



Present: Cllr. Knight (Chair), Cllr. Outwin; Cllr. Eberlin; Cllr. Nott, Cllr. Jukes; Cllr. Tassell.
In Attendance:– Cllr’s Paul and Pam Cumming MHDC - 2 members of the Public.

The Meeting closed at 20:49pm

Minute Reference	
796	<p>Note Apologies:, Cllr. Ballard, Cllr. Field, Cllr. Eden. WCC Councillor David Chambers.</p> <p>Absent: None</p>
797	<p>Declarations of Interest:</p> <p>Cllr. Knight declared a Disclosable Interest in item 805 (excessive light problems) Cllr. Eberlin declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest – Minute 804</p>
	<p>Democratic Period/ Public Time – non present</p>
798	<p>Approval of the Minutes</p> <p>Cllr. Knight Proposed and Seconded by Cllr. Eberlin that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting of Abberley Parish Council on the 21st February 2024 were a true record. All in favour.</p>
799	<p>Matters Arising from the Minutes not covered elsewhere on the Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Speeding Issues on Stockton Road and within the Parish- Chased with WCC Councillor. • Lighting issues at Abberley Hall School. Nothing to report. • Path along Longmeadow enforcement update from Cllr Chambers WCC. <p>The footpath along the A443 is constantly being chased by myself, however, initially this is an MHDC issue. WCC will not undertake resurfacing works which clearly need to be done, until the Enforcement Department at MHDC ensure that the developer completes the works which must be done as part of MHDC’s Planning Permission. I am not able to chase MHDC, this must be done either by the Parish Council or the District Councillors. I understand that some progress has been made. As soon as the Enforcement Department confirm that the developer has completed their works I will move this forward as quickly as possible.</p> <p>To help ensure that Highways move quickly once they are given the go ahead, I have reserved some of my Highways funding to help fund the resurfacing of this pavement, as I myself view this as a priority.</p> <p>I urge you to chase The Enforcement Team at MHDC and ask them to inform you or me once they are happy that the developer has complied according to the Planning Permission granted. Following a discussion with Cllr. Paul Cumming we are informed that the Enforcement Officer has been informed and will report back.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shavers End Litter update on response from Astley and Dunley PC.



