions as listed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

1308. Clerk's Report.

The Clerk had been contacted by Ms Ewa Gunter, Police Community Support Officer based at Stockbridge Police Station, who wished to explain the role of PCSOs. It was suggested that she should be invited to address a forthcoming Council Meeting.

Action Clerk

1309. Parish Organisations.

a. TVBC Councillor. Cllr A. Peters gave an account of his responsibilities as a member of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee of TVBC, which was currently studying provision for Environmental Health; he also explained his role as a member of the Committee for Gipsies and other Travellers, and mentioned that changes were pending to the arrangements for concessionary travel.

The Planning Service had refused permission for change of use of the Trout Farm Bungalow on the grounds that there was still scope for its agricultural use.

b. Burghclere Down. The Council welcomed Mr. Colin Teasdale, a Trustee of the Burghclere Down Community Centre, who gave an account of the Centre's activities. He indicated that residents did not feel strongly about their inclusion in the Parish of Abbots Ann.

c. Footpaths. Mr. Downey asked the Clerk to remind the County Council about the damaged sign on The Drove. *Action Clerk*

d. Village Shop. It was noted with satisfaction that the Village Shop was a finalist in the Grocer Magazine's competition.

Cllr Whyte reported on problems with new technology at the till.

e. Website. Cllr Whyte reported that after receiving complaints about the lack of up-dates from parish organisations the Webmaster had explained that this was entirely due to the organisations' failure to provide the information. Cllr Whyte also explained that the organisations could use that website's email facility to post their own updates. It was proposed that in future documents such as Council Minutes and Newsletters would be available for downloading in PDF format.

f. War Memorial Hall. Mr. A. Hayter and Mr. P Greenhalgh reported on:

i. The Hall Committee's proposals for a sign to be attached to the side of the porch. However, Councillors considered that it would be more appropriate for a more prominent sign to be placed at the entrance to the grounds, and undertook to provide information and financial assistance. *Action Clerk*

ii. The need for the heating system to be radically overhauled. If all the desirable improvements were to be implemented, the cost would be in the region of £8,000 to £10,000. Councillors emphasised that there was no provision in the budget for such expenditure and recommended investigating availability of grants.

Action Hall Committee and Clerk

1310. Finance.

a. **It was resolved** to authorise the following payments:

Cheque No.	419	Administration	£647.91
	420	PAYE & NI	£664.33
	421	Audit Commission	£334.88
	422	And. Gdn. Machinery	£ 76.38
	423	B.Sims: Fuel	£ 22.22
	424	M.A.Lovell: Tractor Oil	£ 47.00

Pro PW Sec SO

b. **It was resolved** to approve and adopt the Annual Statement of Receipts and Payments for the year 2007-08 as listed in the Appendix to these Minutes.

Pro PW Sec DA

c. **It was resolved** to approve and adopt the review of the accounting system as submitted by Professor P. Gibson for the year 2007-08.

Pro SO Sec PW

d. Cllr M. Woodhall had promised a grant of £500 towards the repairs to the Church Clock.

e. Insurance The Clerk reported on a new scheme, approved by HALC, which had produced a quotation from Norwich Union offering substantial savings compared with the current Allianz provision. He was requested to investigate further, with external advice if necessary, and to report to the next meeting.

Action Clerk

1311. Correspondence.

The Clerk summarised a number of communications recently received, including:

a. Licensing. Revised Government guidelines cite Parish Councils as examples of “interested parties” as representing the views of local persons.

b. Youth. i. Hampshire Action Team for Test Valley is conducting a survey into the views of young people about present and possible future provision of facilities by HCC. ii. Complaints from parishioners about under-age drinking and litter, especially in the region of the skate-park.

c. Dog-fouling. Complaints continue to be received, especially about fouling of Church Path and pavements in Red Rice Road.

d. Driver Speed Feedback Signs. HALC reports that 13 local Parishes were interested in acquiring signs. Mr. Steven Lugg, HALC Director, is handling the project, and was seeking guidance on the authorisation of the use of signs from the Head of Traffic at HCC.

Note was taken of the issues raised.

1312. Other business.

a. Dog problems. Standing orders being suspended, discussion took place with Brigadier Burson. It was considered that placing a dog-bin on Church path would be inappropriate and that other bins were not called for, on the grounds that they would not be used by irresponsible owners, while other owners were already behaving responsibly. The Council concluded that no further expense was justified.

b. Climate Change. Upper Clatford Parish Council had suggested that Abbotts Ann and Goodworth Clatford should work with them on a collective project on reducing the environmental footprint. It was recommended that Mr. Charles Crossthwaite Eyre should be asked to speak on the subject. The Clerk was requested to seek to arrange for Mr. Crossthwaite Eyre to speak to the Council at a future meeting.

c. Size of Parish Council. The Electoral Office of TVBC had indicated that the procedure to increase the number of Councillors was complicated, and recommended that the Clerk and/or Councillors should arrange to meet officials at Beech Hurst. The Clerk was asked to make arrangements for a meeting. *Action Clerk*

d. Alteration of Parish Boundaries. It was agreed to postpone consideration of any proposals to alter the boundaries of the Parish.

1313. Future Meetings. The next meeting was scheduled for 1st May 2008; this will be the Annual General Meeting of the Parish Council.

The meeting closed at 9.05p.m.

THESE MINUTES REMAIN IN DRAFT FROM UNTIL APPROVED AND SIGNED