

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF  
Emberton Parish Council**

**Held on Monday 20th March 2017 at 7.30pm**

**Present:** Councillor Vicki McLean (Vice Chairman)  
Councillor Cheney  
Councillor Flowers  
Councillor Hall  
Councillor Horton

Mrs K Goss (Clerk & RFO)

Ward Councillors Peter Geary, David Hosking and Keith McLean  
PC Andy Hipkin – Thames Valley Police  
PCSO Flynn – Thames Valley Police  
PCSO Martinson – Thames Valley Police  
12 residents

1. **Apologies** were received from Councillor Gibson, Councillor White, Warwick Clarke, Dennis Letts, Debbie Geary, Mr & Mrs Brock, Mr & Mrs J Cooper
2. **The Minutes of the last Annual Assembly** held on 21st March 2016 were agreed and signed by the Vice Chairman.

3. **Thames Valley Police**

**PC Andy Hipkin** introduced himself and stated that he was the rural officer that covered the villages around Newport Pagnell and had been in the position for the last year but had been with TVP for 15 years. He reported that last year there were 30 crimes and this year 27, the figures being based on reported crime. There were four burglaries to dwellings with the last reported one on the 31<sup>st</sup> January in Olney Road; two suspects were on bail and would return on the 5<sup>th</sup> April. There were two undetected burglaries in the middle of last year, one in Church Lane and Church Farm. On the same night, there were two burglaries to non dwellings. There was one theft of solar panels from a caravan in Emberton Country Park and an anti social behaviour dispute was still on going in The Forge.

**PC Hipkin** reported that the most recent SID deployment was undertaken in January 2017 and the average speed going through was 34mph with the maximum speed of 59mph and 55mph. The data provided didn't suggest that the vehicle's speeds were associated with the rat run.

**PCSO Martinson** spoke about Neighbourhood Watch and commented that she would try and arrange a crime prevention event where residents could sign up to Neighbourhood Watch. It was noted that residents would receive a discount for Smart Water if they signed up to a Neighbourhood Scheme.

**Mr Mynn** stated that Neighbourhood Watch was ok in the hours of daylight but not night time.

**PCSO Flynn** responded that because residents were aware of Neighbourhood Watch, they would report any incidents.

**Mr Mynn** asked about response time.

**PCSO Martinson** stated that she worked out of Newport Pagnell.

**Mr Mynn** commented that the police took 40 minutes to respond to a burglary last year.

**PCSO Flynn** responded that the Neighbourhood Team finished at midnight but the team from Milton Keynes would respond after this time.

**Mr Mann** stated that twenty years ago, a retired Police Sergeant ran the Neighbourhood Watch and gave a report every year at the Annual Assembly.

4. **Matters Arising**

Nothing to report.

5. **Report of Emberton Parish Council**

Councillor V McLean gave the **Report on behalf of Emberton Parish Council** which is attached to these Minutes.

Councillor V McLean took questions from the floor.

**Mr McGrandle** asked whether the Well & Towers could go on line.

**Councillor V McLean** suggested that the editors of the Well & Towers discussed this.

**Mrs Gamlen** responded that the editors would have to check with the contributors.

**Councillor K McLean** commented that it was not known what residents did with the magazine, it could end up in recycling, so why not put it on the website?

**Mr Mann** referred to Emberton Park and the PLUG meetings which were attended by various organisations and asked whether the organisations were elected representatives.

**Councillor Horton** responded that the actual sending out of notices and agendas was the responsibility of Emberton Country Park and not the parish council.

**Councillor Geary** commented that the last from the Service Director was that MKC were looking to start the Steering Group which hadn't met for about 7 or 8 years to look at the medium to long term position of the park.

**Mr Mann** made reference to a review of the arrangements with the Parks Trust to take over Emberton Park.

**Councillor Geary** responded that there was a conference being held on the 25<sup>th</sup> March regarding devolution and services to parishes. Devolution of services was difficult to plan unless you knew what was proposed and MKC could not force parish councils to take on anything.

6. **Milton Keynes Councillor Report**

**Councillor Keith McLean presented his report as follows:-**

**Waste Strategy** – Councillor K McLean referred to the Waste Strategy and the decision to make a charge of £33 per year per green bin collection and commented that the Ward Councillors had asked that the decision be called in for a mediation meeting.

**Emberton School** – Councillor McLean reported on the school numbers and that fact that the Emberton School were looking to confederate.

**Mr Mann** stated that Councillor McLean had referred to a confederation with Newton Blossomville School and whether Emberton School would be able to continue.

**Councillor Flowers** responded that he was Vice Chair of the Governors of the School and that there was talk of a bigger confederation with two other schools at the moment. In terms of being a Church school, there was no issue with Emberton being a non Church school. Councillor Flowers went on to state that the staff were the biggest cost and the only way forward was to confederate whereby one head would run 3 or 4 schools.

**Mrs Gamlen** commented that she was at a recent Deanery Synod where education and Church of England schools were discussed and Emberton school seemed to be the only one with a fall in numbers.

**Councillor Flowers** responded that all the village schools were not at full capacity.

**Mrs Gamlen** commented that MKC did not provide enough places for children to move on following primary education.

**Mr McGrandle** commented that the Neighbourhood Plan was far more work than the 10 year plan and asked what impact they had and whether they had any weight.

**Councillor McLean** responded that they did and that if a parish did not have a Neighbourhood Plan and MKC did not have a five year land supply, a developer could come along with a proposal which could be agreed by MKC.

**Mr Mynn** asked about a small bin for food waste.

**Councillor McLean** responded that if you didn't want a green bin, you didn't have to have it and a 33L caddy would be provided free of charge.

**Mr Mynn** made reference to plans to centralise the tip and anyone with a large amount of waste would have to go to Central Milton Keynes.

7. **A report from Mr Warwick Clarke on behalf of Emberton United Charity**, was read out and is attached to these Minutes.

There were no questions from the floor.

8. **Mr McGrandle presented the report for the Well & Towers History Society**, which is attached to these Minutes.

There were no questions from the floor.

9. **Mr Paul Flowers presented the report of the Emberton Playing Field Committee** which is attached to these Minutes.

**Mr Flowers** took questions from the floor.

**Mrs Dench** asked what the implications would be for the archive room if the pavilion were to close.

**Councillor V McLean** responded that this would be all part of the maintenance and if the village wanted the facility, it needed to get behind it.

10. **Parish Related Matters**

There were no questions.

The meeting closed at 9pm