

ABBAY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

held at The Church of the Holy Cross
on Thursday 13 February 2025 at 7.30pm

Present – Councillors Blyth (Chair), Evans, Pant, Vine and Parish Clerk

Apologies – Councillor Ryan (Vice Chair)

Item		Action
25/25	Apologies Apologies were received from Cllr Ryan.	
26/25	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were declared.	
	Public Forum A resident attended the Public Forum to discuss plans to create more community groups, including a Lego club, and a community event to bring them together. The Parish Council would support and provide advice as and when required.	
27/25	Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9 January 2025 The minutes were resolved to be approved.	
28/25	Discuss matters arising not already on the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 19/25 – the Clerk updated that the burnt-out caravan on Haldene had been reported to MKCC and they were managing its removal. - 21/25 – a meeting date with Chris Curtis MP had not been confirmed and would be followed up. 	
Parish Council Matters		
29/25	Planning Annual Parish Meeting The Clerk updated on feedback from groups wishing to be part of the Annual Parish Meeting. It would be held in the afternoon on 10 May. By a majority the Parish Council agreed a budget of £100 for cream teas and refreshments for the event. Leaflets would be distributed to residents advertising the event.	
30/25	Determining areas of individual Councillor responsibility	



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	The Parish Council considered the division of responsibilities between Councillors.	
31/25	<p>Councillor Training</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed preferred dates to have a group training session.</p> <p>Touching on topics relating to a Parish Council communication strategy and Vision would be welcomed as part of the training.</p>	
Consultations		
32/25	<p>Consider MKCC's Community Governance Review and determine Parish Council response</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed its proposed response to the survey, in which it agreed to request the Parish was re-named to Two Mile Ash Parish Council given that 'Abbey Hill' was not recognised by residents and doing so would improve the Parish Council's profile.</p> <p>It would also request an increase in the number of Councillors to 7 to enable a fairer division of responsibilities and representation across the community. The Clerk would submit the Parish Council's response.</p>	Clerk
Community Projects		
33/25	<p>Update on Coffee Mornings</p> <p>Cllr Vine reported positively on the latest sessions.</p>	
34/25	<p>Update on MKPA sessions in 2025</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the Easter and summer sessions would be booked shortly and advertised accordingly.</p>	
35/25	<p>Consider Grant Funding Application request</p> <p>The Parish Council approved the grant request from the Two Mile Ash Environmental Group in the amount of £124.95 for the purposes of purchasing waders and landing nets to clear out Stone Hill Pond.</p>	



Finance		
36/25	<p>Consider reports on the financial position for the month ending 31 January 2025, retrospectively approve payments made in January and approve upcoming payments in February</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the financial position for the month ending 31 January 2025 and resolved to retrospectively approve £450 to MK Play Association. It also approved the upcoming payments to Cllr Anne Vine for Coffee Morning Expenses of £22.49 and £39.92, Watling Valley Partnership of £2,160, Watling Valley Partnership of £360, Watling Valley Partnership of £240, Marcus Young Environmental of £5,559.43 and BMKALC of £40. The Parish Council also resolved to approved salary and salary-related payments to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Parish Council noted transfers between bank accounts and that the end of the quarter reconciliation had been reviewed by Cllr Blyth with no discrepancies.</p>	
37/25	<p>Approve application for a Lloyds Banking Charge Card at a cost of £32 per year</p> <p>The Parish Council resolved to agree the Clerk apply for a Lloyds Banking Charge Card with an annual cost of £32 per year. It would be administratively easier to manage than using a separate provider.</p> <p>It would be applied for on the same terms as agreed previously for a Barclaycard i.e. a credit limit of £2,000.</p>	Clerk
38/25	<p>Approve Clerk Training at the cost of £95</p> <p>The Parish Council approved a three-part training course carried out by BMKALC for the Clerk at a cost of £95.</p>	
Planning		
39/25	<p>Note status of previous Planning Applications considered by the Parish Council:</p> <p>The Parish Council noted the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PLN/2024/2489 - Verge adjacent to the Church Of The Latterday Saints, The High Street, Two Mile Ash – approved - PLN/2024/2334 - 20 Shorham Rise, Two Mile Ash – under consultation - PLN/2024/2753 – 33 Milesmere, Two Mile Ash – under consultation - PLN/2024/2556 – DF Crash Repairs, Kiln Farm – refused 	



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40/25	<p>Consider active Planning Applications No applications had been received.</p>	
Communications		
41/25	<p>Update on a Hiring Agreement with Watling Valley Partnership Creation of the new Hiring Agreement was still in the hands of Watling Valley Partnership and an update was hoped for shortly.</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed its safeguarding protocols in respect of the Coffee Mornings.</p>	
42/25	<p>Update on Website and Social Media No comments to note at this time.</p>	
Environment		
43/25	<p>Consider approach to Way Signs project The Parish Council agreed that residents would be surveyed as to their views on whether the way signs should be replaced entirely, a proportion replaced or removed including the posts.</p> <p>After having received feedback from residents the Parish Council would endeavour to decide the scope of the project at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
44/25	<p>Update on Allotments The Clerk reported plans were underway to trim the allotment perimeter before nesting season and permission had been sought from most neighbouring residents.</p> <p>The Clerk noted the main gate to the allotments was now in a state of disrepair and quotations had been sought to replace like-for-like. The Parish Council discussed the alternative of a metal gate and it would be considered further at the next meeting.</p>	
45/25	<p>Update on MKCC Landscaping No material matters were noted at this time.</p>	
46/24	<p>Update on process to change parcels of land to 'Village Green' designation The Clerk reported MKCC had kicked off the process to designate the area off Stone Hill as a 'Village Green'. This was expected to be a long process and at a later stage evidence would be gathered from residents to show use of the land as an area of recreation.</p>	



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	Cllr Evans requested that the parcel of land was widened to encompass an adjoining parcel of land. The Clerk would re-visit the boundaries and liaise with MKCC.	Clerk
47/25	Consider Fault Log Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - It was requested that the damage created by MKCC's contractors to the main park should be added to the Fault Log for the Parish Council to monitor. - It was also reported that although some road-sweeping had taken place on the main roads through the estate, the side-roads were not being swept in the same way and the Clerk would investigate with MKCC. 	Clerk Clerk
Meetings		
48/25	Clerk and Councillors Reports on meetings attended No meetings were noted.	
49/25	Receive and consider items for the next agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Litter picking - Football posts 	
50/25	Date of next meeting Thursday 13 March 2025 at 7.30pm	
51/25	Confidential discussion, if required No confidential items were required to be discussed.	
Meeting ended at 21.37		

Signed: _____

Chair

Date: _____

Chairs Initials: