

## Emberton Parish Council

### Minutes of Meeting – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017

**Present:**

Councillor Steve Gibson – Chairman  
 Councillor Vicki McLean – Vice Chairman  
 Councillor Cynthia Cheney  
 Councillor Paul Flowers  
 Councillor Soo Hall  
 Councillor Harry White

Ward Councillor Keith McLean

Mrs A Laval – Chairman EPFC & ESSC

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

**Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for Absence were received from Councillor Horton and Ward Councillors David Hosking and Peter Geary.

**Declarations of Interest**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

**1. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The Minutes of the previous Meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> March 2017 were agreed and initialled by the Chairman.

Councillor Gibson welcomed back Councillor V McLean and thanked her for standing in at the Annual Assembly.

- 3.23 Field 13** – Councillor Hall reported that the clerk received an email on the 15<sup>th</sup> March from Rod Aitken at MKC who has been dealing with Field 13 along with Andy Hudson, who has now left the Council. In the email, Mr Aitken explained that he would need to take a report to the Property Board to get an endorsement to the principle of the previous discussions but the Board did not meet for six weeks. Mr Aitken's proposal was a lease of circa 21 years at a nominal rent (suggestion of £150 per year for loss of grazing). Councillor Hall commented that the clerk had looked into grants for Field 13 and the minimum lease required was 25 years and went on to state that one of the managers of Olney Town Colts was going to put forward a proposal from the football club for the field. It was noted that under the current lease between Emberton Parish Council and EPFC (expires in 2032), one of the covenants was that EPFC shall not be permitted to allow any sports club to have exclusive use of the land and buildings. Councillor Hall reported that there had been other expressions of interest from a hockey club and Olney Runners.

Councillor Flowers - there had also been an expression of interest from a hockey club which would then be two clubs using the surface and he stated that the Olney Runners wanted a grass running track marked out on the existing field.

Councillor K McLean - the cost of an all weather pitch was in the region of £100,000 together with floodlights. A discussion took place regarding the possible objection to floodlights. Councillor K McLean responded that there were floodlights close to houses in Olney.

Councillor V McLean – Field 13 would need an enormous amount of work to make it suitable for sport and voiced concerns that a great deal of money would have to be spent for a 30 year lease.

Councillor Flowers – at the end of the lease, Field 13 would revert back to pasture. If there was an all weather pitch, the maintenance cost would have to include the provision of landscaping.

Mrs Laval – there had been a huge amount of discussion regarding Field 13 over the years. It would be an income for the parish if there was a demand but it would be useful to find out some ideas from the community as to what residents would like to do with it.

Councillor V McLean – Field 13 would certainly go in the Neighbourhood Plan research with residents providing some initial feedback.

Councillor Gibson – if given the opportunity, the parish council should take it and have control of it.

Mrs Laval – the only other comment made at the EPFC meeting was that if there were multiple sports facilities, the car park would need to be extended and the impact of the work being done on the existing facilities.

Councillor K McLean – would recommend that the parish council asked MKC to have access from the park.

Councillor Gibson – zero rent for a couple of years was a good idea so that the fences could be made secure. Good idea to get an estimate of how much it was going to cost for an all weather pitch.

It was proposed by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Hall that the clerk respond to MKC stating that the parish council were interested in Field 13 with a lease term of minimum 30 years and that it would be consulting with the residents of Emberton to see how the land could be developed. The clerk to draft an email for circulation.

**KG**

Councillor White asked about the land at Sherington for a site for MK Dons. Councillor K McLean responded that some of the pitches would be for community use.

## **2. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE LAST MEETING**

**254 - Dates for Commitment** – The dates for meetings were noted.

**254 – Clerk’s Report** – The Clerk’s report was previously circulated.

Mrs Laval left the meeting at 8pm

**127 – Parishes Conference** – held 25/3/17. The clerk had previously circulated the notes prepared by Councillor Horton who attended the conference. Councillor K McLean commented that he had also attended the conference which mainly dealt with devolution of services and suggested that the clerk wrote to Tom Blackburne-Maze to ask for a schedule of works and whether it included litter picking on the A509 and a plan of the areas of landscape. Councillor V McLean responded that Sherington outsourced their landscaping. Councillor K McLean commented that for smaller parishes it was a challenge.

