



Present: Cllr. Knight (Chair), Cllr. Nott, Cllr. Eden, Cllr. Andrew, Cllr. Ballard, Cllr. Outwin (arrived during planning items), Cllr. Eberlin.

In Attendance: (Carole Hirst), Clerk; Cllr. Cumming MHDC.; 2 member of the public.

The Meeting closed at 20:38 pm

Minute Reference	
649	Apologies. Cllr. Field; Cllr. Jukes; WCC Councillor David Chambers.
650	Declarations of Interest: Cllr. Knight declared an Other disclosable Interest on planning M/22/01327/PIP at The Orchards.
	<p>Democratic Period/ Public Time –</p> <p>Carolyn Cole.</p> <p>The Abberley Hills Preservation Society held a well-supported public meeting in the village hall on April 13th. The theme was “Past, Present and Future”. Carolyn Coles (Chair) introduced the speakers. Angela Thompson gave a wonderful account of how the AHPS came about in the 1970s and how she personally became involved, eventually leading her to become Madam Chairman. (More of this in a later edition of the Parish News).</p> <p>Lisa Walker then spoke about the AHPS present, and Sarah Crabbe provided fabulous visuals, of plans, photographs and bullet points on the overhead projector. The proposal to extend the Malvern Hills AONB includes the parishes of Abberley, Dunley, Great Witley and Hillhampton, the Shelsleys, Martley, Clifton upon Teme, Doddenham, Alfrick and Lulsley.</p> <p>The original proposal was made in 2015 and proposals can take years to be considered but following the Julian Glover in dependent landscape review there has been a greater focus on National Parks and AONBs which has resulted in Sarah and Lisa being invited to address the Malvern Hills AONB joint advisory committee on April 28th in the hope that they will become directly involved with the proposal to Natural England to extend the area. The areas of geology, ecology, architecture, archaeology, ancient trees, woodlands and orchards will all need to meet the highest landscape values in order to be designated. The surrounding parishes have been consulted along with District Councillors, County Councillors, Harriett Baldwin MP, Worcestershire Wildlife Trust, NFU, CLA and CPRE.</p> <p>There was a definite air of change and optimism that things could gain momentum. Fred Shellis (Treasurer) finally spoke about the AHPSs future; the Committee hopes that there will be more members joining and the aim to lead new initiatives so that the AHPS is regarded as a positive group looking to find out more about the incredibly beautiful landscapes around us.</p> <p>The AHPS are looking for a Secretary, if you are interested please contact ...Carolyn 07790206793</p> <p>Note from Carolyn- Thank you to all who attended, and especially guest speaker Angela, Lisa and Sarah for all their hard work so far on the AONB, and to Fred for his introduction to becoming a member of AHPS. Please look out for details here of the Website, how to join etc. Membership will be an annual subscription of £10 per person or £20 for a family membership.</p>
651	<p>Approval of the Minutes</p> <p>Cllr. Ballard Proposed and Seconded by Cllr. Eden that the Minutes of the Ordinary of Abberley Parish Council on the 15th March 2023 were a true record. All in favour.</p>



