

ASHPRINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the PARISH COUNCIL MEETING on Thursday October 1st, 2020 at 7.30 pm held virtually on ZOOM.

Present; Cllr B. Lunt {Acting as Chair}, Cllr R. Rogers, Cllr L. Green, Cllr K. Throgmorton, Cllr T. Green.

Also present Michael Read, Clerk, District Cllr. J. McKay, County Cllr Hawkins, no members of the public.

The proposed presentation on changes to the Waste Collection Service is postponed until the November meeting.

1. Declaration of interest in items on the agenda. None.

2 Apologies - Cllr Stocks {Chair} Cllr Thompson {Vice Chair}, P Macey, P3 Co Ordinator. M. Pearey, Tree Warden.

3. The minutes of the Parish Council meeting dated September 3rd , 2020 were approved and will be signed off shortly.

4. Matters arising from the meeting of September 3rd, not on the agenda;

The Village Hall is now partially open but only for a limited number of "covid secure" hires. The "QR" code is now displayed. Parish Meetings may well have to be held on Zoom for at least the remainder of this year.

Ashprington & Tuckenhay Website.

The new website is now complete and operational and compliant with new WAG 2 accessibility rules. 90% of the cost has been met by a generous grant from DCC via Councillor Hawkins. Joanne Rogers has kindly volunteered to post items on the website and to act as administrator.

Upkeep of the Cemetery

The first working party organised by Cllr Rogers has met and progress has been made tidying up the cemetery. More work is needed and a further date will be arranged by Cllr Stocks. (Rogers)

Parking in Ashprington

Cllrs Stocks and Lunt have been assessing the options to this ongoing issue. They have considered narrowing the thoroughfare via planters but this is unacceptable to DCC and fraught with problems. Other methods of are likely to be costly and there is no guarantee of approval by Devon Highways. Yellow lines remain an unpopular option. Cllr Hawkins urged a decision by Christmas if possible.

5. P3 Report

Pam Macey is to arrange for strimming in Crownley Woods now that she has returned to the UK.

6. District and County Councillor Reports

DistrictCllr Report

There remain budget concerns at SHDC largely brought on by Covid 19. There is an ongoing debate as to how best to utilise the reserves. There is continuing dialogue with DCC Highways regarding the danger on the A381 at Harbertonford where it is believed speed restrictions should be in place.

County Councillor Report.

Meetings continue to be held remotely and this is likely to continue to be the case until Spring 2021. Covid measure continue to be costly and more Government funds are sought. DCC and the Devon District Councils do not support moving to the unitary model. More Covid infections picked up at Care Homes. On average 90% of school children attend school and 70 extra buses commissioned. The new Climate Change Officer is now in post and the Council's £400,000 budget maintained. SHDC are concerned regarding changes to planning rules which might mean nearly doubling the number of new houses needing to be built. However, some extra affordable housing is likely and welcome. SHDC decided to spend an extra £240,000 to ensure all leisure centres are open.

7. Tree Warden Report

No Tree Warden was present but nothing to report.

8. Planning

2773/20/LBC Carlyon, Brooking. Listed building consent for repairs/improvements. Support

2858/20/TEX J. Van den Broek. Jasmine Cottage. Fallen tree cut up & Clear. Exempt. 2070/19/FUL Frogmore Orchard. Construction of new property. The owners of the land have lodged an appeal against the ruling of SHDC to turn down the application. The Council agreed to monitor the progress of the appeal which is at a very early stage. Cllr McKay is seeking clarification from the planning office. The Council were Not informed of the appeal.

1992/20/FUL Oates. Conversion & extension of barn into one bed house including integral garage parking and amenity space {resubmission of 1191/19/FUL}

The Council has concerns about this application. The applicants have submitted revisions which do not appear to be consistent with the original. The Council voted to write to SHDC reiterating earlier concerns and seeking clarification.

9. Correspondence.

Nothing to report

10. Finance.

Finance. Treasurers Account -Balance £19,368.58 Cemetery Account -£353.84, P3 Account - £487.71. A/cs Approved and Payable - Clerks Salary for 3rd Quarter - £660.00. Income Tax thereon. - £440.00. Parish Quarterly Expenses. - £147.94. NI - £51.96. Mat Electrics - £6471.38 {Installation of the DAAT mast at Ash Meadow}. Gift for Web Designer - £45.94. Kingsbridge Websites - £800.00. Income - 2nd precept payment - £4647.50. Grant for website - £725.00 {DCC}.

11. Ash Meadow Report

Finances - the 2019 accounts are under review and will be ready to sign off at the forthcoming AGM; current funds are sufficient to meet all existing commitments and support a further 12 months normal activity even if no further income is achieved. The committee are investigating likely funding arrangements for 2021/22 to enable forward planning over the next two committee meetings (October and January). Volunteer work parties resumed in August after a four month break during lockdown. They have been well supported. Current COVID secure rules and

guidelines permit groups of six, which will be sufficient to keep the work parties going and the jobs under control.

Grass cutting and compost shredding resumed in May. Grass cutting is up to date and a large heap is ready for shredding shortly.

The first annual inspection has been carried out by ROSPA, with the report showing some minor repairs required, but nothing critical or unduly costly. The works are being incorporated into the work party programme.

The Devon Air Ambulance landing site appeal reached its target early in the summer and the lighting is now installed and operational. A draft Memorandum of Understanding has been prepared by DAA and is to be reviewed by the various parties over the next few weeks. This sets out for future reference the responsibilities of the Parish Council, Ash Meadow Committee, the Sharpham Estate and DAA agreed prior to launching the appeal.

Annual General Meeting – the April AGM was postponed due to lockdown. It cannot be held as a “live” meeting in the village hall as usual, so it has been scheduled as a Zoom meeting for October 28th, with publicity in the October parish magazine and notices to be put up around the village during October.

12 Other Business

Road Closure in Ashprington Between the Durant and the Maltsters

A complaint has been received about damage caused by large vehicles when reversing during the road diversions in September. The Chair expressed the concern in writing and received a reply from DCC. Seemingly signs were moved and ignored in some cases. Philip Prigg of DCC said they do their best to avoid disruption and give clear signage and on this occasion, there was not a satisfactory alternative.

Dripping Well near Frogmore Farm

Cllr L. Green and Chris Bow have received permission to refurbish the old well {used to keep butter cool in olden times} following the recent adjacent road works. Cllr Lunt endorsed this proposal and expressed the view that it was a worthwhile project and thanked Cllr Laurence Green.

Duncannon Lane.

This item was held over until the November meeting.

Damage to Verge in Ashprington.

The verge north of the South West Water Works, has been badly chewed up. The land is owned by DCC who will not give permission to plant trees or shrubs. However, it might be possible to place boulders on the verge to deter trespassers. Cllr Hawkins will consult with DCC on our behalf.

Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday {November 8th}

Cllr L. Green confirmed that although final details are to be confirmed, there was likely to be some recognition of the fallen on Remembrance Sunday. The Council voted to donate £200 to the British Legion Poppy Appeal, an increase on last year due in part to the difficulties faced by the Legion in fund raising due to Covid 19.

It was also agreed by vote that £200 should be donated to Citizens Advice in this financial year. Mike Pearey has offered to make “green wreath” and a Tuckenhay resident has agreed to lay the wreath on the War Memorial.

Next Meeting on Thursday November 5th, 2020 at 7.30pm remotely on ZOOM. Request access code from the Clerk {email address or telephone below}
M.J. Read, Parish Clerk - spooks49@michaelread.plus.com. Tel 01803 732047.