

ASHPRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on Thursday January 7th, 2016 at 7.30 pm in Ashprington Village Hall.

Present: , Cllr Green, Cllr Evans {Chair} , Cllr Carlyon, Cllr Oswald, Cllr Seeley.

In Attendance; Michael Read, Parish Clerk, District Cllr Tucker, County Cllr Hawkins, Pam Macey P3 Coordinator, J.Green Tree Warden. and four members of the public.

The Chair announced the resignation of Cllr Walker and thanked him for his input to the Council. Cllr Walker is moving house out of the Parish. The vacancy will be advertised shortly but interested applicants should contact the Clerk.

1. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda - Cllr Evans expressed an interest in the CAB request for a donation.

2. Apologies: Cllr Stocks, Bob Bowles, Tree Warden

3. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated December 3rd , 2015 were duly approved and signed.

4. Matters arising from the December meeting not on the agenda. The Clerk has asked SHDC whether a glass recycling skip might be placed in Ashprington. Despite several attempts, no response one way or the other has been advised.

5. P3 Report

The P3 Co-ordinator is producing an annual return for DCC. Clerk agreed to contact Paul McFaddon of DCC regarding the condition of the top part of the footpath to Totnes through Sharpham due to erosion

6. Tree Warden Report - Nothing to report.

7. Planning

2860/15/HHO G Menzies. Duck Cottage, Tuckenhay. Construct suspended deck. No objection.

The Chair expressed the concerns of the Council about the approval of a recent planning application particularly on learning that the Planning Officer also recommended that the application be declined. There is seemingly no recourse to the District Council but the Clerk was instructed to write to SHDC.

8. Correspondence. None

9. Finance.

Bank Balances. Treasurers £10690.12, P3 - £406.49. Cemetery A/C £487.71.

Accounts Payable - Clerks salary October 1st to December 31st. - £493.90. Income Tax thereon - £329.60. Parish Expenses - £95.89. John Todd Cemetery

Maintenance -for 2015 - £500.00. Ash Meadow Rental - £68.30. Office Services 2015 - £40.61.

10. Village Hall Report.

Several members of the Committee are shortly to resign from the Committee. The Committee will review the "draft" signage for the road outside the Parish Hall, which the Council consider to be a good idea to try and relieve unsafe parking in the environs of the Hall.

11. Ash Meadow Report.

Members of the Ash Meadow Committee had met Julian Carnell of the Sharpham Trust and Robert Rogers, Farm Contractor and Farmer to discuss the history of Ash Meadow and its relationship with Sharpham and the Village - the Committee will regularly update Julian on planned events and activities. Robert Rogers is going to help improve the entrance to the compost area. There was a Wassailing Event on Twelfth Night. Any Christmas Trees should be put on the bonfire rather than the compost patch.

A piece on the workings of the Meadow has been produced to be included in a welcome pack for parishioners moving into the village.

12 District and County Councillors Report.

Cllr Tucker spoke of the possible devolution plans which may affect the District Council in due course.

The District Council has had more funding withdrawn by the Government this time in the sum of £450,000. Additionally the New Homes Bonus may be reduced,

Cllr Hawkins {County Cllr} spoke of the County Fund {grants} of up to circa £750 per parish which will be available still for 2016.

13. Any Other Business.

13.1 Villages in Action/Citizens Advice Bureau, Totnes.

It was agreed to a donation request from Villages in Action was agreed of £100 - the Clerk provided further background financial information on the Charity for the Council. A donation of £100 was also agreed to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

13.2 Parking near the Village Hall. This continues to cause problems. However some additional signage may be commissioned subject to agreement with the AVH Committee.

13.3 2016/2017 Precept. The Precept for the year beginning April 1st 2016 to March 31st 2017 was recommended to be held this years level of £5,400.00. This is one of the lowest levies in the South Hams and the Council is delighted not to propose an increase.

13.4 Parish Councillor Vacancy. The official notice closes on January 21st. Following on the Council will advertise the vacancy with a closing date for applications of February 4th.

The Council continue to talk to parishioners and other affected parties regarding the potential resurfacing of part of Duncannon Lane.

Cllr Green offered to repaint the white line outside the Bus Shelter and clean the Telephone Box when the weather improves.

The next ordinary meeting is on Thursday February 4th, 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.01pm.