



Ashley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashley Parish Council held on Monday 10th January 2022 at the Pavilion

Present: Cllr Sarah Howell (Chairman) Cllr Simon Hull
Cllr Twink MacLachlan Cllr Georgia Winson-Pearce
Kevin Dadds (Clerk)

01. PUBLIC MEETING

Georgia Winson-Pearce attended the meeting having previously indicated a willingness to serve as Parish Councillor. An application to fill Casual Vacancy by Co-option was considered by the Parish Council. Cllr Howell proposed acceptance of this application and this was confirmed by all remaining Cllr's. The remaining formalities were completed and Georgia Winson-Pearce was invited to join the Cllr's for the Parish Council meeting that followed the Public Meeting. **Action – Clerk to forward paperwork to ECDC**

One further member of the public attended the meeting and expressed a willingness to serve as a Parish Councillor and will attend February's PC meeting to make an application.

The Public Meeting Closed at 7.15

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Allen and D Cllr Sharp

03. TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15th December 2021

Cllr Hull advised that the CIL monies received and referenced in Agenda Item 7a relate to both 28 High Street and 1a Gazeley Road. Clerk agreed to amend the Minutes and subject to this, the Minutes were approved. Proposed by Cllr Hull and seconded by Cllr MacLachlan

04. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

Item 04 – ROSPA Report – Clerk advised that he had now been in contact with 3 companies in respect of supplying and installing new/replacement play equipment. Online Playgrounds quoted £5,600 + VAT to supply a 2.4m "Rotating Climber" (wizards hat) with a further £1,460 installation costs and £2,390 to supply and fit a PU Polymer surface within the existing bark. Site and preliminaries and a replacement basketball backboard and net bring the total to £10,654 + VAT. Kopman quoted £9,324 for a similar "Cone Twister" alone, and installation costs and a surface would increase significantly. Playsource quoted £7,242 for a smaller and similar 1.8m "Spinning Net" including installation, but without a new surface. Clerk has requested a revised quote for a larger 2.4m version, but not received yet. Clerk advised that Online Playgrounds are a part of Fenland Leisure with whom the PC has dealt with for many years, and had been most helpful with advice and quotations. Cllr's discussed and agreed that the Online Playgrounds quote represented both good value, and with the inclusion of a new surface, the safest option for the children that use it. CIL monies of £8,680.22 can be used towards the cost of £10,654 + VAT with the Clerk submitting a request to ECDC for the remainder under the "Facilities Improvement Grant" scheme. It was agreed to proceed with the Online Playgrounds quote, proposed by Cllr Howell and seconded by Cllr Hull and supported by all remaining Cllr's. **Action - Clerk**

Item 04 – Mobile Vehicle Activated Speed Camera – Cllr Howell advised that she had collected the Camera and would ensure that it is fully charged before installing.

Item 04 – Highway Visit – Clerk advised that he had heard nothing further in respect of the grant application for the proposed speed cushions in the High Street. The panel that decides, meets in February.

Cllr MacLachlan advised that a vehicle had again damaged the grass in “The Green” due to parked cars narrowing the roadway. Cllr Howell has also received a complaint, including photographs of an oil lorry causing the damage. The subject has been discussed on a number of times, and whilst it is HGV’s such as the refuse collection/oil deliveries that cause the damage, their passage is partially blocked by residents and others parking their cars beside the green. The subject was discussed during the visit by Cambs CC Highways and the suggestion was yellow lines. Cllr’s agreed to meet on site and discuss before taking any further action. **Action – Cllr’s to agree a date to meet.**

Item 10 – The Queens Canopy – Cllr Hull advised that he had been in contact with Barcham Trees, and a suitable Copper Beech with delivery, stakes etc. would cost approx. £200. Clerk advised that he had been in contact with the water board and had sent photos of the site and was waiting for a reply as to whether there were nearby water/sewage pipes that may be affected. Cllr Hull agreed to put a reserve on the tree pending a reply from the water board and formal approval at February’s PC meeting. **Action Cllr Hull**

Item 13 – Community Bus – Cllr Howell agreed to advertise the next date it visits Ashley (25th January) on the village Facebook page.

Item 13 – Pond Weeds – Cllr’s Howell and Hull advised that they had cut down the bullrushes and other reeds at the pond. Clerk advised that he had taken approx. half of the cut reeds to the recycling centre and would take the remainder over the next couple of weeks. **Action – Clerk**

05. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Hull declared an interest in item 06a.

06 PLANNING MATTERS

- a) 21/01665/TRE White Willow – 1st Phase: Crown thin to reduce weight of limbs on pollarded trunk 30%. 2nd Phase: Felling as trunks deteriorate further: half already dead. 3rd Phase: Replant with stock grown from cutting of tree. With ongoing consent for these phases until the completion of phase 3. Highbanks 32 High Street, Ashley. Cllr’s discussed and have no objections.
- b) Clerk advised that he had been in contact with the Planning Enforcement Officer concerning a possible breach of Planning regulations. They advised that they were aware of the situation and were in discussion with the property owner concerning a retrospective Planning Application.

07. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To note following receipts in December/January

	£
HMRC VAT Rebate	1,075.10

b) To authorise the following payments

	£
Kevin Dadds – Clerks salary October- December	1,034.45
HMRC – PAYE on Clerks salary October - December	258.40
Kevin Dadds – Clerks Expenses October – December, including work from home allowance, Zoom subscription (October) postage stamps and printer ink.	116.81

08. PAVILION TRUST

Cllr Howell advised that there was no meeting in December and that there had been no news re discussions about the Recreation Ground

09. FOOTPATHS

Cllr Hull advised that there appears to be no organised management of pavements by Cambs CC Highways. Grass has encroached onto pavements and leaf and other debris is often not cleared by residents of adjacent properties. Cllr Hull and Clerk agreed to walk the village together and list areas that need attention. This will allow a report to Highways relating to damaged pavements and possible letters to residents in respect or encroachment of vegetation. **Action Cllr Hull/Clerk**

10. STREET LIGHTING MILL ROAD

Cllr Howell advised that there had been Facebook posts from residents in respect of street lights in Mill Road that are not working. Cambs CC have since agreed to visit and replace/repair the lights.

11. WEBSITE

Cllr Allen was unable to attend the meeting and will update at a later meeting.

12. URGENT MATTERS / ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a) Village Jubilee celebrations – Cllrs to discuss at February meeting
- b) “Welcome to Ashley” Leaflet – Cllrs to discuss at February meeting
- c) Fly Tipping in Mill Road – Clerk to report to ECDC

13. CORRESPONDENCE

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 14th February at the Pavilion

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

KEVIN DADDS