

DRAFT MINUTES

2017/019

ASHENDON PARISH COUNCIL
Draft Minutes of Parish Council Meeting
held in Ashendon Village Hall
Monday 20th November 2017 at 8pm

PRESENT: **Councillors:** Kevin Nash (**KN**), Les Curtis (**LC**), Chris Rand (**CR**), Sian Miller (**SM**), Peter Smettem (**PS**), Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**). Cllr Paul Irwin (**PI**).

Parishioners: There were three Parishioners.

Parishioners Question Time

A Parishioner expressed concerns over the speed, size and noise of traffic through Ashendon. PI outlined the high legal costs and lengthy process for an application to reduce a speed limit. He commented that the recent cutting back of the hedge at Lower Pollicott had improved visibility and created a feeling of coming 'into' something which naturally slows traffic.

NB: Action points highlighted

1. Apologies for Absence

There were no apologies.

2. Approval of Minutes – Monday 18th September 2017

Draft Minutes were accepted as a true record and signed by Chairman, KN. There was a perception that criticism had been given about the Broadband Working Group at the last meeting. For the record, KN stressed this was certainly not the case.

3. Matters Arising

- **HGV Traffic.** Weight restriction on C66 Ashendon/Westcott road and is awaiting response. Pending actions by third parties. Clerk to bring back to agenda in 6 months for progress report.
- **Pension auto enrolment obligations.** Declaration of compliance now completed with Pension Regulator by JE Accountants.
- **'Bruno Peek, WWI Beacons of Light 2018. ACTION: CLERK to confirm Ashendon Parish Council's involvement.**
- **Overhanging trees near the pub.** It was noted the overhanging trees opposite the pub have been cleared by the householder.
- **Removal of BT Phone Box.** Pending actions by third parties. Clerk to bring back to agenda in 6 months for progress report. Ground elder to be cleared once BT Phone Box has been removed.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. Contributions from BCC Cllr and AVDC Cllr

Cllr Paul Irwin informed the meeting that an announcement has been made for a new settlement between Buckingham and Bicester for 150,000 new homes. A roundabout at the Westcott junction should be installed in April 2018 which will ease HGV traffic. **ACTION: PI to set-up meeting between representatives of the Parish Council and Westcott Venture Park management for discussions on routing of HGVs.** A decision regarding a Unitary Council for Buckinghamshire is still awaiting. Works for a cycleway between Waddesdon Manor and Aylesbury Vale Parkway station will commence soon.

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6. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisations

LAF: 27th September 2017. Minutes are available at:

<https://democracy.buckscc.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=625&MId=9221&Ver=4>. **VALP Parishes**

Seminar: 4th October. A report to Parishes on the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan was attended by KN. Ashendon is classified as a Smaller Village. **Calvert Landfill LLCM:** 16th November. PS sent his apologies. PS attending a separate meeting regarding HS2 Community Funding. He was informed that the HS2 Community Fund is available only to organisations within 1km from the works. Ashendon is therefore not eligible for funding.

7. Correspondence

- **AVDC Litter Bin audit.** PS and Clerk have confirmed that there is no litter bin on Main Street. The one recorded on Wotton Road frequently remains unemptied. It is scheduled to be emptied on Wednesdays. PS/CLERK will continue to monitor.

8. Ashendon Playing Fields Association

Councillors agreed to donate the budgeted £500 towards the running costs of Ashendon Playing Fields Association under S19. Andy Theobald (AT) thanked the Parish Council and said the contribution was hugely welcomed. AT explained that the day to day fundraising activities of the APFA have been taken over by the Red Lion Social Club. The APFA Trustees meet once a quarter for strategy and managing the facility. With reference to the S106 Contribution received and applications for grants to supplement this, the Trustees have agreed to ask the village for ideas. It is felt young and older children are provided for, but mid-range children are not. As well as considering these, ideas to date have included a Boules pitch, creation of a meadow and lighting of the Muga but all need further exploration.

