



Ashley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashley Parish Council held on Monday 6th March 2023 at the Pavilion

Present:	Cllr Simon Hull (Vice Chairman)	Cllr Twink MacLachlan
	Cllr Keith Allen	Cllr Georgia Winson-Pearce
	Cllr Sarah Summers	Kevin Dadds (Clerk)

01. PUBLIC MEETING

No members of the public were present.

D/C Cllr Sharp was unable to attend but provided an update the read out by the Clerk on his behalf and is summarised as follows;

Congestion Charging & Newmarket Road Access – Awaiting result of GCP consultation on implementing £5 congestion charge, due middle of year. A further consultation in respect of Newmarket Road access, to include widening bus lanes and footpaths, providing more bus lanes and relocation of Newmarket Road Park and Ride, has just closed.

Mill road Bridge – The Highways and Transport committee voted to close Mill Road to all traffic except busses, taxis and blue badge holders.

Swaffham Heath Road/A1303 Crossroads – Work is scheduled to start on a staggered crossroads at this accident blackspot.

East Cambs District Council – Zero increase budget passed for 10th year running, without a reduction in services.

The Public Meeting Closed at 7.10 pm

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Howell offered her apologies.

03. TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th FEBRUARY 2023

The Minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr MacLachlan and seconded by Cllr Winson-Pearce and signed by the Vice Chairman in absence of Chairman.

04. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Item 04 – Appearance of site at 28 High Street – Clerk advised that he had written to PR Build Ltd highlighting the boundaries on the plan and suggesting the PC commission the maintenance of the surface and trimming of hedgerow on basis that they agree to reimburse the cost. Cllr Summers advised that HGV's were reversing into the site and damaging the bank on the opposite side of the road. As well as the mess from the damaged bank, she is concerned

about the integrity of the wall. She has spoken to the site manager and reminded him that the vehicles should be entering in a forward motion and so avoid hitting the bank, and he has agreed to ensure this is the case.

Item 04 – Lime Trees in Churchyard – Clerk advised that the work to pollard the trees is scheduled for this week.

Item 10 – 20 mph Scheme – Clerk advised that the closing date for applications is 30th April and he would prepare an application for discussion at April's PC meeting. He would seek guidance from D/C Cllr Sharp as he has Highway responsibilities at the County Council.

Item 10 – Privately Funded Highway Improvement Scheme – Clerk advised that he has been contacted by the project manager dealing with the proposed amendments to the Newmarket Road layout, and the initial report should be ready by 7th April.

05. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

06. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) APP/V0510/W/22/3301476 Proposed double garage – Plot 1 Land south of 1a Gazeley Road. **ALLOWED**
- b) Ref 19/01758/DISC Discharge of condition 10 (schedule of soft landscaping) site east of 80 Mill Road, Ashley – for information only.

07. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To note following receipts in February/March

	£
None	

b) To authorise the following payments

	£
East Anglian Air Ambulance – S137 Donation	75.00
MAGPAS Air Ambulance – S137 Donation	75.00
Philip Tweedie (About Ashley) S137 Donation	75.00
Gallagher Insurance – Annual Insurance Renewal	871.02
TEEC Ltd – Annual website hosting renewal	216.00

08. PAVILION TRUST

Cllr Howell was unable to attend the meeting but advised the Clerk that work continues with assessing the requirements of the Pavilion for the future, and so enable a specific project to be presented to the landlords.

09. WEBSITE

Cllr Allen confirmed that the website is up to date.

10. SANCTUARY HOUSING LIASON

Cllr Howell asked for this to be included on the Agenda and it was agreed to defer until April's meeting when she is expected to attend.

11. AED TRAINING (DEFIBRILLATOR)

The defibrillator was installed 4 years ago and a training session was given by the British Heart Foundation at the time. Cllr's discussed whether a further session should be arranged, but as the attendance was very low on the last occasion (other than Cllrs), it was agreed not to proceed. Clerk advised that the cost for a further session would be £175. Clerk agreed to research improved signage as the equipment is outside the Community Rooms in Silverley Way and not immediately obvious from other parts of the village. **Action - Clerk**

12. DISTRICT AND PARISH ELECTIONS 4th MAY

Clerk advised that voter identification would be required at the forthcoming elections. This may well cause difficulties, particularly for the elderly who may not have photo identification such as passport or driving licence. People can apply for a free Voter Identification Certificate by the deadline 25th April. Additionally, a postal vote can be requested.

Clerk reminded Cllrs that if they wish to be re-elected, they need to complete the Nomination Papers that have been sent to them. If complete papers are brought to the April meeting, Clerk agreed to deliver them to ECDC.

13. ASSET SURVEY

Cllr Hull summarised the Asset Survey that he carried out on behalf of the Parish Council.

Closed Churchyard

- a) Ongoing removal of Ivy from flint wall.
- b) Gravel path is thin and will need topping up, although this is to be deferred until after work is completed on the Church.
- c) Avenue of Limes are due to be Pollarded imminently.

Pond

- a) Fence posts and rails stained/painted last year.
- b) Annual cut of plant growth in Autumn.
- c) Bus shelter needs further re-decoration.
- d) New notice board required.
- e) Finger post needs white letters repainting.
- f) Phone box needs cleaning.

Car Park

- a) Broken rail has been repaired.
- b) Shingle needs spreading and possible top up.

Play Area

- a) Further Play area posts and gravel boards rotting and need replacing.
- b) Bark surface needs topping up.
- c) Goal post needs moving and grass seeded.
- d) Await ROSPA report (due April) to ascertain condition of Play Equipment.

Recreation Ground

- a) 3 trees require minor attention.

Cllr Hull and Clerk will agree a schedule of works for agreement by PC. **Action Cllr Hull/Clerk**

The full survey can be viewed online at <https://www.ashley-pc.gov.uk/>

14. CORONATION PARTY

Cllrs discussed whether the PC should organise a party for coronation of King Charles 111. It was agreed that as an event was being held in nearby Cheveley and with the majority of the village children going to school there, a separate party in Ashley would be probably be lightly attended. It was agreed not to organise a separate event.

15. BROKEN DRAINAGE PIPE AT POND

Cllr MacLachlan advised that a pipe at the pond appears to be broken. Cllrs discussed and agreed that this was probably an overflow pipe and was visible as a result of low water levels rather than broken. Cllr Hull agreed to look at the pipe and Clerk agreed to look at old paperwork to try and establish the purpose of the pipe. **Action Cllr Hull/Clerk**

16. ANNUAL INSURANCE POLICY

Clerk gave details of the policy that is due for renewal 2nd April. Cllr Hull had previously looked at the schedule and agreed that the amounts insured were sufficient. An option to fix the price for 3 years (unless material amendments to policy) at £871.02 was agreed by Cllrs. Proposed by Cllr Hull and seconded by Cllr MacLachlan.

17. URGENT MATTERS/ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

None

18. CORRESPONDENCE

None

19. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on **TUESDAY** 11th April at the Pavilion as 10th April is Easter Monday.

The meeting closed at 8.45 pm

KEVIN DADDS