KG

**214 – EPFC/ESSC AGM** – Meetings held 28/3/17. Councillor Hall reported that the AGM was well attended and the existing members were elected en block with Angela Laval taking on the role of Chair, Paul Flowers as Vice Chair, Sue Harris as Treasurer and Karen Goss as Secretary. The position of Bookings Secretary remained vacant but Angela was going to help with this. Councillor Hall thanked Sue, Karen, Michael and Myrtle for staying on the Committee. Councillor Hall reported that there had been issues with the intruder alarm and that three estimates had been received to have a complete new system installed. The History Society had asked permission to mount a projector screen on the wall and it was felt that the best way forward would be a larger modern smart television.

**215 — Olney Ward Forum** - Meeting held 29/3/17. Councillor White reported that most of the discussions centred on Plan:MK and the importance of having a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor V McLean referred to the large development proposed for Castlethorpe. Councillor K McLean responded that this had now been taken off the plan. Councillor White reported that there was a talk about litter and how it would be tackled and the cost of the issue. Councillor K McLean responded that Richard Rook, the Chair at Ravenstone was setting up a Steering Group to address the issue of littering.

## 2.1 Councillor's Concerns from previous Minutes

2.1.13 **Parking around Institute** – The clerk reported that TVP had looked at parking around the Institute when the Bridge Club had been hiring the hall on a Thursday evening and had asked for one car to be moved. TVP did not see any other issues with parking and did not feel any further action was necessary as there were no yellow lines in force. The clerk reported that she had spoken to the Bridge Club regarding the concerns raised by the bus company. It was agreed to monitor the situation.

2.1.17 **Footpath, Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

2.1.63 **Village name signs** – The clerk reported that a grant from the Parish Partnership Fund had been awarded in the sum of £1,814.57. The clerk to apply for a grant from the Solar Farm Community Benefit Fund for additional funding. Councillor Hall thanked the clerk for securing the grant.

KG

2.1.73 Confidential item

2.1.101 **Bus stop, triangle at Petsoe End** – Following a conversation with residents at the Neighbourhood Plan open day, the clerk contacted MKC to make them aware of a safety issue at the bus stop in Petsoe End where the school bus was overtaken by vehicles on the bend by the triangle and children being dropped off after school

having to cross the road on a blind bend. The clerk requested a site meeting with Kevan Paradine the Senior Road Safety Engineer from MKC. Response received from David Hall stating that the cost of any major infrastructure ie a new footpath would be unaffordable but warning signs in each direction could be considered. The signs would be added to the capital programme for next year but would be subject to funding. It was proposed by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor Hall that the clerk write to MKC to request the signage.

KG

### **Update from Ward Councillor**

**Plan:MK**– Councillor McLean urged the parish council as well as individual responses to be with MKC by the 9<sup>th</sup> June.

**Waste Strategy** – Councillor McLean reported that Cabinet took the decision on the 7<sup>th</sup> March and this had been called in and would go back to Council in June.

**Thames Valley Police** – Councillor McLean reported that he met with Richard Gates and the new Sergeant for the rural area and this would come up at the next Olney Ward Forum. There would be less numbers on the rural team from the 1<sup>st</sup> June, but they would not be taken off to do response work.

## **3.0 SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS**

3.1 **Emberton Park** – Councillor White asked who would be covering Maurice Barnes' workload when he is on paternity leave? Councillor K McLean suggested that the clerk writes to Tom Blackburne-Maze with the parish council's concerns regarding litter, management of the park and the plan going forward.

KG

3.2 **Parish Partnership Fund** – Reported on under item 2.1.63

3.6 **Parish related**

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – The clerk reported that a volunteer had come forward from Emberton to undertake the SID training.

3.6.98 **Drainage investigation at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report.

3.6.100 **Litter bins (High Street)** – Article regarding litter picking packs placed in the Well & Towers and it was agreed to remove this item from the agenda.

3.6.101 **Christmas lights for Emberton** – The clerk contacted the resident who raised the issue, to ask them to put forward a project together with costings. Awaiting proposal.

3.23 **Field 13** – Reported on above.

3.62 **Plan:MK** – Reported on previously.

3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – A discussion took place regarding the setting up of a Steering Group to formulate a Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor V McLean, Councillor Cheney and Councillor Flowers stated they would be willing

to be part of the Steering Group. The clerk to look at Terms of Reference and to find out what dates in May the pavilion was available to hold the first meeting. The planning officer to also be invited to the meeting.

