



Ashley Parish Council

Minutes of the Meeting of Ashley Parish Council held on Monday 12th June 2023 at the Pavilion

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

01. PUBLIC MEETING

No members of the Public were present.

County/District Cllr Sharp advised that he had ended his stint as Chairman of ECDC and had handed over to Mark Goldsack at the May AGM. He has been appointed as Chairman of the Finance and Asset Committee, Vice Chairman of the Operations and Services Committee and an Observer at Street Scene, the Districts trading Company.

Cllr Sharp advised that 58% of replies about congestion charging in Cambridge were opposed and the GCP will discuss at a meeting on 29th June where it has to be passed by the full board. He has presented a motion to full council about the severity of pot holes, this was accepted as an issue and a report will be made to the Highways and Transport Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.10

02. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

03. TO SIGN & APPROVE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 5th MAY 2023

The Minutes were approved, proposed by Cllr Hull and seconded by Cllr Summers and signed by the Chairman

04. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

04 - Appearance of site at 28 High Street – Clerk advised that he had chased and had not received a reply from PR Build Ltd. He agreed to chase again advising that the footpath was becoming overgrown and not easily passable. **Action – Clerk**

07 - Cllr Responsibilities – Cllr Winson-Pearce presented a list of suggestions for inclusion in a “Welcome Letter” for new residents of the village. The list included, bin calendar, Ashley Stores/The Plough opening times, details of Moulton Post Office, Facebook Page, Bus timetable, Church services, events/clubs at the Pavilion, local footpaths, location of defibrillator, location of post box and collection times, Pavilion booking contacts, Pavilion Trust items, and school contact. Cllrs agree that this information could be available on the Ashley website and thanked her for her efforts. She agreed to continue drafting the letter for PC approval. **Action – Cllr Winson-Pearce**

11 - Cllr Numbers – Cllr Summers advised that she has spoken to a potential candidate who was unfortunately unable to attend today but will do so at the next meeting.

05. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

06. PLANNING MATTERS

- a) Ref 23/00459/TRE(a) 5 x Yew trees - Minor crown spread reduction (up to 2m) and pruned to 2.5m. Pruning to clear the cables by creating a tunnel for the wires to run through. Ongoing consent for the clearance to be maintained on an ongoing basis. Horse Chestnut - Minor crown spread reduction (up to 2.5m), prune to increase the clearance from ground level over the road to 5.5m, pruned to clear the cables. Apple tree - Minor pruning (up to 20% of volume) avoiding heavy pruning. Sycamore - Remove deadwood. Crown spread reduction of 2.5m maximum. Location - Butchers Farm 8 Mill Road Ashley. **APPROVED**
- b) Ref 23/00591/VAR To vary condition 1 (approved drawings) of previously approved 22/00908/ FUL for proposed two storey & single storey extensions along with internal additions and alterations Location: Butchers Farm 8 Mill Road Ashley. Cllrs discussed and are happy to leave the decision to the Planning and Conservation Officers.
- c) 23/00479/FUL Alterations and extension forming a four-bedroom dwelling with one en suite, shower room and a bathroom - Flint Cottage 21 The Green Ashley. Amendment received following concerns from the Conservation Officer as to the scale and design. Cllrs discussed and are happy that Planning Officer will ensure suitability or appearance.

07. FINANCE MATTERS

(a) To note following receipts in May/June

	£
None	

(b) To authorise the following payments

	£
The Community Heartbeat Trust (Solutions) Ltd – Defibrillator Annual Support	162.00
McGregor Services - village grass cutting May	636.00
ECDC – Basic Administration costs for uncontested election	250.00
RBBK – Internal Audit	41.25

8. PAVILION TRUST

Cllr Howell advised the following:

- (a) Following submission of a pre-app to ECDC for the proposed new Pavilion building, they indicated that they are happy in principle. More detailed drawings are now required and these can be used to approach the Parish Council and the landlord. The footprint would be approximately 3 metres wider, and match the existing building line of the changing room extension.
- (b) Legal advice will be required by both the Pavilion and the Parish Council as the latter owns the buildings at present whereas, any new Pavilion will be financed by APT. APT were keen to explore whether the same lawyer could advise both APT and the PC. A meeting will be required between the two parties to discuss the approach. Cllr Howell agreed to arrange a joint meeting possibly 26th June 2023. **Action – Cllr Howell**
- (c) The Chairman of APT has suggested a structure for the website which could be jointly owned between APT and PC. He is keen to have a functional website for online booking.