9. Connecting Ashendon – Broadband

SM notified the meeting that the two new cabinets will be in place by end December and that fibre and copper planning is on schedule. BT Openreach has been requested to attend the January meeting of the Parish Council (tbc) and take Parishioners questions. Assurance has again been given for March delivery. With regards to Fibre to Home, the Website Working Group has been advised to wait and see what the speeds are once installation is complete. Watbridge Farm is not part of the Ashendon upgrade (this property is served from Westcott). To gain faster speeds a separate community project would need to be investigated but it's more likely the solution here would be fibre to home. The Website Working Group will continue to update Parishioners by email and through the village website.

10. Sentinel Speed Training

Parish Councillors **agreed** to include the Sentinel Speed equipment on the Parish Council insurance policy at a premium of £28.00. A commitment for a volunteer to take responsibility for using the equipment and organising training is required. **ACTION: PI to issue protocol and hire agreement for signature in line with requirements from Aon Insurance. KN to obtain clarification of the amount of work involved in submitting Sentinel information to the police. PS to produce Risk/Health and Safety assessments. CLERK to inform Aon insurance of training dates and speed assessment dates.**

11. Active Bucks – Village Activity Project (VAP)

There are two sessions outstanding.

12. Budget 2017/18

A number of projects were discussed including Kerbing (along the Causeway), Litter/Dog Bins, Kissing Gates, a Footpath Map, a Feasibility Study (weight and speed restrictions), the cutting back of a laurel hedge (opposite the Old Post Office), replacement of Street Lights and the installation of a red Telephone Box as a community hub. It was agreed to obtain costs for Kerbing and tarmacking of the

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footpath along the Causeway (to preserve the Causeway, connect the village and reduce speeding) and for a red Telephone Box (to serve as a centre point/community hub with a book drop which would replace the likely loss of the mobile library and act as an information point). **ACTION: PI to arrange meeting with Dave Smith to discuss costs for Causeway and suggestions for dealing with laurel hedges. KN to cost red Telephone Box (which will require maintenance).**

SM expressed her concerns over the road condition at Lower Pollicott. Where the hedge has been removed, a deep verge has formed, and the road is eroding and getting closer to the telegraph pole. **ACTION: PI to ask Dave Smith for suggestions including bollards. CLERK to request BT relocate posts, following the fence line instead.**

13. Finance

List of payments were noted and agreed.

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (18th September 2017): £11,484.60**
 - **Receipts:** £7,125.00
 - **Debits:** £52.55 (E-on)
 - **Plus unpresented cheques:** £0.00
 - **Less standing orders:** **£238.34** (Clerk Salary – September)
 - **Less cheque:** **New Meaning Centre Bucks Limited** - [£285.00 + £57.00 VAT] Tool Shed - September Grass Cutting
 - **Balance of Bank Account:** **£17,976.71** (23rd October 2017)
 - **Available Funds:** **£17,976.71** (balance of bank account less unpresented cheques)
- b. **Orders for Payment: £1,325.82**
 - **Venetia Davies** - **£25.62** (£18.90 Clerk travel) (£6.72 2nd Class postage stamps)
 - **New Meaning Centre Bucks Limited** - **£342.00** [£285.00 + £57.00 VAT] (Tool Shed - October Grass Cutting)
 - **Aylesbury Mains** **£416.20** (£346.90 + £69.38 VAT) (Light Repair - Opposite The Old Bakehouse).
 - **Aon Insurance** – **£25.00** (+ Insurance Premium Tax) (Additional insurance for hire of Sentinel Speed Equipment).
 - **RBL Poppy Appeal** - **£17.00** (Remembrance Wreath)
 - **APFA** – **£500.00** (\$19 donation)
 - **BALANCE: £16,650.89**

14. Planning

- **17/03736/APP – Pegasus, 4 Forge Close, Ashendon, Buckinghamshire, HP18 0HJ**
Single storey side and rear extension, single storey side extension and the erection of a porch.
Case Officer: Bibi Motuel - 01296 585163. Comments by: 8th November 2017.
No objections received, and none made to AVDC.

15. Items for Information including Diary Dates

- **VALP Public Consultation** - 2nd November to 14th December.
- **2018 Boundary Review** - 17th October to 11th December.
- **Mobile Library Consultation 2017** - 1st November to 31st December.
- **TTRO Westcott Road Ashendon - BT Openworld (Works on Highway)** - 8th-10th January.

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday 18th December at 8pm in Ashendon Village Hall