KG

3.79 **Green Bin Campaign** – The clerk reported that overall the percentage increase was 0.88 for the three months that the Green Bin Campaign was running (December to January). A bonus payment would be made to the parish council at 15p per property. It was agreed that the bonus payment would be used to pay for the two litter bins in the High Street to be emptied.

3.80 **Proposed changes to scheme of delegation and changes to speakers rights at Development Control Committee/Panel** – It was proposed by Councillor Gibson and seconded by Councillor V McLean to support the proposals put forward by Councillor Phil Ayles.

KG

#### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS & ENFORCEMENT ISSUES

4.2 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

4.109 **Solar Farm and Community Benefit Fund** – Councillor Hall reported that there were a few applications that were awaited.

4.178 **16/02988/FUL** – Demolition of timber stable block and erection of two dwellings to enable repair/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer – **deferred**

4.179 **16/02999/LBC** – Repairs/restoration of listed buildings including works to house, outbuilding and boundary walls at Emberton House Farm, Newport Road for Mr & Mrs Mercer – **deferred**

4.183 **17/00189/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce crown to 4.5-5m to 3 x Cypress trees (C1, C2, C3), reduce crown to 4-4.5m to 1 x Cherry tree (CH), reduce to remove new growth to 1 x Silver Birch (SB), reduce and reshape crown to 2 x Holly trees (H1, H2) and 1 x Yew tree (Y) and reduce crown to remove new growth to 2 x Apple trees (A1, A2) at Manor Croft, Olney Road – **no objections to tree works in conservation area**

4.184 **17/00282/TCA** – Notification of intention to remove 6 x Conifer, 1 x plum (A, C, D, G, H, I, K) and remove lower branches, lower crown by 2 metres and generally thin out to 1 x Walnut tree (E) at 35 Olney Road – **no objections to tree works in conservation area**

4.185 **17/00136/TCA** – Notification of intention to reduce in height by 2 metres, reduce side lateral by 1.5 metres to 2 x Beech trees (T1, T2), reduce in height to within 1 metre of metal frame to 2 x Yew trees (T3), to fell 1 x Laburnum tree (T4) crown reduction by 2 metres, reduce side lateral by 1 metre with crown thinning by 20% to 1 x Sorbus (T5), and reduce height by 1.5 metres to 1 x Bay tree (T7) at 4 Gravel Walk – **no objections to tree works in conservation area**

4.186 **17/00587/FUL** – Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension at The Barn, 4 Manor Court, Olney Road for Mr and Mrs Chambers.

There were no objections to this application.

4.187 **17/00602/FUL** – Replacement of the bird gate at the North Porch with a solid timber double door at All Saints’ Church, Church Lane. There were no objections to this application.

4.188 **17/00632/FUL** – Part single and part two storey rear extensions at Ekeney House, Farm, Newport Road for Mr Soul. There were no objections to this application.

Ward Councillor K McLean left the meeting at 9pm

5. **ACCOUNTS** – to agree payments and items, as listed below

5.1 **RFO’s Report** - The RFO’s report for the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 was accepted.

5.2 **Clerk’s salary review** – Councillor Gibson to look at this and email the other councillors. **SG**

5.3 **Schedule of Payments – to approve the Schedule of Payments.**

A H Contracts – emptying of dog waste bins for March	£96.84
MKALC – Conference attendance by Councillor Horton	£30.00
Spoton.Net Ltd – 6 months website subscription	£288.00
Zurich Municipal – Insurance for 2017/2018	£582.47
Anglian Water – supply at allotments	£3.89
Mrs K Goss –March salary	£419.63
Mrs K Goss –March computer/telephone/expenses	£57.81
Mrs K Goss – holiday pay for 2016/2017	£653.23

Payments proposed by Councillor Gibson, seconded by Councillor Flowers and unanimously agreed by all those present.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** – All correspondence previously circulated via email.

7. **PARISH RELATED MATTERS**

7.1 **Village publicity** – Steering Group Meeting, village signs, Green Bin Campaign, Bus top (triangle at Petsoe End).

7.2 **Councillors’ Concerns**

**Councillor Gibson** reported that MKC advertise a cleaning service for green bins but Emberton was not covered under the scheme.

8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting is confirmed as Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30pm in the Meeting Room of the Institute. **All**

The Meeting closed at 9.15pm