

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 April 2023 at New Ash Green Youth & Community Centre, North Square, DA3 8JY commencing at 8.00pm

Present:

Cllr M Brown
Cllr Mrs Brammer
Cllr Mrs Clark
Cllr Mrs Clucas
Cllr Mrs Connell
Cllr S Fishenden
Cllr Mrs Hobbs (arrived 7.49pm)
Cllr Mrs Howie
Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr M Manley
Cllr V Ngwenya
Cllr P Nightingale

In attendance:

Alison de Jager – Parish Clerk
Cllr David Brazier – Kent County Council
Cllr A Pett – Sevenoaks District Council
Cllr Perry Cole – Sevenoaks District Council
Miss S Brine – New Ash Green Village Association.

8623/23 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr F Cottee (holiday) and Cllr S Glover (work). Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the apologies and reasons for absence are accepted. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley and AGREED. District Councillor Claire Nelson also sent her apologies.

8624/23 Declarations of Interest

- a. Declarations of Interest – Cllr Mrs Brammer declared a pecuniary interest in item 8d as she is a CILCA mentor for KALC.
- b. No changes to the Register of Interests. Members were reminded that any alteration or new interests must be registered with the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

8625/23 Dispensations

None received.

8626/23 Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 16 March 2023 be approved and signed with the following amendments. Removal of 'Jimmy' from 8606/23 and the addition to 8622/23 v. Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that, it is delegated to the Clerk in consultation with Cllr S Fishenden to review the committee structure and prepare proposals for the Annual Parish Council meeting. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Brammer and AGREED. PROPOSED Cllr Mrs Clark SECONDED: Cllr S Fishenden and AGREED.

8627/23 Annual Parish Meeting

The notes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 05 April 2023 were received and NOTED.

8628/23 Policies

- a. Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that the draft Home Working Policy is ADOPTED with the inclusion of the Cook. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley and AGREED.
- b. Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that the draft Lone Working Policy is ADOPTED with the inclusion of the Cook. SECONDED: Cllr S Fishenden and AGREED.
- c. Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that the draft Work Experience Policy is ADOPTED. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Brammer and AGREED.

8629/23 Planning

- a. Applications
None at the time of the Agenda,
- b. The decisions, as set out in Appendix A to Agenda A/04/23 were RECEIVED and NOTED.
- c. Appeals
None at time of Agenda.
- d. Enforcements
None at time of Agenda.
- e. The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee of 06 April 2023 were NOTED.
- f. it was NOTED that the May meeting of the Planning Committee has been moved to 4pm on Tuesday 02 May 2023.
- g. Assets of Community Value - It was NOTED that the following nominations have been successfully listed as Assets of Community Value: The Badger, New Ash Green, the Village Hall in New Ash Green, the Library in New Ash Green and the White Swan in Ash.

8630/23 Finance

- a. The current financial position and accompanying reports were NOTED. Cllr V Ngwenya reported that another payment had been made since the reports were issued, in the amount of £499.99 to Kent Grassland for the Burial Ground Maintenance for March. General Reserves have increased by £2,213. We budgeted for a decrease of £2,142 making a difference of £4,355. Income exceeded budget by £23,931 due to CIL receipts of £20,460, Community Chest grant of £2,500 and the additional Burial Ground income of £2,744. Expenditure exceeded budget by £6,734 and the movement to reserves is £15,055. Ash Green Sports Centre has had a difficult fiscal year but outperformed the budget. Reserves fell to £7,431, a loss of £12,083.
- b. The cheques signed since the last meeting were authorised. PROPOSED: Cllr Mrs Brammer SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.
- c. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on 30 May 2023.
- d. Cllr Mrs Clucas PROPOSED that the renewal of the annual subscription to Kent Association of Local Councils (KALC) FOR THE PERIOD 01 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 in the amount of £2,034.00 is renewed. SECONDED: Cllr S Fishenden and AGREED.
- e. Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the membership to the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management in the amount of £95.00 is renewed. SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.
- f. Cllr Mrs Clark PROPOSED that the amount of £350.00 is donated to the Kent, Surrey and Sussex Air Ambulance Charity. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley and AGREED.

8631/23 Sports Centre

- a. The minutes of the meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee held on 30 March 2023 were NOTED.
- b. The notes of the Sports Centre Working Party of 28 February 2023 were NOTED.
- c. Cllr M Manley reported that March has been a busy month with the highest number of visits this financial year. Eleven new members have joined since the March meeting. Classes also saw the highest attendance in March. The new prices came into effect on 01 April 2023. The new software is ready and due to be downloaded this week. Members have been positive about the introduction of microfibre towels that have been introduced. Next month we will stop supplying plastic cups and will ask members to bring in their own water bottles.
- d. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee will be held on 02 May 2023.

8632/23 Barnfield Park

- a. No report.

8633/23 Northfield

- a. The minutes of the Northfield Management Committee held on 27 March 2023 were NOTED.
- b. It was NOTED that the horse-riding route re-opened on 08 April 2023.

8634/23 Burial Ground

- a. It was NOTED that the minutes of the meeting of the Burial Ground Committee held on 18 April 2023 will be distributed with the April 2023 Agenda.

8635/23 Youth

- a. KCC Youth Workers continue with detached work once a week in New Ash Green.

8636/23 Climate Change

- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Climate Change Working Party will be held on 22 May 2023.

8637/23 New Ash Green Village Association

- a. No report.

8638/23 Highways

- a. No report

The meeting was suspended at 8.23pm to receive reports from the Village Association, County and District Councillors

The reports from the District Councillors are attached to these minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 8.47pm

8639/23 Health

- a. No report

8640/23 Footpaths

- a. No report.

8641/23 Transport

- a. No report

8642/23 New Ash Green Focus Group and Police

- a. It was NOTED that the minutes of the meeting of the Focus Group held on 17 April 2023 will be distributed with the May 2023 Agenda.

8643/23 Ash, Hodsoll Street and Ridley

- a. Ash – The last film of the season, the Banshees of Inisherin will be shown next week. The season will start again in autumn. Spaces must be reserved for the Coronation party.
- b. Hodsoll Street – The Big Breakfast will start earlier this month due to the Coronation of King Charles III
- c. Ridley – Oil drums that had been fly-tipped have been reported. A concert of opera and musicals and singing will be held on 24 June at Ridley Church at pm.
- d. New Ash Green – it was NOTED that Village Day will be held on 24 June 2023 and the Sports Centre Instructor will be attending.

8644/23 The Bulletin and Parish Website

- a. The Bulletin – it was noted that the next edition will be published in June/July 2023.
- b. Website – no report.

8645/23 Thursday Lunch Provision

- a. The price of the lunch increased to £7.00 from 01 April 2023. A Ukrainian couple who are staying in the village have started coming to the lunch along with two single ladies.

8646/23 KALC

- a. No report.

8647/23 Reports, Circulars and Correspondence

The reports, circulars and correspondence as set out in A/04/23 were NOTED.

The meeting closed at 9.09pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: