



Present: Cllr. Knight (Chair), Cllr. Eden, Cllr. Eberlin, Cllr. Field, Cllr. Juckes; Cllr. Outwin; Cllr. Nott, Cllr. Ballard, (1 vacancy)

In Attendance: Cllrs Paul and Pam Cumming MHDC – 0 members of the Public.

**The Meeting closed at 20:45pm**

<b>Minute Reference</b>	
<b>738</b>	<b>Apologies:</b> WCC Councillor David Chambers.
<b>739</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b>  Cllr. Eberlin declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest – Minute 748.  Cllr. Knight declared a Disclosable Interest in item 749 (excessive light problems).  Cllr. Nott declared a Disclosable Interest in 744 (e) as Chair of Abberley PCC.
	<b>Democratic Period/ Public Time</b> – None present
<b>740</b>	<b>Approval of the Minutes</b>  Cllr. Nott Proposed and Seconded by Cllr. Juckes that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Abberley Parish Council on the 18 <sup>th</sup> October 2023 were a true record. All in favour.
<b>741</b>	<b>To consider Co-option to the vacancy as Parish Councillor for Abberley.</b> No applications received by the deadline of 5 <sup>th</sup> November and so the deadline has been extended to 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 5pm. The clerk will amend the deadline on the website and put on Facebook.
<b>742</b>	<b>Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Update on Listing of the Manor Arms;</b> Cllr. Outwin has taken the lead on this. Cllr. Outwin has researched the process of listing a Community Asset. She has drafted an application for submission. Cllr. Knight asked councillors to share information they may have to Cllr. Outwin. Cllr. Outwin will circulate once a final draft is completed and then submit to MHDC. The Manager of the Manor Arms has been notified.</li> <li>• Update on parking issues on Clow Top Rd. Nothing further to report.</li> <li>• <b>Speeding Issues on Stockton Road recorded cars traveling at 45-50 mph.</b> A local parishioner has supplied information to the PC which can be used to inform local parishioners on how to report speeding issues. The Clerk will pull the information together to put on the website and also put it on Facebook. Cllr. Ballard agreed to share data that he has commissioned with the PC as evidence of speeding.</li> </ul>



<b>743</b>	<p><b>County and District Councillor Reports</b></p> <p><b>Cllr. Cumming MHDC</b></p> <p>Nothing to report. Very few District Council meetings have taken place.</p> <p><b>Cllr. Chambers WCC Report:</b> Report attached as Appendix 1.</p>																																				
<b>744</b>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p><b>a To approve receipts and payments for the period to 15<sup>th</sup> November 2023</b></p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b><u>Payments list Nov 15th 2023</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Hirst Salary Oct</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 490.51</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC Oct</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 122.40</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Hwion Humphreys - 2 x bleed kits</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 160.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCC Lengthsman</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 220.50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Hirst clerk expenses to 15th Nov</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 112.70</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abberley Village Hall Inv23/24/058 Oct meeting</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 15.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Noticeboard Company Cumbria Ltd</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£ 127.32</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b><u>£ 1,248.43</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3"><b><u>RECEIPTS up to Nov 15th 23 not previously reported</u></b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC – VAT to end Oct 23</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£175.99</td> </tr> <tr> <td><b><u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u></b></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b><u>£ 175.99</u></b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Cllr. Eden proposed and Cllr. Knight seconded that the payments be approved. All in favour.</b></p> <p><b>b) To note the Bank Reconciliation at 3rd November 2023. Noted.</b></p> <p><b>c) To Note the Budget report at 3rd November 2023. Noted.</b></p> <p><b>d) To Agree the out-turn budget for 2023/24 and agree the budget and precept for 2024/25. Councillors noted the out-turn budget for 2023/24. The proposed budget for 2024/25 was circulated prior to the meeting for comment having been discussed with the Finance Working Group. Cllr. Ballard Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that the budget circulated for 2024/25 be approved and that the precept for 2024/25 be set at £12,916, an increase of 10% on 2023/24. All in favour.</b></p>	<b><u>Payments list Nov 15th 2023</u></b>			C Hirst Salary Oct		£ 490.51	HMRC Oct		£ 122.40	Hwion Humphreys - 2 x bleed kits		£ 160.00	WCC Lengthsman		£ 220.50	C Hirst clerk expenses to 15th Nov		£ 112.70	Abberley Village Hall Inv23/24/058 Oct meeting		£ 15.00	Noticeboard Company Cumbria Ltd		£ 127.32			<b><u>£ 1,248.43</u></b>	<b><u>RECEIPTS up to Nov 15th 23 not previously reported</u></b>			HMRC – VAT to end Oct 23		£175.99	<b><u>TOTAL RECEIPTS</u></b>		<b><u>£ 175.99</u></b>
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	<p>e) <b>To consider Grant to Abberley PCC of £600 towards the cost of Abberley Parish Magazine. Cllr. Outwin Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that this be approved. All in favour. Cllr. Nott abstained having declared an Other Disclosable Interest.</b></p> <p>f) <b>To note that the Association of Local Councils (ALC) has issued its notice of staff pay scales with an increase on SCP of £1 per hour on paygrades for 2023/24. This is backdated to April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023.</b></p> <p>g) <b>Purchase of 13.91 Acres of Land and Woodland at Abberley, Worcester, WR6 6AA.</b> Raised as an exempt item on the agenda and recorded as a financial minute. Cllr. Ballard Proposed and Cllr. Eden Seconded that Abberley Parish Council agrees to purchase the said land and that the Contract be agreed to be signed for the purchase of the said land; The HM Land Registry Form TR1 be signed and witnessed; The Stamp Duty Land Tax Return be agreed and signed. All in favour.</p>
745	<p><b>Planning –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>M/23/01281/DEM The Orchard, Apostles Oak, Abberley-</b> Proposed demolition of The Orchard, Apostles Oak, Abberley- CONSULTATION to 11<sup>th</sup> October 2023- REJECTED</li> <li>• <b>Public Meeting at Great Witley regarding the proposed Bloor Development at Great Witley.</b> Cllr. Outwin circulated a report having represented Abberley Parish Council at the Public Meeting. Everyone present at the public meeting gave their support to oppose the application. Abberley Parish Council have submitted an objection to further development in support of Great Witley Parish Council.</li> <li>• <b>M/23/01047/HP - The Crundles, Elms Green, Abberley-</b> Erection of detached home office to replace timber shed in rear garden – APPROVED.</li> <li>• <b>M/23/00929/HP - The Wain House At The Crundles, Elms Green, Abberley-</b> Single storey rear extension and alterations - APPROVED</li> </ul>
746	<p><b>To discuss any plans for 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of D Day, June 2024 and whether the Parish Council would like to consider any remembrance statues in the Parish.</b></p> <p>Cllr. Outwin asked the PC whether the Council would be interested in staging an event. Cllr. Outwin suggested that it might be a nice idea to grow some poppies, on the village green, for instance.</p> <p>The Parish Council is interested in observing the day/ weekend in some way and it was decided that Cllr. Knight and Cllr. Outwin meet to discuss.</p> <p>It was also felt that the memorial in St Mary’s porch was sufficient.</p>
747	<p><b>Section 106 Piper Homes and CiL Update:</b> See item 744 (g). The PC have agreed the purchase of the land and to sign contracts and associated papers. Once the Solicitor receives the wet signed copies they will be sent to MHDC who should release the Section 106 monies, within three working days, to Abberley PC.</p>
748	<p><b>Update from Cllr Eberlin as to how to continue to inform about climate change measures.</b></p> <p>Cllr. Eberlin reported that the event has been cancelled until the New Year. She has prepared a new update for Parishioners, and this has been sent to Abberley Parish</p>



	News and is on the PC website. Cllr. Eberlin to ascertain a new date from Abberley Village Hall for the event.
<b>749</b>	<p><b>Concerns about excessive light spillage on the village square causing problems for wildlife and neighbouring houses etc and impacting on the Dark Skies Policy of the Parish Council. Reported by Cllr. Eberlin.</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Knight left the Meeting Room while this discussion took place</b></p> <p>Cllr. Eberlin commented that a Parishioner reported this problem at the last Parish Council meeting. Cllr. Eberlin spoke to local parishioners and supplied them with information on light pollution. It had been decided that the approach to the Manor Arms would be left to neighbours and that as a result Cllr. Eberlin suggested that Manor Arms be given time to digest and respond/take action before the Parish Council became involved. If no action is forthcoming a plan of action would be agreed by the Parish Council.</p> <p>It was reported by Cllr. Paul Cumming that the matter could be reported to other regulatory bodies.</p>
<b>750</b>	<p><b>Neighbourhood Plan Review.</b></p> <p>The Chair and Clerk attended the CALC NDP training on 1<sup>st</sup> November. Although useful as a refresher the advice on how to approach a review was quite scant and not particularly confident as to when it should be started.</p> <p>The situation regarding the review will be monitored to decide when it should happen and what it would involve.</p>
<b>751</b>	<p><b>Councillors reports and items for future agendas.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Appeal hearing is on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> November regarding the land around the village hall Planning Appeal regarding application M/22/0321/OUT. Cllr. Knight has registered to attend and, hopefully, speak on behalf of the PC.</li> <li>• It was discussed that sewage smells need to be investigated and logged. This would be subsequently reported to Severn Trent and the Environment Agency. Cllr. Field agreed to keep a log</li> </ul>
<b>752</b>	<b>Date of Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.30pm at Abberley Village Hall.</b>

#### **Appendix 1 Cllr. David Chambers WCC Report.**

1. Following recent reports of identifying RAAF concrete in buildings, the County Council has conducted and continues to conduct further investigations and studies. As Chairman of the Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee I called for a report on RAAF in Worcestershire schools. I can report that no RAAF has been identified in any of the schools operated by the local authority including Community, Voluntary Controlled and Foundation schools. Academies, Voluntary Aided and Independent schools are reporting directly to the Department for Education (DfE) and the DfE is not sharing this information with the Council.

Chairman.....

Date 17<sup>th</sup> January 2024



County Hall has a number of RAAF related issues and as a result parts of the building are not open to staff or visitors. This has not affected any of the services provided by the County Council.

- 2. As previously reported, I have expressed concern regarding vaping by children aged 11 to 18 years. It has now been agreed that the Children & Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be the lead Scrutiny Panel. Vaping is a good thing if used by adults who are trying to give up smoking, it is not however, something we should be encouraging for general use by adults let alone children.

Sadly, many people do not realise that vapes contain nicotine and in some cases more nicotine than in cigarettes. They are also available in a variety of coloured tanks and fun flavourings, which are particularly attractive to young children. I have received reports that many of these products are being supplied to children in school by other school children. To date, over 12,000 non compliant vapes have been removed from the market place in Worcestershire, by Trading Standards.

The Panel will seek evidence from officers within Education, Public Health and Trading Standards, in order to make recommendations going forward

- 3. I have made a formal request to Worcestershire County Council to procure the building of a new pedestrian bridge over the river Teme at Tenbury. The current bridge is no longer fit for purpose due the continued risk to pedestrians safety, from vehicles mounting the footpath on both sides, whilst being used by pedestrians.

I am suggesting that the new pedestrian bridge be build alongside or near to the existing bridge.

The boundary between Worcestershire and Shropshire is along the centre of the river Teme and as such I am suggesting that funding is provided by both Worcestershire County Council and Shropshire Council, with additional funds if necessary, coming from central government.

**Appendix 2 Cllrs. Paul and Pam Cumming MHDC Report**

**No written report received**