

Emberton Parish Council
Minutes of Meeting held in The Pavilion
Monday 7th August 2023 at 7pm

Present:

Cllr Harry White – Chair
 Cllr Paul Flowers
 Cllr Guy Palmer
 Cllr Joe Walker

Ward Councillor Keith McLean (part meeting)

4 residents

Mrs Karen Goss – Clerk and RFO

Welcome by the Chair – The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

To accept apologies for absence – Apologies were received from Cllr Duncan, Cllr Laval, Cllr Jamieson and Ward Cllrs Debbie Whitworth and Peter Geary.

Declarations of interest in items on the agenda – Cllr Walker declared an interest in item 4.360.

Signing of Register of Members' Interests – Cllr Walker signed and dated the Register of Members' Interests.

1. To confirm the **MINUTES OF THE MEETING** held on the 3rd July 2023 – The Minutes of the meeting held on the 3rd July 2023 were agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

To confirm the **MINUTES OF THE SOLAR FARM COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND COMMITTEE MEETING** held on the 3rd July 2023. These minutes were duly signed.

- 1.2 **Public questions** – The residents from 34 Gravel Walk spoke regarding their current planning application and stated that the plan was the same footprint as the previously permitted application but there were changes in the elevations which they felt were more aesthetically pleasing. A neighbouring resident referred to the hedge row and the public footpath. The applicant stated that the hedgerow would remain and there were no changes to the public footpath. The residents left the meeting.

- 1.3 **Risk** – Nothing to report.

2. TO RECEIVE REPORTS AND AGREE ANY DECISIONS/ACTION

- 2.1 **Ward Councillors' Report** – report from Ward Cllr McLean as follows:

21 bus service – It was noted that there were still some issues with the 21 service not coming through the village.

Wheelie bins – It was noted that there were 22 surplus wheelie bins in the High Street. Ward Cllr McLean reported that the sacks should be delivered soon.

Temporary traffic lights, High Street, Olney – Reports have been received that the temporary traffic lights in the High Street, Olney were faulty; Ward Cllr McLean had asked the head of highways when they were going to be repaired.

Double yellow lines, High Street, Emberton – Ward Cllr McLean stated that he felt that the double yellow lines in the High Street had not gone far enough around the corner into Olney Road. The parish council and Ward Cllrs could jointly ask Red Rose for a review after six months of the service coming into force and if necessary, look at the yellow lines.

Hollington Wood – MKCC needed to count the number of days Hollington Wood was being used by Philip Solt and airsoft.

Handrail (3 High Street) – It was noted that Graham Cox, during his site visit in May, stated that the handrail outside number 3 High Street would be moved to the correct location of 5 High Street. The clerk to chase this. **Action: KG.**

Neighbourhood Plan – Ward Cllr McLean was asked how long the inspection of the neighbourhood plan would take. The response was six weeks.

2.2 **Thames Valley Police** – The report from PCSO Huckle was noted.

2.3 **Dates for Diaries** – The dates for diaries were noted.

2.4 **Clerk's Report**

2.1.17 **Bridleway claim at Petsoe End** – Nothing to report. Ward Cllr McLean suggested that the parish council should ask for an update on this. **Action: KG.**

2.1.24 **Weed spraying** – Awaiting information from MKCC regarding weed spraying schedule.

2.1.50 **Pothole, Olney Road** – Pothole in Gravel Walk reported to MKCC.

2.1.55 **Fly tipping between Newport Road and Prospect Place** – Nothing to report.

2.1.82 **Residents parking – Hulton Drive** – The clerk requested that the single yellow lines in Olney Road be refreshed as vehicles had been parking on these. Response received from MKCC that the yellow lines were not at intervention level.

3.6.15 **Rat running and restricted access** – nothing to report.

3.6.30 **Allotments** – awaiting transfer.

3.6.63 **Newton Road/Petsoe End – frequent collision issues** – nothing to report.

3.6.68 **Well at Petsoe End** – Update requested from Ward Cllr Geary.

3.6.115 **Questionnaire** – to take forward to next meeting. **Action: KG.**

- 3.6.117 **Signage for Petsoe Manor Farm & Grange Farm** – Request made to MKCC to cut back hedge.

