

ABBOTS MORTON PARISH COUNCIL.

**Draft minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 31st March 2016 at 8.05 pm
in Abbots Morton Village Hall. Meeting No: 234.**

Present:	Cllrs. Mr. Humphries, Mr. Smith, Ms Owen, Mr. Whitlow, Mr. Ernest, Mr. O'Boyle and Cllr. Mr. Holt (234/4). In attendance: Mrs. N. Holland (Clerk), Dist. Cllrs. Mr. Wilkinson and Mrs. Steel, and 3 parishioners.
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234/1	Apologies: Nil.
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234/2	Declarations of Interest: a) <u>Register of Interests</u> : Cllrs. were reminded of the need to update their register of interests. b) <u>Disclosable Pecuniary Interests</u> – Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith re item 234/8.1 as all share a responsibility for the private drive leading to the solar farm development. c) <u>Other Disclosable Interests</u> : Cllr. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith in item 234/8.1 as members of Morton Wood Farm Association who are in talks with Solarig regarding a financial benefit to the Association. Cllr. Ms Owen in item 234/10 as member of Worcester Diocesan Advisory Committee advising on access for disabled people.
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234/3	Dispensations: four dispensations received. Clerk advised Council that as item 8.3 is in regard to a controversial planning issue that a dispensation request to participate on a vote not be given. The reason being that the members concerned all have an interest which the ordinary person is likely to think would affect their judgement. The Council resolved to grant dispensations to: <u>Cllrs. Ms Owen, Mr. O'Boyle and Mr. Smith</u> to enable them to speak on any item of business concerning the solar farm community fund as this is in the interests of persons living in the area because it enables the Council to be full informed as possible in a wider debate. On the matter to allow 2 members to participate in a vote the Council decided not to grant a dispensation following a vote. (2 members against a vote, 1 member to allow a vote with 3 abstentions). The dispensations were granted until December 31st 2016. <u>Cllr. Ms Owen</u> to enable her to speak on any item of business concerning the universal access to the Church as in the interests of persons living in the area to be fully informed and enable wider debate. Granted until December 2016.
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County Cllr. Mr. Holt arrived.

234/4	Reports from County Cllr. and District Cllrs. <u>County Cllr. Mr. Holt:</u> <u>Budget</u> approved - increase of 3.9% (2% extra for care of the elderly/children + £35). <u>Education Secretary</u> is to introduce new plans for school funding. <u>Highways</u> - Over the past 3 years 75,000 potholes repaired in Worcestershire at a cost of £2.2 million. New infrastructure improvement programme underway called 'Driving Home'. £24 million allocated to improve 'C', unclassified roads and footways raised from £12 million capital expenditure, £2 million unallocated New Homes Bonus, and £10 million to borrow. <u>Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel:</u> Neil Pearce, who was a Senior Planner at Wychavon District Council is now practicing full time as an independent planning consultant principally for the public sector. He will be attending Inkberrow Parish Council meeting at 7.30pm on the 20th April 2016 in the Sports Pavilion in
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	<p>Inkberrow to give a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans. All welcome to attend. <u>District Cllr. Mr. Wilkinson reported:</u> South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) has now been adopted. Recently 2 planning applications have been granted on land not allocated in the SWDP.</p>
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Public Question Time: meeting suspended at 8.30 pm, reconvening at 8.50 pm.

