

ABBAY HILL PARISH COUNCIL



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present – Councillors Blyth (Chair), Evans (left at 65/25), Pant, Ryan, Vine and Parish Clerk

Apologies – none

Item		Action
52/25	Apologies No apologies were received.	
53/25	Declarations of Interest No declarations of interest were declared.	
	Public Forum A representative of the Allotments Association was present for the meeting but raised no issues to bring to the attention of the Parish Council.	
54/25	Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 13 February 2025 The minutes were resolved to be approved.	
55/25	Discuss matters arising not already on the Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 32/25 – the Clerk reported that submissions had been made on behalf of the Parish Council in response to MKCC’s Community Governance Review where an increase to 7 Parish Councillors had been requested and a change of name to “Two Mile Ash Community Council”. 	
Parish Council Matters		
56/25	Discuss planning of Annual Parish Meeting and form a working party to manage delivery of the event The Clerk reported that several different groups had indicated they would like to be part of the event of 10 May. The School and TVP were yet to be contacted. The working group would comprise of Cllrs Vine and Ryan and the Clerk. Cllr Evans offered his help time permitting. It was agreed by the Parish Council that the leaflet distribution to Two Mile Ash would be on A4, with both sides utilised for the summer play events and coffee mornings.	



Community Projects		
57/25	<p>Update on Coffee Mornings Cllr Vine reported positively on the recent Coffee Mornings held, where at least 20 individuals were visiting each session.</p>	
58/25	<p>Update on MKPA sessions in 2025 Cllr Vine reported that 40 children attended the February half-term session and this was the right number for the space. MKPA May half-term and summer events had been booked, as well as The Parks Trust events.</p>	
59/25	<p>Consider Grant Funding Application request Citizens Advice Milton Keynes had applied for a grant of £500 towards setting up their new premises in the Parish. By a majority, the Parish Council approved a grant of £2,500.</p>	
Finance		
60/25	<p>Consider reports on the financial position for the month ending 28 February 2025, retrospectively approve payments made in February and March thus far and approve upcoming payments in March The Parish Council noted the financial position for the month ending 28 February 2025 and resolved to retrospectively approve £47 to the ICO and £671.71 to Dell. The Parish Council also resolved to approved salary and salary-related payments to the Clerk.</p> <p>The Parish Council approved upcoming payments to Rose Tree Surgeons of £3,840 inc VAT, MKPA of £495, BMKALC of £40, £40 and £95, Cllr Vine for Coffee Morning Expenses of £67.95 and Coffee Mornings Resources of £113.09, Watling Valley Partnership of £2,160, Watling Valley Partnership of £360 and £240 and Clerk Expenses of £80.61.</p> <p>The Parish Council noted transfers between bank accounts, the receipt of a Ward Grant of £250 towards a football post and VAT return of £6,118.09. The Parish Council noted that the Lloyds Charge Card was now operational.</p>	
61/25	<p>Agree the appointment of Helen Mortimer as Internal Auditor for 2024/5 at a cost of £100 The Parish Council agreed to appoint Helen Mortimer as the Internal Auditor for 2024/5 at the cost of £100.</p>	
Planning		



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62/25	<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/2024/2334 - 20 Shorham Rise, Two Mile Ash – under consultation - PLN/2024/2753 – 33 Milesmere, Two Mile Ash – approved 	
63/25	<p>Consider active Planning Applications</p> <p>No applications had been received.</p>	
Communications		
64/25	<p>Update on a Hiring Agreement with Watling Valley Partnership</p> <p>The Clerk noted no response had been received from Watling Valley Partnership on the Hiring Agreement and related issues.</p>	
65/25	<p>Update on Website and Social Media and determine Officer and Councillor access to the Parish Council Facebook account</p> <p>Cllr Ryan reported that there had been quite a lot of activity on social media in the last month, in particular on topics relating to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dumping of rubbish on Norbrek including furniture. The Clerk asked that Cllrs collect photos for the worst areas in to move this forward. - Work taken place above Watling Street underpass by The Parks Trust - Removal of shrubs in Great Holm which had now been seeded – the Clerk would enquire as to how this had been achieved with MKCC and the costs. <p>Further it was agreed the Clerk should have access to the Parish Council Facebook account.</p> <p>Cllr Evans left the meeting at this item.</p>	Clerk
Environment and Assets		
66/25	<p>Consider results from Way Signs survey and determine scope of project</p> <p>The Parish Council had conducted a survey of residents on Facebook and the results had shown that in general residents wished for the signs to be replaced, particularly those in Two Mile Ash. It was therefore provisionally agreed that, subject to pricing, the Parish Council would focus on replacing the signs in Two Mile Ash initially,</p>	



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	<p>with the intent to broaden out to Kiln Farm and Wymbush in the future.</p> <p>In order to get a sense of costings initially all the existing signage would need to be photographed and mapped out. Cllr Vine would follow up with a volunteer and the Clerk would ask the Scouts if they would like to be involved in the project.</p>	Cllr Vine and Clerk
67/25	<p>Update on Allotments including agreement in respect of the replacement of the wooden allotment gate at a cost of £900 including VAT</p> <p>The Clerk reported that the hedge and tree trimming around some of the perimeter of the allotments had taken place and the Allotments Association had expressed how grateful they were for the work being carried out.</p> <p>The Parish Council agreed the cost of £900 inclusive of VAT for the removal of existing and installation of a new wooden allotments gate for the main entrance. Signage would await the outcome of MKCC's Community Governance Review.</p>	
68/25	<p>Consider locations for two new Parish Council noticeboards</p> <p>The Parish Council discussed potential locations for new noticeboards but considered that this project would resume once the outcome of MKCC's Community Governance Review was known.</p>	
69/24	<p>Update on MKCC Landscaping</p> <p>The Clerk updated on points from MKCC Landscaping. A grass cutting schedule for the Parish would be chased.</p> <p>It was noted that MKCC Landscaping had offered to walk about problem areas in the estate and it was agreed that residents should be asked where the problem areas were so they could be shared with MKCC for a comprehensive walk around.</p>	Clerk Clerk
70/24	<p>Discuss litter-picking initiative and the Great British Spring Clean (21 March to 6 April)</p> <p>It was acknowledged that the timescales were tight for the Great British Spring Clean but the Scouts would be sent the materials received to see if they could be utilised.</p>	Clerk
71/25	<p>Consider Fault Log Update</p> <p>The Clerk provided updates on a number of items on the Fault Log.</p>	

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Meetings		
72/25	<p>Clerk and Councillors Reports on meetings and training attended</p> <p>The Clerk reported on a meeting about a potential community bus service arranged by a consortium of Parish and Town Councils. The Parish Council wished to be part of this, with the expectation that a survey may be possible on the day of the Annual Parish Meeting to get a view from residents on the draft map.</p> <p>Cllr Vine reported attendance at a number of training courses and the MKALC AGM on 26 February.</p>	
73/25	<p>Receive and consider items for the next agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parish Council Instagram - Litter Champions - Website hosting - Business Plan and Communications Plan - 20mph on High Street and Clay Hill 	
74/25	<p>Date of next meeting</p> <p>Thursday 10 April 2025 at 7.30pm</p>	
75/25	<p>Confidential discussion, if required</p> <p>No confidential items were required to be discussed.</p>	
Meeting ended at 21.43		

Signed: _____

Chair

Date: _____

Chairs Initials: