



Ashley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashley Parish Council held on Monday 14th March 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
Kevin Dadds (Clerk)

01. PUBLIC MEETING

D Cllr Sharp advised that the District portion of Council Tax had been frozen again for the 9th consecutive year. The Cambs. County Council increase is 4.99% to include 3% adult social care, and the Police and Crime Commissionaire has increased by £10 for Band D properties.

A letter has been sent to the Ukrainian Ambassador to the UK offering support.

There will be a full Cambs. County Council meeting 15th March and the Ukrainian flag will be flown. D Cllr Sharp will propose a motion to oppose a congestion charge in Cambridge.

Highways are looking to bring forward a support budget for Councils to instigate 20 mph speed limits in built up areas.

Cllr Howell asked what information was available to support residents who may wish to provide temporary homes for Ukrainian refugees. D Cllr Sharp agreed to provide the Clerk with briefing papers.

The Public Meeting closed at 7:10 pm

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

03. TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14th February 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 advised that he had not been given a date for installation of the Rotating Cone Spinner, although would expect this to be in approx. 4 weeks' time. The application for a grant under the Facilities Improvement Grant scheme for £1,973.78 had been successful and Cllr Howell signed the acceptance document and Clerk will return to ECDC. **Action - Clerk**

Item 04 – Mobile Vehicle Activated Speed Camera – Cllr Howell advised that camera needs re-charging and she will arrange for this to be completed. **Action – Cllr Howell**

Item 04 – Highway Visit – Cllr Howell advised that she presented to the panel in respect of the grant application for the proposed speed cushions in the High Street and a decision was expected late April. Monitoring of the MVAS Camera showed that 75% of vehicles exceeded the 30 mph limit and 40% were in excess of 36 mph, being the level where Police write to drivers following speed checks.

Item 10 – The Queens Canopy – Cllr Hull advised that a Copper Beech tree had been planted at Silhalls Close. He has not installed the hydration bag at this stage, as it would require removing

some of the lower branches and looking unsightly for the proposed plaque ceremony. He will keep the tree regularly watered.

Item 09 – Footpaths (Pavements) – Clerk advised that he had commenced writing to residents concerning overhanging trees and encroachment of vegetation.

Item 10 – Asset Survey – Clerk advised that he had written to Rev Dr Wormell asking for convenient times to meet Cllr's and discuss ongoing maintenance of the Closed Churchyard.

Item 11 – Ash Trees in the Closed Churchyard – Clerk advised that Planning consent had been approved to reduce the trees, and Acacia Tree Surgery had been requested to carry out the work as previously quoted and approved by the PC.

Item 17 – Dog Fouling on Ashley Hill Footpath – Clerk presented quotes for a green Dog Poo Bin to place adjacent to the footpath entrance where Dalham Road Meets Stores Hill. The 4 quotes ranged from £262.74 to £363.79 with the most expensive having a chute system. Cllr's considered and felt that the most suitable for this particular location was the Glasdon Fido 35 litre bin with below ground fixing post (concrete in) at £286.97. Clerk advised that he had requested confirmation from ECDC that they will empty the bin at this location and subject to their agreement, will order and install the bin. **Action - Clerk**

05. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

06. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Ref 19/00179/DIS Discharge conditions relating to street management plans and bio-diversity plan – 16 properties site North of 39 Church Street (for information only)
- b) Ref 00164/Tree T23/T24 Remove dead wood from ash trees – St Mary's church, Ashley. **APPROVED**

07. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To note following receipts in February/March

	£
None	

b) To authorise the following payments

	£
CAPALC Ltd – Affiliation fee to include Data Protection Officer support	335.05
Ward Signs – Commemorative plaque and ground fixing for Queens Canopy tree planting project	282.00

08. PAVILION TRUST

Cllr Howell advised that Peter Bridge's house had been sold with APT in receipt of the funds. There has been no further contact from the Fairhaven estate in respect of the Recreation Ground.

09. CAPALC RENEWAL

Clerk presented details of the annual renewal of membership to include Data Protection Officer support. It was agreed to renew the affiliation for the coming year. Proposed by Cllr Howell and seconded by Cllr Winston-Pearce.

10. VILLAGE JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Cllr's discussed options for a village event to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. It was felt that a "bring your own" food and drink picnic at the Pond would be the preferred option, and avoid closing any through roads. The event will be held on Saturday 4th June between 12

and 3 pm, and so avoid clashing with an event at Cheveley on 3rd June. Temporary barriers could be placed at the tops of Chapel Row and The Green to prevent traffic entering the Pond area. The PC would source tables, and residents can bring their own chairs or blankets for the grassed area. The Clerk will advise Cambs. CC of the temporary road closures, Cllr Howell will write an article for "About Ashley" and Cllr Allen will design and print posters for the notice boards and shop. **Action Cllr's Howell, Allen and Clerk**

11. CLERKS ANNUAL REVIEW

The Clerk left the room whilst Cllr's discussed his annual review. The 5th anniversary of his appointment was 1st August but a disagreement between the employers and Unions resulted in the 2021 pay award due to be implemented 1st April 2021 only being awarded last week, and a desire to implement both issues simultaneously therefore delayed. The National Award provided an increase from £11.05 per hour to £11.28 per hour to be backdated to 1st April 2021. Cllr's advised that they were fully satisfied with the Clerks Performance and agreed unanimously to increase his remuneration band to SCP 12 and an hourly rate of £11.73 backdated to 1st August 2021. The Clerk thanked Cllr's for their consideration.

12. DONATIONS

Cllr's discussed the level and recipients of donations for the current financial year. It was agreed to match previous year's donations of £50 each to EAAA, MAGPAS and About Ashley. It was further agreed to donate £100 to the Ukrainian cause, although the PC are unable to make such payments to The Disaster Relief Emergency Fund due to the overseas aid element. Clerk will investigate a UK based charity that allocates the funding to the cause within UK. **Action - Clerk**

13. WEBSITE

Cllr Allen advised that the website is up to date and he has recently added the Asset Survey and will post details of the proposed Jubilee street party. **Action - Cllr Allen**

14. STANDING ORDERS

Clerk presented an updated draft of both Standing Orders and Financial regulations having previously circulated to Cllr's. Cllr's discussed and unanimously agreed to adopt. Clerk will present a final copy at the next PC meeting for signature by the Chairman. **Action - Clerk**

15. URGENT MATTERS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

- a) Cllr Howell and Clerk visited Silhalls Close to look at parking issues that result in vehicles damaging the grass verge. Cllr Howell photographed the site and Clerk agreed to contact Highways to see if any options are available, and report back at a later meeting
- b) Cllr Howell and Clerk visited a resident's garden in Silverley Way where a tree on the recreation Ground overhangs. Clerk agreed to ask for an updated quote to reduce the tree.

16. CORRESPONDENCE

None

17. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Monday 11th April at the Pavilion

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm

KEVIN DADDS