3. SPECIFIC AGENDA ITEMS

- 3.1 **Emberton Park** – The next PLUG meeting will be held on the 17th August. Cllr Palmer referred to a volunteer standing on the footpath overlooking Westpits and Emberton who was overseeing the Cowman using a speaker to play music. This to be fed back to PLUG.
Action: HW.
- 3.74 **Emberton Neighbourhood Plan** – Awaiting the independent examination to be undertaken.
- 3.85 **Emberton School (School House Fund)** – The accounting information provided by the trustees were discussed. It was noted that the governing document requested had not been forthcoming. Cllr Walker agreed to look at the documents. The clerk to send. **Action: KG.**
- 3.97 **Sports & Recreation Committee** – Cllr Palmer reported that a meeting had not taken place since June but the football contracts for the new season were in place and there had been some challenges with the inside and outside space for mid-week cricket matches with some revenue being lost for bad weather. A Saturday cricket team had reported damage to one of the solar panels. The clerk to look at this, to ascertain whether there was any problem with the supply.
Action: KG. It was noted that a waste contract was now in place with the cost being shared with the ESSC.
- 3.99 **Conservation area – review of 1997 Conservation Area Statement by MKC** – Nothing new to report.
- 3.102 **Public footpaths in Emberton/cycle links from Emberton to Olney and Sherington** – Nothing to report.
- 3.103 **Demand Responsive Transport (21 bus service)** – Cllr Walker asked if Red Rose were aware of the issues? It was noted that the last bus of the day was not timetabled to come into the village and that missed routes were being reported to Red Rose.
- 3.113 **Climate Change** – Cllr Flowers reported that he would be talking to the Environmental Agency in September. **Action: PF.**
- 3.115 **Grit bins** – The clerk to chase highways for a response. **Action: KG**
- 3.116 **Access to playing field from residential properties and general access** – Cllr Duncan to draft a letter to the resident that had responded to the correspondence from the SRC. **Action: MD.**
- 3.117 **New wheelie bin service and parish council owned litter bins** – The clerk reported that the resident who cleaned the bus shelter and emptied the litter bins was no longer able to undertake this role but would continue with the watering. The clerk to look at alternatives. **Action: KG.**
- ### 4. PLANNING APPLICATIONS AND ENFORCEMENT ISSUES
- 4.1 **Wind Farm Community Benefit Fund** – Nothing to report.

previous applications status

- 4.352 **23/00342/OUT** – Outline application (all matters reserved except for access) for the redevelopment of the Acorn (MK) Nurseries site for up to 29 no. dwellings including affordable housing, alongside access and other off-site highways improvements, following the demolition and removal of all existing structures and hardstanding from the site at Acorn MK Nurseries, Newton Road – **appeal for non-determination**
- 4.359 **23/01430/TCA** – The crown reduction of Apple Tree from 7-8m in height to 6m and reduction of spread from approx. 8-9m to 6m at 4 Manor Court, Olney Road – **pending**

New applications

- 4.360 **23/01621/HOU** – Replacement of windows from single glazed to triple glazed UPVC and replacement of the existing utility door at Stone Court Cottage, West Lane. Cllr Walker left the meeting for this item. It was noted that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by the conservation officer with regard to this application.
- 4.361 **23/00275/ENF** – Hollington Wood, Newport Road – Description of alleged breach Continued use of the ancient woodland for airsoft activities following refusal of planning permission. It was agreed to submit the same objection as previously submitted. **Action: KG.**
- 4.362 **23/01502/FUL** – Erection of one dwelling with attached single garage at 34 Gravel Walk. It was noted that a previous application for 34 Gravel Walk had been permitted by the planning inspector following non determination by MKCC and the current application was for the same foot print. If the parish council objected to the current application and it was refused, the applicant could revert to the previously permitted plans. It was therefore felt that the parish council should not submit an objection as the elevations on the revised plans improved the design. The clerk to submit a “no objection” comment. **Action: KG.**
- 4.363 **23/01671/TCA** – The removal of diseased and dead wood from laburnum tree (T1), and the crown reduction by 1.5m in height and all around and crown lift by 1.0m of Prunus avium tree (T2) at West Farm Way. It was noted that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKCC’s tree officer. **Action: KG.**
- 4.364 **23/01751/TCA** – The crown reduction by 1-1.5m of Himalayan Silver Birch (T1) and the selective crown reduction by up to 2m to reprofile crown of Silver Birch (T2) at The Old Rectory, Olney Road. It was noted that the parish council would be in agreement with the recommendations made by MKCC’s tree officer. **Action: KG.**

5. ACCOUNTS

- 5.1 **To receive the RFO’s Report for the 7th August 2023** and approve payments. It was proposed by Cllr White and seconded by Cllr Palmer that the payments be approved as per the RFO’s Report. Cllr White to approve the payments online. **Action: HW.**
- 5.2 **Community Infrastructure Fund** – Nothing to report.
- 5.3 **Co-operative bank – change of signatories** – The councillors present duly signed the change of signatory form. To be carried forward to next meeting. **Action: KG.**

6. CORRESPONDENCE

- 6.1 **Letter from All Saint's Church regarding pump field** – A letter had been received from a resident via All Saint's Church requesting that the electricity poles and cables were removed from the pump field as there was no agreement in place with the owner of the land for them to be erected. The resident had also requested that the footpath be closed as there was no insurance in place. All Saint's Church had responded to the resident that they did not own this equipment and the matter should be raised with National Grid and that the footpath issue should be addressed to the parish council and MKCC. It was noted by the parish council that the land in question had come forward as a site for the neighbourhood plan but had been rejected due to the comments from MKCC highways. The clerk reported that she had received a telephone call from the resident concerned regarding the public footpath and had advised her that the footpath fell within MKCC's rights of way remit.

7. PARISH RELATED MATTERS

- 7.1 **Village publicity** – it was noted that there was not a Well & Towers until October.
- 7.2 **Cllrs' concerns** – Cllr White referred to the revenue from the fete. It was noted that the fete was a church event. Cllr White suggested a fund-raising event to gain some revenue for the parish council. To be carried forward to the next meeting.
8. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Monday 4th September 2023 at 7pm to be held at the Pavilion.

The meeting closed at 8.41pm