

**A meeting of Great Abington Parish Council was held at Abington Institute on Monday  
16<sup>th</sup> January 2023**

**Meeting started at 7.15pm**

**Present: Tony Orgee, Jane Bowen, Jill Carter, Stephen McDonnell, two members of the public and the Clerk. Mak and Louise Patten arrived just after the start of the meeting.**

**95. Open Forum** – Two Westfield residence highlighted that the planning application for TWI did not make the perspective of the proposed buildings clear. The building planned to replace the Beavan Braithwaite building would be 11.9 m higher than the existing building. Block B5 would be 8.9m higher than the existing building and block B6 would be 5.1 m higher than the current building, with 5 storeys and it would be ½ m higher than the Alumina building. The impact of these high buildings on the playing area and the ullage should be seen once the photographic scenes are put on the website. They also highlighted that the Environmental Impact Assessment called it an 'urban development' which sets a precedent. Henry and John Batchelor were asked to find out what impact this classification could have or mean – **Action Clerk** to forward the response to Genevieve.

**96. Apologies** received from Emma Pery.

**97. Declaration of interest in items to be discussed** – Tony Orgee and Stephen McDonnell declared an interest in item 104b, as Glenn Broad does gardening for them.

**98. The minutes for the last meeting held on 21st November** were approved unanimously.

**99. Report from Councillor Henry Batchelor –circulated**

Funds for public electric car charging are available from SCDC. The congestion consultation is now closed and was completed by many local residents. 24,000 replies were received which represents 15% of people in SCDC. Local Plan- the growth in new jobs has exceeded the targets set earlier than expected therefore the City and SCD Councils will need to revise the numbers, and 8,000 more houses will need to be added to the current local plan. At the moment it is unclear if these new homes will be in the city or countryside. A question about the lack of facilities in existing new house developments was answered by explaining that the creation of new shops in such areas was a commercial not planning decision. Concerns were raised about the capacity to supply water and power to the extra 8,000 new homes. A new reservoir is planned to be built in Fenland in the next 10 years, but in the meanwhile water would be pumped from Fenland.

The County Council had stopped taking upholstered waste for recycling for a time as the Environment Agency was threatening to enforce legislation that it should be burned; they are not taking this waste again. The Bancroft Farm planning application decision is at appeal should the council wish to comment. Henry would forward a link to enable people to claim for vehicle damage caused by potholes. Henry agreed to ask the Highway team to consider whether speed humps cause pot holes and would ask them to audit this.

**100. Report from Councillor John Batchelor –circulated**

The Housing dept are having a key amnesty in February to enable anyone subletting a council property to relinquish it without consequences. The Highway dept were very busy filling potholes, please continue reporting them.

### **101. HIGHWAY ISSUES**

- a) Pot holes on High Street, many on the Pampisford road mainly around the speed bumps and a big one near the entry to the village near Maple rise. Also potholes on the high street where the road is breaking up badly between the school and the church and the old A11 at the Abington Park end and near North and South road junctions. Most of these holes had been marked up for repair.
- b) Update from Planning Enforcement on highlighted irregularities. Jane Bowen had written to the Chief Executive of SCDC about the lack of response from the Planning enforcement team, but had not heard back from the team.
- c) Pampisford Road and Cutting Road signs have fallen down. Henry agreed to chase this up as there had been no response and there was no obvious team to contact now.
- d) The footpath outside Moorefield on the Pampisford is breaking up- - discussed at site meeting with Highway Officer on 6<sup>th</sup> September. Ownership of path is the County Council and Bradley Southwell has said he will establish if the developers are responsible for faulty work, this long after completion of the work.
- e) Resurfacing the end of the footpath between Pampisford Road and Chalky Road - this has been completed.
- f) Trees on the Newmarket road are now growing out into the road. The Highway officer has checked and believes the situation to be satisfactory.

#### **Tony Orgee and Stephen McDonnell did not participate in this next item**

- g) Cutting back the bushes on path to Chalky Rd. Councillors (excluding Tony Orgee and Stephen McDonnell)unanimously agreed that Glenn Broad could cut the verge at a cost of £180 – **action Clerk.**

### **102. PLANNING**

Planning applications to be considered:

- a)22/03880/FUL -127 High Street – New dwelling(amended plan) – The conservation office suggested the application be refused as moving the parking area to the front of the property destroyed the visual heritage of this listed building. Councillors agreed that it had a major impact on the building visually. The new dwelling is smaller and lower than the previous application, so impacts on the existing building less. The proposed new driveway onto the High Street at it narrowest and busiest point by a bus stop, was a concern. Councillors highlighted the significant tree on site and the need to protect it. **Mak and Stephen abstained from the recommendation that the application be refused, proposed and supported by all other councillors present.** If SCDC are minded to approve requested conditions imposed that all construction/delivery vehicles must park on site or well away from this part of the High Street.
- b) 22/04621/FUL – Phase 2 Land zone 2 , Granta Park - Erection of enlarged gas / liquid nitrogen storage buildings and screened compounds for back-up generators to be located in the reconfigured service yards to Buildings F, G & H in association with approved R&D buildings consented under application S/1110/15/OL & 21/05165/REM. Already considered at the December meeting.
- c) 22/05349/HFUL – 35 South Road - Two storey side extensions, two storey front extension, two storey rear extension, internal re-modelling. The application looked sympathetic but please ensure that the entrance is large enough to accommodate large construction vehicles and could SCDC set conditions that any damage done opposite the verge be made-good by the

developers. Also construction/delivery vehicles must park on site only. **Councillors unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application.**

d) Agree a date for a planning meeting to discuss the new TWI planning application before 6<sup>th</sup> February. Councillors agreed to meet after the public meeting on 30<sup>th</sup> January at 8.15pm.

e)The planning decision from the Parish Council and District Council are on a separate sheet

### **103. RECREATION GROUND COMMITTEE (ARGC)**

#### **a) Request for section 106 funds.**

Abington Recreation Ground Committee formally requested S106 funds to pay for the landscaping of the area nearest to the Pump Track to create a comfortable picnic area with seating area for members of the community. The landscaping would include a 100m new hedge line stretching from along the back of the pumprack from the new school gate/path to the church.

The ARGC Committee have obtained 3 quotes and considered them:

1. Jack & Wills Landscape - quote received– considered too costly
2. Birchwood Landscape - quote received
3. Brookfield Landscape - incomplete quote, omitted landscaping requested.

It is anticipated that the costs may increase by 10%

**Council supported the ARGC recommendation that Birchwood Landscapes quote be accepted at £3821.20, and agreed that the invoice should be sent directly to the council for payment.** (section 106 to ARGC for this scheme). It was agreed that the purchase of the materials cost will be part of the sum paid to Birchwood.

b) An update on other ARGC activities and plans. ARGC’s terms of reference had been sent to Tony for the council to consider and would be circulated by Jill Carter. Action: all councilLors – comments were required within two weeks.

**Tony Orgee declared an interest in payment to Glenn Broad as he does work for him.**

### **104. FINANCE**

a) Authorisation of the payments in the table below. **Tony Orgee proposed that all payment be authorised except those to Glenn Broad , which was unanimously supported by all councillors. Jill Carter then proposed the payment to Glenn Broad be authorised, which was supported by all councillors , except Tony Orgee.**

b) Precept request form to be completed by the Clerk and signed by the Chairman to be sent to SCDC

#### **Payment to be authorised by Councillors:**

<b>Payment method</b>	<b>Payee</b>	<b>Product or service</b>	<b>Payment value</b>
Bank transfer	Paula Harper	Pay for December	<b>£305.46</b>
Bank transfer	HMRC	Tax for December	<b>£76.60</b>
Bank transfer	<b>Glenn Broad (inv931)</b>	Verge (£140) & 2 x churchyard grass cut (£118)	<b>£258.00</b>
Bank transfer	Abington Institute	Hire of the rooms for meetings 20/10/22-14/12/22	£36.00
Bank transfer	Paula Harper	Pay for January -Standing Order	£305.46
Bank transfer	HMRC	Tax for January – Standing order	£76.60

c) The Clerk still needs to buy the new printer.

- d) Can the council consider having one more councillor authorised to sanction payment on the Unity account.
- e) HMRC has requested that all employers submit returns monthly or face fines. The council standing order to pay the Clerk and HMRC monthly have been created
- f) Utility Aid have still not sent the Clerk an agreement for the electricity supply for the lights until 2025. It has been chased up. The Clerk to investigate why one of the lampposts in Lewis Close has a much higher consumption of electricity than others.
- g) The duplicate payment was raised to Tees Law in error by the Clerk and returned by Tees was for was for £1,552.00

**Barclays Bank balances at:**

Community Account - £00.00 (on 08/11/2022 from account)  
 Business Premium Account - £22,225.05 (on 03/10/2023 statement) – income £12.38  
 Active Saver Account (s106 funds) – £ 53,025.23 (on 03/10/2023 statement) – income £9.80

**Unity current account:**

Balance - £55,032.05 from statement dated 31/12/2022 – income zero

**105. ITEMS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

- a) Cutting hedges especially on the path from the village to Chalky Road. Glenn Broad quoted the council to cut this hedge; does the council wish to have the work done ?
- b) Any news on the phone mast on the roundabout near Granta Park
- c) Electric car charging points - the MP says there is money available should the village install one/some.
- d) We need to do a series of short "did you know" for that parish magazine on what the precept covers. I am sure residents don't know we pay for street lights, which we didn't before, and it would be worth pointing out that GT Abington is less than little Abington.
- e) Update/additional work required on new website.
- f) A parishioner had expressed concern that the parking on the double yellow lines in the High Street near the pub was becoming very dangerous. Parking on the bend means that cars have to drive on the other side of the road into the oncoming traffic which could cause an accident.