652	<p>Matters Arising not covered elsewhere on the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on Coronation meeting (Cllr. Outwin) The next Coronation Working Group meeting is on the 24th April. The Clerk has chased the band for the concert repertoire programme and words so that Cllr. Outwin can arrange a programme/song sheet. Marquee is sorted for putting up and taking down. • Suggestions for a Memorial for Cllr. Goodman (report by Cllr. Eberlin) Cllr. Eberlin circulated a detailed report to all Councillors for discussion at the meeting. Next steps are to decide where a tree would be planted and once location is chosen what type of tree is suitable for the chosen location. A plaque would be required. Cllr. Eberlin to action. • Abberley Village Hall provided the required three quotes, and the payment was made to repair the car park, as requested. 																																																				
653	<p>County and District Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr. Cumming MHDC Report. Due to Purdah, there is no report this month.</p> <p>Cllr. Cumming reported that an issue to be aware of in the future is the Piper Homes Development and speeding issues to be aware of.</p> <p>Cllr. Chambers WCC Report circulated prior to the meeting attached as Appendix 2.</p>																																																				
654	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) To Consider Receipts, Payments from 15th March to 19th April 2023</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: left;"><u>Payments list April 19th 2023</u></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> <th style="width: 10%;"></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>C Hirst salary March</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 506.87</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC - March tax</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 86.80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In2Out March Lengthsman</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 210.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In2Out footpath cut backs etc</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 127.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>BWP Creative Ltd - website hosting</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 216.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DM Payroll services ltd - Internal Audit</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 100.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Worcestershire CALC</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 504.97</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Clerk Expenses to 21st April</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 88.39</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC -National Insurance Dec 2022</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 18.72</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 1,859.25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td><u>RECEIPTS upto 19th April 23 not previously reported</u></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Payments list April 19th 2023</u>				C Hirst salary March			£ 506.87	HMRC - March tax			£ 86.80	In2Out March Lengthsman			£ 210.00	In2Out footpath cut backs etc			£ 127.50	BWP Creative Ltd - website hosting			£ 216.00	DM Payroll services ltd - Internal Audit			£ 100.00	Worcestershire CALC			£ 504.97	Clerk Expenses to 21st April			£ 88.39	HMRC -National Insurance Dec 2022			£ 18.72				£ 1,859.25					<u>RECEIPTS upto 19th April 23 not previously reported</u>			
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WCC Lengthsman Feb		£ 217.50
TOTAL RECEIPTS		£ 217.50

Cllr. Nott Proposed and Cllr. Knight Seconded that the payments be approved. All in favour.

b) To note the Bank Reconciliation at 31st March 2023. Noted.

c) To approve the purchase of a litterbin.

[Super Guppy™ Litter Bin with Express Delivery - by Glasdon UK](#)

£241.61 + £12.50 plus vat which is recoverable. Total purchase price will be £254.11 plus installation which we can get Chris our Lengthsman to do as part of the grant from WCC Cllr. David Chambers. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the cost of the litterbin at £254.11 be approved. All in favour.**

d)To consider an increase in the Lengthsman’s hourly rate for 2023/24. The Lengthsman has requested an hourly increase following 2 increases in the Lengthsman budget from WCC. Cllr. Nott Proposed and Cllr. Ballard Seconded the approval of £15.75 per hour. All in favour.

e)..(i)To Approve the Annual Audited Accounts from April 1st, 2022 to 31st March 2023 as Audited by Internal Auditor Mrs Diane Malley. Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the annual accounts for 2022/23 be approved. All in favour.

(ii) Proposal to consider Section 1: Annual Governance Statement 2022/23. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that Section 1, Annual Governance Statement 2022/23 be approved. All in favour.**

(iii) Proposal to consider Section 2: Annual Accounting Statements 2022/23. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that Section 2, Annual Accounting Statement 2022/23 be approved. All in favour.**

(iv) To consider and confirm that the authority neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000 during 2022/23 and agree that the **Certificate of Exemption** can be signed as part of AGAR 2022/23. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the Parish Council confirm that the authority neither received gross income, nor incurred gross expenditure, exceeding £25,000 during 2022/23 and approve that the Certificate of Exemption be signed as part of AGAR 2022/23 be approved. All in favour.**

(v) Consider Internal Auditor’s Report & Recommendations. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the report be approved and noted and actioned as required. All in favour.**

(vi) To consider the period of dates for the Exercise of Public Rights 2022/23. The Parish Council agreed that the period of dates for the Exercise of Public Rights be set as Monday 5 June – Friday 14 July 2023. **Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the dates be approved. All in favour.**



