

Minutes of Abthorpe Parish Council Meeting held on Monday, 24 July 2017 at 7:45pm in the Old School, Abthorpe

Present: Councillors: M Perrigo (Chairman), Cllrs: K Fenwick (acting Clerk), M Berry, D Cambray, J Ford-Cordes, M Hulbert

- 1 To receive and approve apologies for absence.
Cllr A Hammon apologised for absence due to holiday. The apology was accepted.
- 2 Members' declaration of interest for items on the agenda.
Cllr Ford-Cordes re item 5, as the application covers ground backing onto his house.
- 3 Acceptance of the minutes of meeting on 12th June.
These were accepted and signed with a minor correction.
- 4 Matters arising from the minutes

Action No.	Description	Action
Dec 2016 – 012	Clerk to speak to Aon to enquire of insurance Cover for mower whilst on highway.	Cllr Hammon has identified Towergate as a possible insurer and the necessary proposal form has been submitted. However he was not able to obtain a quote by the meeting on 24 th July. It was agreed to expedite the purchase of a new mower, see 8.4 below. Action Closed
Jan 2017 – 002	Clerk to contact Environmental Health at SNC to ask if Septic Tank was ever fitted as required under Planning Application S/2009/0657/P	This has been raised with SNC planning. Ref MON/2017/0165. Action Ongoing.
Jan 2017 – 010	Clerk to take the minutes of meetings from 2009 – 2016 to the Northamptonshire Records Office.	Cllr Fenwick to retrieve hard copies and lodge these with Archives Office. Action Ongoing
Mar 2017 – 001	Clerk to arrange to download of data from the Speed sign onto the Parish Laptop.	Action Ongoing
Jun 2017 - 001	Clarification of October quote from Eon, including capital and maintenance charges, is required	Action Ongoing
Jun 2017 - 002	Terms and conditions of the SNC grant to be provided, including validity and drawdown method.	Action Ongoing

5 Planning

Application S/2017/1763/FUL New house adjacent to 39 Wappenham Road

Council objected to the proposed provision of parking as impractical and unworkable. Two off-road spaces are essential.

Council strongly supported the comments of Northants Highways that the crossover cannot be used as a parking space. Moreover, parking on the crossover would obstruct the visibility from the adjacent property (the Old Chapel) and would obstruct the public footpath.

The existing heat exchanger at No.39 is noisy. The application proposes that this be moved and an additional one installed. The combined effect of this noise is considered likely to be objectionable.

Concern was also expressed that work to extend the roof may, due to its condition, affect No.37. It is believed that the owners of No.37 have already raised this question.

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6 Finance

6.1 Cash in the Bank (as at 18 July 2017)

Treasurers Account	£7108.16
30 Day Business Acct	£3877.06
Petty Cash	£18.48

6.2 Invoices for Payment

6.3.1	Philip Berry	Mower petrol	25.64	
6.3.2	E-on	Street lighting maintenance	77.54	
6.3.3	E-on	Street lighting electricity supply	181.31	
6.3.4	SNVB	Printing Clerk's vacancy flyer	5.60	

It was agreed to pay these invoices, which have been set up online. In addition, the payment for the Chairman's training course, authorised at the last meeting, requires the second authorisation on the bank account.

6.3 Annual Audit

Dianne Isaacs has completed her audit. No matters are outstanding but she has written a letter to explain the delay in approving the Risk Register. The necessary documents have to be forwarded to the External Auditor Action July 2017-001.

7 Appointment of Clerk

Two applications have been received for the post of Clerk; both applicants were present at the meeting and given an explanation of the work involved. It was agreed to set up a sub-committee consisting of the Chairman and Vice Chairman to interview the candidates and appoint the new clerk. Action July 2017-002.

8 Specific Items For Discussion

8.1 Defibrillator – not discussed in the absence of Cllr Hammon.

8.2 Speed sign – to be moved to Towcester end of village.

8.3 Street light replacement – the light outside 20 Brackley Lane has failed and may need complete replacement. Awaiting response from Eon.

8.4 Mower replacement – Cllr Hulbert expressed her concern at the failure to obtain road insurance for the existing mower in view of the personal liability which may be incurred in the event of a claim against the Council. It was agreed to expedite purchase of a new mower and to arrange the necessary insurance. Cllr Cambray to advise on suitable machine. Action July 2017-003.

9 Correspondence

Regular items were put in the circulation folder.

10 Any Other Competent Business

Potholes in Brackley Lane – these can be raised by anyone on Street Doctor.

Use of Street Doctor to record footpath problems – Cllr Berry stated that this method appears to bring quicker results than telephoning the Rights of Way officer.

Cllr Cambray reported a recent break-in at his property at the top of Brackley Lane.

Dates of next meetings – the list appended to the Minutes has been corrected.

There being no other competent business, the meeting closed at 21.00.

Signed

Date

Abthorpe Parish Council Chairman