Cllr Howell has previously spoken to a contact about managing the website and will be investigated further. **Action – Cllr Howell**

9. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Clerk presented the statement to the Parish Council. Acceptance was agreed by all Cllr's present, and signed by Cllr Howell as Chairman and the Clerk. The statement will be displayed on the website and village notice board for 30 working days to include the first 10 working days of July.

10. ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2022/2023

Clerk presented the statements which included the completed Annual Internal Audit Report signed by Richard Brook. Acceptance was agreed by all Cllr's, and was signed by Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer and Cllr Howell as Chairman. The statement will be displayed on the website and village notice board for 30 working days to include the first 10 working days of July.

Cllr Howell confirmed that she had examined the accounting records of the PC, including ensuring that invoices and cheques were correctly authorised and fully included in the accounting records (spreadsheet).

11. ROSPA Report

Cllr Hull reported that he and the Clerk had visited the Play Area to look at the areas highlighted by the recent ROSPA Report. There were no urgent issues, although a number of items required maintenance such as painting, missing bolts and gate hinges. The bark needs topping up as is thin around some of the fall areas, and there are three major items that will require replacement of rotten wooding items at some stage. The bridge is now in generally poor condition with many of the timbers cracked and previous discussions with contractors have suggested that it may be uneconomic to repair. The tower is generally good above ground although all the posts in the ground are rotting. A solution would be to completely dismantle and install non-wooden feet to all of the posts. The overhead climber has similar issues with rotting posts in the ground although a number of these have already been replaced. It was agreed that given the proposed building works at the Pavilion could affect these items of play equipment, no further action should be taken whilst they remain in a safe condition until the extent of the building works are known.

Cllr Hull suggested that given the condition of the bridge and that it is sited well away from any proposed building works, that we could proceed with a replacement item. He had previously suggested that a rotating see-saw would be well suited to the space available and add a different type of equipment to the play area. It was agreed that the Clerk would obtain a quote for a new piece of equipment and also the other maintenance issues highlighted. **Action - Clerk**

12. WEBSITE

See comments under Agenda Item 8.

13. URGENT MATTERS/ITEMS FOR NEXT AGENDA

Cllr Summers raised the subject of picnic benches on the Recreation Ground as there is only one ageing metal table that neither she nor others feel comfortable using. She highlighted the four benches at Cheveley Recreation Ground, that she and others use on a regular basis and suggested that these would be well received at Ashley. They are brown composite and whilst heavy can be moved to allow grass cutting. The Clerk advised that he had seen the benches at Cheveley and they are very smart and whilst there is always a security risk of not having them fixed to the ground, there is a gateway to the grass area preventing easy removal. Cllrs agreed that this would be a good idea and agreed the Clerk should commence the process of obtaining the benches and this would be added to July's Agenda to formally approve. **Action - Clerk**

14. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) Lucy Frazer MP – Better health provision for Cambridgeshire. Email received giving details of proposed new Cancer Hospital at Cambridge, the rebuilding of West Suffolk

Hospital and a new community diagnostic centre at the Princess of Wales Hospital in Ely. Full details can be seen on her website <https://www.lucyfrazer.org.uk/>.

- (b) The Greater Cambridgeshire Partnership email received giving details of the Cambridge Sustainable Travel Zone. Please refer to www.greatercambridge.org.uk.

15. DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING

As there is not a meeting in August, it was agreed to delay the July meeting until 24th subject to Cllrs confirming their availability.

The meeting closed at 8.40 pm

KEVIN DADDS