	<p>(vii) To Approve the Community Infrastructure Levy Annual Report 2022/23. Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded the CiL Annual Report 2022/23. All in favour.</p> <p>F To consider to “stand-down” Financial Regs 11-1 (ii) and Financial Regulation 15.2 to engage a Solicitor for the purpose of land purchase and that the Clerk, Chair and Vice Chair (or any two Councillors from the Finance Committee) be given delegated powers to appoint a solicitor. Cllr. Knight Proposed, Cllr. Eden Seconded. All in favour.</p>
655	<p>Planning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/22/00321/OUT- Land around the Village Hall - THIS APPLICATION WAS UNANIMOUSLY REFUSED at a meeting of the Planning Committee on 5th April 2023. 58 people attended. Largest turn out for an application. • M/22/01645/FUL - Barn At (Os 7323 6785)Studd Lane, Abberley- Proposed amendments to Class Q consent consisting of replacement roof material (to match existing), fenestration arrangements and replacement wall cladding (to match existing) consistent with Appeal decision APP/J1860/W/21/3275424 – APPROVED • M/22/01327/PIP at The Orchards, The Village, Abberley- Application for permission in principle for the erection of 1, 3 bed bungalow – Planning Appeal. Written objections only by 22nd May. Cllr. Andrew to prepare and circulate a response.
656	<p>To discuss that a Parish Councillor becomes the representative of the Village Hall Management Committee. Cllr. Knight suggested that the Village Hall Management Committee present a report for the June PC meeting to say what it is that the Village Hall Committee are looking for in a representative.</p>
657	<p>Parking issues around the junction next to the school and village Hall- Proposed double yellow lines. Consultation to the 27th April 2023.</p> <p>The Clerk to email a response to WCC Highways.</p>
658	<p>Section 106 Piper Homes and CiL Update: Report by Cllr. Ballard It had been agreed by the Parish Council to put an offer in on the land for sale in Abberley, as discussed. The working group submitted the required project application to Malvern Hills which was approved and thus the Section 106 funding was agreed by Malvern Hills to enable the Parish Council to make an offer. The bid was successful and plans are now ongoing to complete the land sale.</p>
659	<p>To inform Parish Council about the wood on the Clow’s Top Road that has been cut down. UPDATE. The Forestry Commission confirm that a stop felling notice was issued to the landowner of the felled trees at Abberley Common. The Forestry Commission is now in the process of assessing the case and will take appropriate action against the landowner if it is found that a contravention of the Forestry Act (1967) has taken place.</p>
661	<p>Councillors reports and items for future agendas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr. Nott - Pothole opposite Millers Green – Clows Top Road;



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Water continuing to run down the Tenbury Road from the estate past the post office. • State of the pavement in front of the Piper Homes in poor state. <p>All issues to contact Cllr. Chambers WCC.</p> <p>Tree on Rosedale (half blew down during storms). Other branches have been taken down but some work not done. Cllr. Cumming to investigate.</p>
662	Date of Next Meeting of the Parish Council will be the Annual Parish Meeting and AGM of the Parish Council on 17th May 2023, at 7pm at Abberley Village Hall.

Appendix 1 Cllr. David Chambers WCC Report.

1. There have been a number of senior staff changes at the County Council.
 - a. Hazel Best has been appointed the new Monitoring Officer. This is the council's senior legal officer.
 - b. Lisa McNally has been appointed the new Director of Public Health.
 - c. A new Chief Finance Officer is to be appointed shortly.

2. Paul Walker has been appointed as the new Chairman of the Worcestershire LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership). The government has launched a consultation on the future of LEPs. It is expected that the Worcestershire LEP will continue for the next two years prior to any changes which may take place.

3. Matthew Hopkins the Chief Executive of the NHS Acute Trust (which includes the Worcester Royal Hospital) has resigned to take up a new position.

4. The Boundary Commission proposals for changes to Division boundaries and Councillor numbers within Worcestershire County Council is to take place between May and July. Any changes will come into effect at the elections in May 2025.

5. The Bus Service Review in Worcestershire continues and will include the possible increase in the use of Community Transport.

A second review is also taking place regarding Home to School Transport which currently costs the County Council £25million each year.