

DRAFT MINUTES

2020/26



ASHENDON PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held by VIDEO CONFERENCE
Monday 14th December 2020 at 8.00pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Kevin Nash (**KN**), Les Curtis (**LC**), Sian Miller (**SM**), Chris Rand (**CR**), Peter Smettem (**PS**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**). Councillor Ashley Waite (**AW**) was also present.

Parishioners: There were two Parishioners present.

Parishioners Question Time

- **Debris blocking road gratings at Lower End.** The Parish Council has provided a photograph of the junction at Lower End that is required to be swept this month. Street Scene has provided the picture to its supervisor and has asked for photographs to be taken once complete. Areas by the bus shelter and church also need sweeping.
- **Salt Bins.** **ACTION: CLERK to contact Buckinghamshire Council for refill date.**

1. Apologies

Paul Irwin (PI).

2. Approval of Minutes – Monday 16th November 2020

The Draft Minutes of the November meeting were accepted as a true record (and will be signed) by Chairman KN.

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Traffic Calming Measures (Item 10 on the published Agenda)

A Traffic Action working group has been formed and includes David Crwys-Williams (lead), Kevin Nash, Sian Miller and Ian Kerr. The Group are keen to explore a mix of measures with Buckinghamshire Council to ensure feasibility. These include the installation of a moveable Speed Indicator Device (SID), white lines on either side of Main Street, 30mph roundels and dragons' teeth, plus traffic counter strips. It was also suggested that the Group liaise with

DRAFT MINUTES

2020/27

neighbouring villages including Chearsley and Cuddington who have, more recently, instigated traffic measures. Councillors agreed to support the installation of one SID on two or three posts (at the cost of approximately £3,000) and research grants. Proposed by SM, seconded LC. **ACTION: PI/AW to contact Colin Woolford, Local Area Technician to arrange meeting with Traffic Action Group for initial feasibility.**

6. Coronavirus Pandemic

AW informed the meeting that Buckinghamshire numbers are rising week on week with the biggest increase seen in the 40-55-year-old age group. CLERK and SM to continue to circulate Martin Tett's regular newsletter on website and Facebook page. **ACTION: AW to circulate weekly updates to Clerk.**

7. Contributions from Buckinghamshire Councillors

- **Cllr Ashley Waite.** Almost £1,000 has been collected for the Christmas Appeal across Ashendon, Upper Winchendon, Waddesdon and Westcott.

8. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisation

- **Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board – 25.11.20.** KN attended. The grant of £11,000 was confirmed at the meeting for the paving of the Ashendon footpath.
- **Green Future Bucks.** The recent meeting was postponed. SM to arrange a date and invite interested people to join when possible. Funding up to £2,500 is available from Green Future Bucks.

9. Correspondence

There was no correspondence outside the Agenda items.

10. Footway Works

The footpath has been completed and positive comments from Parishioners received. PS was thanked for asking the contractor to drop the kerb at the top end for pram/wheelchair access. A contribution of £11,000 towards the footpath was awarded from the Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board on 25th November 2020. **ACTION: CLERK to invoice and accompany a statement of expenditure and supporting evidence (quoting reference 6590048316) to hadwadcb@buckinghamshire.gov.uk.** Funds will be transferred directly into Ashendon Parish Council's bank account via a BACS payment. It was agreed that Volunteers will be needed annually to help with the upkeep of the footpath (removing any dead wood from the adjacent trees and fallen earth from the higher bank).

11. Village Signage for Village Approaches

KN is waiting to hear from Buckinghamshire Council on the design of the signs (currently two at East Farm, one at Harrow Cottages and one at Hill Farm) and the approval of the design. It has been suggested to move the signs in front of the 30mph signs, so the speed limit is more obvious when entering the village. **ACTION: KN to update at January meeting.**

12. Defibrillator for Pollicott

UK Power Networks (telephone 0808 1014131 email: umso@ukpowernetworks.co.uk) has confirmed that the Parish Council can take an electricity supply from the streetlight in Upper

DRAFT MINUTES

2020/28

Pollicott. The Parish Council is awaiting an installation cost and the cost of the equipment. It was also suggested investigating the supply from the broadband box which is better placed.