**106. OUTSTANDING MATTERS CONCERNING THE OPEN SPACES AT LARKFIELD, LINTON ROAD**

- a) The Clerk has reconfirmed the items the council requires action on to Hill, and replied to told Hill explaining that the council wanted the external tap disconnected and has clarified details of the light it requested be removed at what was the show house.
- b) Outstanding matters concerning this development are: replacement of the dead trees at Larkfield, a RoSPA report for the play area, for the grass to be maintain until the land is transferred, request for the agreed fruit trees to be planted and for more information about the water pipe that remains on site and the removal of the light at the entrance to the development.

**107. ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

- a) Clerk to transfer agendas, minutes and financial year end documents in a pdf form to a memory stick from 2018 onwards . These records will then be added to the new website.
- b) Two new people are living in a tent on the old railway line. The Clerk emailed Cheffins but has received no reply.
- c) Installing a memorial bench on Linton Road opposite the junction of Meadow Walk on Linton Road. Can councillors decide which bench the Clerk should buy from circulated

options. Councillors agreed to make a decision once the funds had been received from Gary's sister, so that they knew the budget.

d) Creating a disabled parking bay on the High Street outside the Institute. 'Blue badge holders only' sign need to a Traffic Regulation Order, which takes 21 days. This period has expired and the Clerk had asked when the bay will be created.

e) Local Highway Initiative scheme – Tony Orgeean had submitted the a LHI bid application for a MVAS mobile activated sign with a contribution from LA.

f) The Clerk emailed Abington shop to ask if they had applied for a licence for the food van and they said that they were going to apply for one.

g) The Chairman emailed LAPC about getting Sluice Wood made a community asset and was advised that it had tried to get greater protection for this area but had not been successful.

h) The Clerk still needs to arrange a working meeting for councillors to understand how to upload and access documents on the new website. Councillors agreed that this could take place on Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January, although several people were unable to attend.

i) The TPO applied for the horse chestnut tree at 127 High Street should be withdrawn and the Clerk should write to the landowner to ask them to attend a meeting to discuss the possibility of placing a TPO on the tree. Emma Pery had withdrawn the application for a TPO for the horse chestnut tree and at the meeting it was agreed that the Clerk no longer needed to write to the owner of the tree. The council had established all trees in Great Abington which have TPOs.

#### **108. REPORT FROM THE LIAISON MEETING**

a) Items the council needs to consider or make decisions about that were discussed at this meeting.

Councillors agreed the litter pick would be on 15<sup>th</sup> April, with this councillor organizing the event. LAPC have litter pickers and gloves. **Action: Clerk** to apply for 20 litter pickers, bin bags, ask about hoops for bin bags and to arrange for the collection of the rubbish collected. Ask Andy Merryweather to take photographs for the newsletter.

The LAPC clerk would be working 3 hours/month for ARGC , which GPAC would contribute to the cost of.

#### **109. CORRESPONDENCE**

a) Does the council wish to apply for 6 free trees or fewer larger trees from SCDC for the ARGC & Magna Close green? **Action: Clerk** to apply for the trees asap as the deadline had passed.

b) The Pension Regulator – Clerk needs to make a re-declaration of compliance by July 2023.

#### **110. NEXT MEETING'S AGENDA on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2023 - Holiday dates**

**Meeting closed at 9.10pm**

## Great Abington Parish Council

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### **Planning applications/appeals considered by the Parish Council and decisions made by the District Council**

#### **Parish Council decisions:**

No new application considered since the November council meeting

#### **District Council decisions**

22/04634/ADV- The Portway, Granta Park - Retention of a directional sign and fascia sign (both non-illuminated)

22/12/2022 – SCDC approved the application.

22/04299/CL2PD – 6 Magna Close - Certificate of lawfulness under S192 for loft conversion with rear facing dormer and front facing rooflight windows

23/11/2022 – SCDC granted certificate

22/01272/FUL- 33 South Road - Demolition of existing haystore and erection of a single detached dwelling including all associated external works and re-instatement of granny annexe to stables/ancillary buildings servicing 33 South Road.

17/11/2022 – SCDC refused permission