234/5	<p>Minutes: proposed by Cllr. Mr. Ernest seconded by Cllr. Mr. Smith and resolved that the minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting held on 26.01.16 be confirmed as a correct record, duly signed by the Chairman.</p>
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234/6	<p>Clerk's report: <u>New Homes Bonus application Village Hall</u> – application submitted to Wychavon District Council following the closing date consultation of March 20th 2016. Clerk was requested to inform Wychavon District Council the number of responses received from outside the Parish. <u>Wychavon Bursary Award</u> – Mrs Oddy wishes to say thanks to all members of the Parish Council for supporting the nomination and thinking her worthy of the award. <u>Rural Communities Programme</u> – will be carrying out a door knock exercise on areas within the Parish of Abbots Morton sometime this year. <u>Directional sign for Church</u> – Clerk/Chairman to meet Officer onsite on April 14th 2016 with the Chairman. Parochial Church Council to be asked if they wish to be in attendance.</p>
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234/7	<p>Reports received from representatives: a) <u>Village Hall</u> - following Annual General Meeting all current members re-elected. Accounts are in a healthy position; income has increased along with bookings. The Committee has decided not to do anything for the Queen's 90th birthday celebrations. Requested that the Parish Council look at having a defibrillator in the Village as recently First Responders took 15 minutes to respond to a recent call out in the Parish. b) <u>Assets</u> - Bench to be cleaned over the next few weeks and varnish applied. c) <u>Wychavon area CALC meeting</u> - not attended. d) <u>Parish Paths Warden</u> - AM555 The Low severely potholed, endeavouring to resurface, footbridge repaired along the C2010. General clearance carried out. Noted that horse riders are placing jumps in Slade Wood across the bridleway.</p>
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234/8	<p>Abbots Morton Parish matters for discussion/decision.</p>
8.1	<p><u>Solar Farm:</u> a) Notes from the meeting held between representatives of the Village Hall Committee, Parish Council and Solarig on the 9th March 2016 circulated. Solarig have confirmed that £10,000 is available for the community. Solarig have undertaken to provide more information on Solar Panels to the Village Hall Committee following the recent meeting. It is hoped that this will be provided to the Committee in time for their next meeting on the 18th April. b) <u>Process of consultation</u> – after a lengthy discussion it was agreed to use the Annual Parish meeting as an opportunity to have an informal discussion inviting residents to give ideas on how the community fund be spent. Invite to be sent to all parishioners in the Parish. c) Update on bridleway closure during proposed installation from Countryside Services is that closure notices will be placed on all bridleway/rights of access adjoining AM555 during works.</p>
8.2	<p>Resolved to renew the following contracts for 2016-17: Internal Auditor. Parish Lengthsman.</p>
8.3	<p><u>Smart Water:</u> a proposal to participate in “Smart Water” property marking scheme for all</p>

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	<p>properties in the Abbots Morton area was discussed. Clerk to ask:</p> <p>a) The Neighbourhood Watch Co-Ordinator for further clarification on households that responded to the survey.</p> <p>b) Police for the percentage of burglaries in the Parish.</p> <p>Dist. Cllr. Mrs. Steel reported that the Localism Panel has requested from Crophorne Parish Council statistics on their project which she will present to the Parish Council at its May meeting.</p>
8.4	<u>Speeding traffic C2010</u> – waiting on speed survey to be carried out.
8.5	<p><u>Superfast Broadband</u>: Cllr. Mr. Ernest reported the following:</p> <p>Survey being carried out by the County Council in the first half of this year.</p> <p>Upgrade is due to be done between June 2016 to end of 2017.</p> <p>The Broadband Team have been asked to take into account where the cabinet is situated; ideal position would be at The Low crossroads. Upgrading the cabinet at Radford will not give much input to Abbots Morton. Letter to be written to Worcestershire County Council.</p>
8.6	<p><u>Abbots Morton website</u>: Cllr. Mr. Smith reported that information is regularly provided on behalf of the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Committee. Perhaps need to look at alternatives such as 'Face book' page. Clerk requested that contact details be added for the Parish Council as none appear on the contact page.</p>

234/9	Financial matters.
9.1	Resolved to adopt amended Financial Regulations.
9.2	Resolved to approve the 'Schedule of Payments' as listed and bank reconciliation to 26.02.16. (Appendix1).
9.3	<u>External Audit arrangements</u> : information received on new arrangements for audit for smaller authorities from 2017 duly noted.

