

ASHENDON PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held in Ashendon Village Hall
Monday 16th January 2017 at 8pm

PRESENT: Councillors: Kevin Nash (KN), Les Curtis (**LC**), Sian Miller (**SM**), Peter Smettem (**PS**), Venetia Davies (Clerk and RFO).

Parishioners: There were 3 Parishioners present including Cllrs Paul Irwin.

Parishioners Question Time

There were no questions.

NB: Action points highlighted

1. Apologies for Absence

Chris Rand (**CR**).

2. Approval of Minutes – Monday 21st December 2016

Draft Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman, KN.

3. Matters Arising from previous Minutes

- **Standing Order, Code of Conduct, Financial Regulations and Risk Assessment. ACTION: CLERK to agenda review of above at AGM 2017.**
- **Reducing speed limit within the designated area of Pollicott. ACTION: COUNCILLORS to book sentinel speed equipment for March and appeal for volunteers. CR to arrange cutting of overgrowth at the 30mph signs (20/12/16), CLERK has requested installation of sharp bend signs (before Harrow Cottages and the Lower Pollicott turn). CLERK to ensure the hedge is cut back (as part of planning permission). Damaged 'road narrow' sign has been reported.**
- **Waddesdon LAF - Local Priorities funding for Village Health and Fitness Project. Sport equipment ordered and delivered. ACTION: CLERK to arrange payment and invoice BCC for reimbursement. SM to provide photograph of equipment to PI.**
- **HGV ACTION: PS to raise query regarding process and costs of applying a weight restriction on C66 Ashendon/Westcott road at the Bucks Freight Strategy workshop on 13th February 2017.**
- **LED Street Lamps and increasing price of sodium lamps. ACTION: PI to obtain costs from TfB.**
- **Pension auto enrolment obligations ACTION: KN/CLERK to discuss.**

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Contributions from BCC Cllr and AVDC Cllr

KN noted dips in road as a result of works by Thames Water. PI to address these with Dave Smith, Local Area Technician. PI informed Councillors of an extra £10m for Schools awarded to BCC – the biggest rise in the country. 7 out of 10 schools in Bucks are underfunded. He also highlighted a 6 week summer sports initiative by Active Bucks (funded through LAF to give free sessions other than the cost of venue hire) targeted at teenagers. **ACTION: SM to attend the next LAF meeting and liaise with PI to co-ordinate six 2 hour sessions for Ashendon.**

6. Broadband

Following confirmation that Ashendon are eligible to proceed with a community installation (BT required clarification that Ashendon and Pollicott postcodes are not on a Bucks Business First Roll Out Plan), the BWG are now awaiting a quotation for installation from BT which should be received within the next 2-3 weeks. Funding for anything more than what is required, on top of the vouchers, will then be sourced.

ACTION: SM to update Councillors at March meeting.

7. Play around the Parishes

Councillors agreed to apply for one session. **ACTION: CLERK** to liaise with AVDC for one summer, two hour session at £340. Date to be confirmed. **CLERK** to book Pavilion and **SM/CLERK** to advertise event.

8. A 'No Door Step Selling' Zone and Neighbourhood Watch Scheme

Booklet and signs have been ordered for distribution to houses in Main Street and Upper Pollicott. **ACTION: CLERK** to arrange distribution and complete form showing location of Doorstep Selling Signs. **CLERK** to advise AVDC of the Parish Council's intention to create a No Doorstep Selling Zone. This to be done 10 days before any signs are erected. Regarding a Neighbourhood Watch Scheme (NWS), Councillors agreed a No Door Step Selling Zone was sufficient and resolved not to proceed with a NWS.

9. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisations

Peter Smettem attended the Calvert Landfill Liaison Committee on 11th January 2017 and requested that HGV traffic does not use Ashendon as a route to Calvert. This was duly noted by the Site Manager.

10. Correspondence (outside Agenda items)

- **Bruno Peek, WWI Beacons of Light 2018.** Councillors agreed to WW1 Beacon of Light on 11th November 2018. Chris Rand has confirmed that he will prepare a Beacon for this tribute. **ACTION: CLERK** to confirm Ashendon Parish Council's involvement.
- **Email from Parishioner re Thames Water works, in particular vehicle access and proposed dates for closure. Thames Water has confirmed:** works will be finished week commencing 13th February, access will be maintained to residents properties, the team on site will assist with the refuse collections, access will always be maintained for emergency services, the team will assist regarding any deliveries and that the road closure will be in place between the farm and the junction of Lower End.

11. Finance

List of payments were noted and **agreed.**

a. Balance of Minutes of Previous Meeting (21st December 2016): **£8,099.10**

- Receipts: £80.00 (Mr R A Cooper £80.00 – Salt Bin)
- Debits: £0.00
- Plus unrepresented cheques: £9.45 (Venetia Davies, December Travel)
- Balance of Bank Account: **£8,188.55** (23rd December 2016)
- Available Funds: **£8,179.10** (balance of bank account less unrepresented cheques)

b. Orders for Payment: **£372.51**

By Standing Order:

- **Venetia Davies - £238.34**
- **E-on - £48.05**

By cheque:

- **Venetia Davies - £6.12** (Clerk travel)

- **Len Holder - £80.00** (Replacement Salt Bin)
BALANCE: £7,806.59 (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)
Also agreed:
- **Hawkinsport and Son - £644.46 (£537.05 + £107.41 (VAT))** - Waddesdon LAF - Local Priorities funding for sport equipment for Village Health and Fitness Project)
BALANCE: £7162.13

c. PRECEPT

Councillors agreed that there are insufficient reserves to respond to initiatives in the village which includes broadband, a possible weight limit and speed limit restriction, curbing and further devolved services. There will be no further precept grant from AVDC. As a result, and having considered the budget of £8,800 plus £580 for increase costs of devolved services, it was resolved that the Precept required is £14,250 - an increase on 2016/17 of £6,785 (Precept was £7,465) and a percentage Band D increase of 88.24%. Proposed by PS, seconded by SM. **ACTION: CLERK to return precept requirement of £14,250 to AVDC (deadline for submission to AVDC: Friday 20th January 2017).**

12. Planning

- **16/04551/COUAR - Pollicott Barn, Upper Pollicott, Ashendon, Buckinghamshire, HP18 0HH**
Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of agricultural barn into three dwellinghouses (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the building (Class Q(b)). Case Officer: Abigail Chapman Comments by: 25th January 2017
ACTION: CLERK to return NO OBJECTIONS to AVDC.

13. Community Contingency Plan

Information updated by Peter Smettem. **ACTION: CLERK to amend and upload on website.**

14. Items for Information

- Road Closures continues to 22nd December and then again from 3rd January to 27th February – Main Street Ashendon between East Farm and Gypsy Bottom, Ashendon.
- Buckinghamshire Freight Strategy - Initial Workshop on 13th February 2017. Peter Smettem to attend.

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday 20th March 2017, 8pm - Ashendon Village Hall