	<p>A message from Clerk at Astley & Dunley on 26th March 24 was to the effect that the area had been cleared by a landowner with some help. It should be noted that Abberley Hills Preservation Society had also cleared a great deal of rubbish. The area now is vastly improved but will obviously need constant monitoring as this is an ongoing problem. Any fly tipping should be reported to Malvern Hills.</p> <p>Lengthsman’s Update – a report of the work undertaken by the Lengthsman during March was circulated prior to the Meeting</p> <p>School Lights Update - The school lights have been checked. The batteries are fine (solar powered) so it appears to be a programming issue. WCC are waiting for the manufacturers to come back to them.</p>																																																												
<p>800</p>	<p>County and District Councillor Reports</p> <p>Cllr. Cumming MHDC – Appendix 2</p> <p>Cllr. Chambers WCC Report: Report attached as Appendix 1.</p>																																																												
<p>801</p>	<p>Finance</p> <p>a) To approve receipts and payments for the period to 17th April 2024</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="359 954 1157 1818"> <tr> <td colspan="4">Payments list April 17th 24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Gill Lungley - training</td> <td></td> <td>£ 162.95</td> <td>2023_24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Hirst Salary Mar 24</td> <td></td> <td>£ 519.94</td> <td>2023_24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC Mar 24</td> <td></td> <td>£ 129.80</td> <td>2023_24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Abberley Village Hall - March meetings</td> <td></td> <td>£ 30.00</td> <td>2023_24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>In2Out Lengthsman March</td> <td></td> <td>£ 212.62</td> <td>2023_24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>DM Malley Payroll Services - Internal Audit 2023/24</td> <td></td> <td>£ 110.00</td> <td>2024_25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Zurich Insurance - 24</td> <td></td> <td>£ 324.12</td> <td>2024_25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>CALC Annual Subs 2024/25</td> <td></td> <td>£ 575.68</td> <td>2024/25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>C Hirst - Clerk Expenses to 17th April</td> <td></td> <td>£ 51.15</td> <td>2024_25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>£ 2116.26</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="4">RECEIPTS upto 17th April not previously reported</td> </tr> <tr> <td>WCC Lengthsman Mar</td> <td></td> <td>£ 212.62</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>MHDC Cil funding Cows Top Rd, Development</td> <td></td> <td>£29,704.41</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL RECEIPTS</td> <td></td> <td>£ 29,917.03</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>	Payments list April 17th 24				Gill Lungley - training		£ 162.95	2023_24	C Hirst Salary Mar 24		£ 519.94	2023_24	HMRC Mar 24		£ 129.80	2023_24	Abberley Village Hall - March meetings		£ 30.00	2023_24	In2Out Lengthsman March		£ 212.62	2023_24	DM Malley Payroll Services - Internal Audit 2023/24		£ 110.00	2024_25	Zurich Insurance - 24		£ 324.12	2024_25	CALC Annual Subs 2024/25		£ 575.68	2024/25	C Hirst - Clerk Expenses to 17th April		£ 51.15	2024_25			£ 2116.26		RECEIPTS upto 17th April not previously reported				WCC Lengthsman Mar		£ 212.62		MHDC Cil funding Cows Top Rd, Development		£29,704.41		TOTAL RECEIPTS		£ 29,917.03	
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	<p>Cllr. Knight proposed and Cllr. Nott seconded that the payments be approved. All in favour.</p> <p>b) To note the Bank Reconciliation at 31st March 2024. Noted.</p> <p>c) To Note the Budget report at 31st March 2024. Noted.</p> <p>d) To approve costs for Defibrillator parts. Deferred to the May meeting when the Village Hall Management Committee have completed their findings.</p> <p>e) To consider the Annual Accounts & Annual Governance and Accountability Return Part 3: from April 1st 2023 to 31st March 2024</p> <p>(i) To Approve the Annual Audited Accounts from April 1st, 2023 to 31st, March 2024 as Audited by Internal Auditor Mrs Diane Malley. Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Tassell Seconded that these be approved. All in favour.</p> <p>(ii) Proposal to consider Section 1 Annual Governance Statements 2023/24. Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Tassell Seconded that these be approved. All in favour.</p> <p>(iii) Proposal to consider Section 2 Annual Accounting Statements 2023/24. <i>Accounts & Audit regulations 2015</i> Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Tassell Seconded that these be approved. All in favour.</p> <p>(iv) Consider Internal Auditor’s Report & Recommendations 2023/24 (circulated) Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Tassell Seconded that the Internal Auditors report and Recommendations be accepted and wherever required implemented. All in favour.</p> <p>(v) To consider the period of dates for the Exercise of Public Rights 2023/24 for Unaudited Annual Governance and Accountability Return. The period of dates for the Exercise of Public Rights set as Monday 3 June – Friday 12 July 2024. Cllr. Knight Proposed and Cllr. Tassell Seconded that these be approved. All in favour.</p> <p>(vi) To note the CiL report for 2023/24 and display on PC Website. Noted.</p> <p>f) To give delegated powers to the “Field Working Group” regarding Section 106/CiL Spend and set spend limit. It was Proposed by Cllr. Knight and Seconded by Cllr. Tassell that the Section 106/CiL Working Group put forward any financial proposals for expenditure to the Clerk with the Chair for approval. The Clerk with the Chair to have Delegated Powers of Expenditure on the Restricted Funds on urgent items (to be communicated to the Parish Council) - Section 106 and CiL funding with spending limit currently set at £3000. This will be monitored and reviewed. All in favour.</p>
<p>802</p>	<p>Planning –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M/22/01440/PIP Land At (Os 7450 6726)Abberley- Application for permission in principle for the construction of up to 7no. dwellings—DECISION REFUSED • M/24/00354/PIP Brookend, Abberley- Permission in Principle for 2 self/custom build dwellings – CONSULTATION to 26th April 2024 Cllr. Tassell and Cllr. Field to undertake a site visit to consider this application and report back.
<p>803</p>	<p>Section 106 Piper Homes Update: both Cllr Ballard and Cllr Eberlin</p>



	<p>circulated reports to the Field Working Group for discussion at the meeting. At this stage the PC are considering advice from Natural Networks amongst other organisations about both the wood and field. Meanwhile the field will be managed appropriately for the time of year.</p> <p>In terms of security the field entrance will have a gate. Walkers will still be able to walk through. At a later point there will also be a side gate installed.</p>
804	<p>Update from Cllr Eberlin as to how to continue to inform about climate change measures.</p> <p>Nothing further required at this time.</p> <p>This is to be removed from the agenda for now.</p>
805	<p>Concerns about excessive light spillage on the village square causing problems for wildlife and neighbouring houses etc infringing the Dark Skies Policy of the Parish Council. Reported by Cllr. Eberlin.</p> <p>The Manor Arms is in the process of undertaking works to reduce excessive light spillage.</p>
806	<p>Village Hall Update. Cllr. Tassell circulated the minutes of the last meeting.</p> <p>Car Parking – Still some confusion around the proposal from the Parish Council about the need for the car park to be reconfigured to enable a one-way system. It was felt that as the Parish Council had requested this action that they should obtain quotes for the work. Following subsequent conversations with Catherine and Sarah F it has been established that this was a suggestion should the village hall want to look at parking layout in the future. I have emailed the village hall committee to that effect. – No further action required.</p> <p>Fire Alarm Testing – To note that Libby has taken on the role of testing the fire alarms once a month. Currently Libby has conducted two tests on the 10th March and 5th April. Actions following the testing have been reported to Sue Coley.</p> <p>Sleeping Bags – Should the village hall be required to be used as a rest centre there are now provided 50 sleeping bags for storage at the village hall. These are now in situ.</p>
807	<p>Litter on the Clows Top Road.</p> <p>Adopt a Street Malvern Hills - Malvern Hills District Council</p> <p>This link has been put on the PC website.</p>
808	<p>Councillors reports and items for future agendas.</p> <p>None</p>
809	<p>Date of Next Ordinary Meeting of the Parish Council will be on 17th April 2024 at 7.30pm at Abberley Village Hall.</p>

Appendix 1 Cllr. David Chambers WCC Report.

Chairman.....

Date 15th May 2024



The costs of providing Home To School Transport continues to be of concern to the County Council. This is being addressed by both the Cabinet and two of the Council's Scrutiny Panels. As I have mentioned before, the cost of providing school transport for children without any care needs is within budget, it is the cost of providing transport to school, for children with Special Education Needs that is extremely expensive and the local authority has a statutory obligation to provide whatever means of travel is necessary, including individual taxis.

In September it is planned that Worcestershire Childrens First, the company who oversee all services provided to Children and Families within the County, will cease operation and all services will be incorporated into Worcestershire County Council. Those who rely on the services of WCF will see no changes in provision and we expect a smooth transition. The Director of WCF will be leaving her post at the end of June when a new appointment will be made.

Appendix 2 Cllrs. Paul and Pam Cumming MHDC Report

The Council has received a further £1m one off grant from the Government this year, which has been allocated to the priorities reserve, although it is unclear at this stage what it will be spent on. An increase in the District's element of Council Tax of 2.82% was agreed bearing in mind the projections for the next few years which show substantial ongoing savings being required.

The District still remains at risk of speculative planning applications due to the expiry of the SWDP, with the adoption of the new Local Plan now being further delayed as the Inspector has called for updating of various pieces of background data before the Examination progresses further. In particular the long-awaited Transport survey is required. We will continue to press for improved performance in this situation.

It is worth noting that in the original public consultation in 2019, all the Parish Councils in the old Baldwin and Woodbury wards requested that large village development sites should not be included in the Local Plan until a transport plan was put forward. The response was that transport modelling would be undertaken to inform site selection and yet over three years later sites have been identified for this area without such a transport plan.

With new housing developments being completed, issues with affordable housing are starting to emerge. In one case a developer was required to re-examine compliance with the District lettings policy. In Pearl Lane in Astley, the market element of 34 houses was converted to Affordable Housing by the developer and in the process no CIL payments towards infrastructure were required. This has resulted in such housing being built in our District effectively to satisfy the housing needs of other authorities.

Next year there will be food waste collections by MHDC and a campaign happening called Food Savvy.

A scheme called "too good to go" an app that tells you which shops are throwing away products that day.