234/10	<p>Correspondence received duly noted :</p> <p>a) <u>Parochial Church Council</u> re universal access to St. Peter's Church. Public Meeting on this matter to be held in the Village Hall on Monday 11th April at 7.30pm. It was requested that this item be placed on the next agenda for review.</p>
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234/11	<p>Urgent decisions taken:</p> <p>a) <u>Reimbursement for Stand-in Clerk</u> for informal meeting held on the 9th March 2016 with representatives from the Parish Council, members of the Village Hall Committee and representatives from Solarig, Solar Farm Company was approved.</p>
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234/12	<p>Format of Annual Parish meeting. Organisations involved in the Parish to be invited. Invitations to be issued to all households with a request to attend and put forward ideas on how best to spend the community fund made available by Solarig, Solar Farm Company for the benefit of the community. Refreshments to be provided - Cllr. Mr. Ernest to obtain.</p>
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234/13	<p>Parish Councillors report and items for future agendas: Parochial Church Council disabled access; Defibrillator.</p>
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There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 10.10pm.

Correspondence for distribution.

Correspondence.
CALC Spring Training Bulletin circulated via email to all members.
Weekly CALC updates provided via email to all members.

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Weekly Worcestershire Roadwork Report via email to all members.
Clerks & Councils Direct – March 2016 issue.
South Worcestershire Development Plan –on 24 th February 2016 Wychavon District Council resolved to adopt the South Worcestershire Development Plan. For the purposes of the six week High Court challenge period the Adoption date is 25th February 2016. Emailed to members 8th March 2016.
Wychavon Sports: Newsletter and details of events in 2015 emailed to members 08.03.16.
Response to parishioner in regard to meeting with representatives of VHC, Parish Council and Solarig circulated to all members 24.02.16.
<p>Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan - Worcestershire County Council undertook a "Call for Sites" in 2014, and consulted on a suite of background documents alongside a second "Call for Sites, Resources and Infrastructure" in 2015. We have considered all of the comments we received in response these and have published a Call for Sites Response Document which sets out the comments we received and details of how we intend to take them into account as we develop the Minerals Local Plan.</p> <p>We are currently assessing all the sites which have been put forward by landowners, mineral operators and agents in response to the Second Stage Consultation, the 1st Call for Sites and the 2nd Call for Sites, and developing a full draft of the plan for a third stage consultation later in 2016.</p> <p>For more information please see our web pages at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals</p> <p>Emailed to members 19.03.16.</p>
<p>Notification of South Worcestershire Development Plan (SWDP) related Consultations in March / April 2016</p> <p>Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)</p> <p>Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD)- Preferred Options</p> <p>This letter is being sent to you as you have either made comments on the plan in the past or requested to be notified of its progress, or have been identified as a relevant consultee.</p> <p>Both of the above documents are being formally consulted upon for a six week period from 14 March to 25 April 2016. The Draft Affordable Housing SPD consultation is in line with Regulation 13 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012, and the Travellers and Travelling Showpeople consultation relates to Regulation 18.</p> <p>Copies of the draft documents, any supporting background information and response forms are available to view online via the following websites:</p> <p>South Worcestershire Development Plan www.swdevelopmentplan.org</p> <p>Malvern Hills District Council www.malvern hills.gov.uk</p> <p>Worcester City Council www.worcester.gov.uk</p> <p>Wychavon District Council www.wychavon.gov.uk</p> <p>Copies of the Draft Affordable Housing SPD, the Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD; background papers on the Traveller and Travelling Showpeople Site Allocations DPD, and its associated Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment reports can also be viewed at customer service centres and libraries as detailed below during their normal opening hours. Emailed to members 19.03.16.</p>

Appendix 1 - payments.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
Clerk	Salary & Expenses	290.42	0.00	290.42
HMRC	PAYE	67.00	0.00	67.00
Abbots Morton Village Hall	Hire of Hall for meetings	25.00	0.00	25.00
Lengthsman	Work February/March	192.00	0.00	192.00
Mr. J. Stedman	Administration of meeting 09.03.16.	60.00	0.00	60.00
PWLB (DD)	Repayment of Village Hall Loan	954.78	0.00	954.78

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Public Question Time - 3 parishioners in attendance.

Questions rose regarding:

a) The process of the meeting held between representatives of the Parish Council, Village Hall Committee and Solarig, Solar Farm Company.

b) A meeting that was believed to have taken place, after the meeting mentioned in 'a', at a private residence between some members of the Parish Council, members of Morton Wood Farm Management Association and Solarig representatives. Resident queried the validity and transparency of such a meeting.

DRAFT