



# Ashley Parish Council

## Minutes of the Meeting of Ashley Parish Council held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2022 at the Pavilion

Present: Cllr Sarah Howell (Chairman) Cllr Simon Hull  
Cllr Twink MacLachlan Cllr Keith Allen  
Cllr Georgia Winson-Pearce Cllr Sarah Summers

### 01. PUBLIC MEETING

One member of the public attended and suggested that the proposal to spend £12,000 on a new Rotary cone spinner for the Play area was a waste of money. He felt that the money would be better spent on paths and roads and in particular pot holes.

Cllr Howell replied agreeing that the condition of the roads was of concern, and that the PC regularly reports issues, but that they were the responsibility of the County Council Highways not the Parish. She further added that there is a continuing need to repair and replace equipment in the Play area and that this purchase replaces an item condemned by the last ROSPA report. The cost of the equipment is funded entirely by a Community Infrastructure Levy in respect of new housing developments in the village, and a grant from East Cambs. District Council. No funds were utilised from the Parish Council precept.

The resident advised that the road from Upend to Silverley is badly degraded at the edge between the stud entrance and the triangle junction.

Cllr Howell replied that we were aware of the issue, but something Highways needs to deal with. District/County Councillor Sharp added that this is a district wide issue with ever wider vehicles, especially agricultural, running over verges when passing.

The resident had concerns that the proposed new plaque to commemorate the Queen's platinum jubilee would be stolen.

Cllr Howell replied that the plaque will be cemented in to prevent its removal.

The resident advised that leaves in the autumn are not being cleared up, as the road sweeper did not go into Silhalls Close on the last occasion. He suggested that if notice was given, parked vehicles could be removed.

Cllr Howell advised that no notice is given, although D Cllr Sharp agreed to see if there was an available schedule.

Cllr Howell thanked the resident and encouraged him to attend in the future and explained that the Parish Council is very keen to get feedback from residents.

D Cllr Sharp advised on the following;

- a) Constitutional changes at ECDC risk reducing or stifling debating on big issues.
- b) His motion to restrict congestion charging in Cambridge was voted down.
- c) Discussions continue in respect of Traffic issues, the Greater Cambridge Partnership and parking charges. He advised that ECDC has little voice on these issues.
- d) A1303 – work to commence shortly on Swaffham Heath crossroads. More research required on newly improved section near Wilbraham junction following a fatality.

- e) Bin collection chaos noted following re-scheduling of dates around Bank Holiday. Cllr Howell added that re-scheduling should be during a period of normal collection dates.

The Public Meeting closed at 7.30 pm

## 02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Clerk made his apologies due to Covid infection. Cllr Winson-Pearce had to leave the meeting at 7.40pm.

## 03. TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14th MARCH 2022

The Minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr MacLachlan and seconded by Cllr Allen and signed by the Chairman

## 04. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Item 04 – ROSPA Report – Clerk previously advised Cllr's that the new Play equipment should be installed within the next month

Item 04 – Highway Visit – Highways have been advised of the parking issues and whether funding is available for a solution. Response awaited.

Item 04 – Footpaths (Pavements) – Clerk advised that he had sent further letters in respect of encroachment, and awaited any responses. Cllr Winson-Pearce mentioned that a hedge had collapsed on the corner of Mill Road and Church Street, Clerk to investigate. **Action – Clerk**

Item 04 – Asset Survey – The meeting with the Church to discuss maintenance issues has been deferred and will be scheduled at a later date.

Item 04 – Ash Trees in the Closed Churchyard – The work to reduce the Ash Trees is scheduled to commence on 12<sup>th</sup> April. Cllr Hull agreed to attend.

Item 04 – Dog Fouling on Ashley Hill Footpath – ECDC have agreed to empty the bin and Clerk has now place an order.

Item 10 – Village Jubilee Celebrations – Cllr Allen has prepared posters that can be displayed. Cllr Summers asked whether sufficient tables are available and it was agreed to see what has happened to the contents of Peter Bridge's barn after sale of the house. Cllr Howell has been asked to invite Olive Oakervee to unveil the plaque adjacent to the tree recently planted for the Queen's Green Canopy Project.

Item 12 - Donations – Clerk previously advised Cllr's that the PC is not able to donate to a Ukrainian charity as it is not for the direct benefit of the village.

Item 14 - Standing Orders – Cllr Howell signed the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations agreed at March PC meeting.

## 05. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

## 06 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Ref 19/00179/DISB Discharge condition 10 (Archaeology) and 23 (Energy & sustainability strategy) – 16 properties site North of 39 Church Street (for information only)
- b) 22/00109/FUL Proposed double garage with facing brick walls and slated roof to match new villa (resubmission of 21/00898/FUL) Location: Plot 1 Land South of 1A Gazeley Road, Ashley. **REFUSED**

## 07. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To note following receipts in March/April

	£
None	

b) To authorise the following payments

	£
S137 Donation – East Anglian Air Ambulance	50.00
S137 Donation – MAGPAS Air Ambulance	50.00
S137 Donation – About Ashley	50.00
McGregor Service – Grass cutting March, spray and level shingle in car park	318.00
Kevin Dadds – Clerks salary Jan – March 2022	1,233.84
HMRC – PAYE on Clerks salary Jan March 2022	318.00
Kevin Dadds – Clerks expenses Jan – March 2022 Inc. consumables	122.87

## 08. PAVILION TRUST

Cllr Howell advised that Fairhaven Estates had refused to sell the Playing Field. David Burr has been instructed to prepare a plan to show outline of land desired for rebuild of hall with surrounding land, for a reduced purchase proposal. The Crown Public House is not thought suitable for APT use.

## 09. WEBSITE

Cllr Allen advised that it was “ticking along” and would welcome further content.

## 10. TREE AT RECREATION GROUND

Quotation received from Suffolk Tree Surgery to reduce the tree on the Recreation Ground overhanging a resident’s property for £180. Cllr Hull will inspect prior to the works to ensure the reduction is appropriate and the minimal necessary. **Action - Cllr Hull**

## 11. OLD DOCUMENTS RETRIEVED FROM PETER BRIDGE’S HOUSE

It was agreed that Cllr Howell will bring the documents to the June PC meeting for Cllr’s to inspect and decide what needs to be retained.

## 12. PROPOSED TEMPORARY ROAD CLOSURE OF HIGH STREET

The road will be closed between 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> of May to allow for drainage connection at no. 28. Advance warning signs will be displayed and a temporary diversion will operate.

## 13. URGENT MATTERS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a) Sue Prigg is unable to carry out the Internal Audit work this year due to ill health and Richard Brooke has agreed to undertake the role. His fee will be charged on an hourly basis and capped at a maximum of £50. His appointment was unanimously agreed by all Cllr’s present.
- b) Cllr Summers advised that the seat of the zip-wire has again been chewed by a dog and Clerk will be asked to investigate and replace if required. **Action – Clerk**

#### **14. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) ECDC Ukrainian Refugee Community info/Neighbourhood Policing questionnaire – No APC response required.
- b) Newmarket Market Place – Letter from Stetchworth PC – No APC response required.
- c) Farming and Wildlife Advisory Group – Funded pond scheme. All 3 ponds shown on OS map are on Fairhaven Land. PC to advise one resident who will be constructing a new pond as part of drainage scheme.

#### **15. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May at the Pavilion and will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting at 7pm.

The meeting closed at 8.49 pm

**KEVIN DADDS**