ACTION: CLERK to follow up. KN to investigate grants.

13. Community Led Plan

Openreach has asked if it can use Ashendon as a Case Study to highlight the errors made on installing broadband in Ashendon. Greg Smith, MP and SM are keen to ensure Ashendon is included in a mainstream implementation of Gigabyte Broadband thereby ensuring Ashendon and other smaller villages are included in the bidding.

14. Trees on Parish Land

- Trees on Boughton's Peace. Works to trees on Boughton Peace have been completed (10.12.20) to a very good standard.
- Tree Preservation Orders on trees (individual or group). Having assessed the various trees, it was agreed that it would be difficult to justify a tree preservation orders due to the poor condition of some and the position of others on land owned by Buckinghamshire Council. It was instead agreed to encourage individuals to make an application for trees they wish to protect.

15. Play Around the Parishes

Councillors agreed to book a Play Around the Parishes session for 2021 at a cost of £370.00. Proposed CR, Seconded SM. **ACTION: CLERK to request a morning (am) session on Wednesday 18th August 2021.**

16. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (16th November 2020): £38,386.24**
 - **Receipts:** £0.00
 - **Debits:** £0.00
 - **Plus unrepresented cheques:** £314.45 (Information Commissioner's Office - £240.00, PKF Littlejohn - £240.00, Venetia Davies - £34.45)
 - **Less standing orders:** £238.34 (Clerk salary – December)
 - **Balance of Bank Account: £38,462.35** (23rd November 2020)
Available Funds: £38,147.90 balance of bank account less unrepresented cheques)
- b. **Orders for Payment: £1,277.25** Proposed PS, Seconded CR
 - **Venetia Davies - £17.25** – Clerk travel (£9.45) and Stamps (£7.80)
 - **Ashendon Village Hall - £60.00** (Hire of Village Hall for meetings 2019 including storage of filing cabinet).
 - **Reg Porter - £1,200.00** (£1,000 + £200.00 VAT) – Mowing and strimming of Ashendon recreation ground and car park 2020 season.
 - **BALANCE: £36,870.65** (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)
 - **Also agreed: J & S Contractors £26,400 (£22,000 + £4,400.00 VAT) for footpath works. ACTION: CLERK to issue cheque on receipt of Community Board funding or pay 50% of invoice, if funding delayed.**
- c. **Management Report.** December's Management Report circulated.

DRAFT MINUTES

2020/29

17. Budget 2021/22,

Possible projects for 2021/22 include traffic measures (including SID agreed), landscaping in area around Lower End, a defibrillator for Pollicott, renewal of tarmac path through Boughton's Peace and the extension of the footpath from the bench round to White City. It was agreed to look at the feasibility of extending the path and obtain a cost for kerbing (possibly year 1) and tarmac (possibly year 2). **ACTION: KN/CLERK/Traffic Action Group to obtain costs of projects where possible. All Councillors to assess feasibility of extending path. CLERK to obtain list of contractors from Buckinghamshire Council. CLERK to agenda Projects/Budget for 2021/22 and Precept (to be set by 31st January 2021).**

18. Planning

There have been no new planning applications since the November meeting.

19. Items for Information including Diary Dates:

- National Highways and Transport Services (NHT) survey - open until February 2021
- Parish Council Meeting Dates 2021 –18.01.21, 15.03.21, 19.04.21, 17.05.21, 21.06.21, 20.09.21, 15.11.21, 13.12.20. **ACTION: CLERK to upload new meeting dates on website.**
- Greatmoor CLG Mtg - 21st January 2021 at 6pm via Teams

20. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday 18th January 2021 at 8pm in Ashendon Village Hall or by Video Conference (tbc)
Parishioners are invited to the meeting but are required to email the Clerk at ashendonpc@gmail.com for a Zoom meeting ID number and password if the meeting is by Video Conference.