

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 10th March 2021

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove; S Crawford; M Carter; M Cooper; B Ellison; N Inzani; M Smith; B Low; R Blackaller; P Moran; D Ventham.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk and two members of public.

The meeting commenced at 7:16pm

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. There were two members of public in attendance as observers.

20-21/150 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence. A notice of late arrival had been received from Cllr Low.

20-21/151 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

20-21/152 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th February 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2021 were approved and signed.

20-21/153 Actions from Previous Meeting

- 20-21/139 – Clerk has renewed SLCC Membership.
- 20-21/139a – Entry into the Best Kept Village is being processed.
- 20-21/143 – The Clerk has liaised with the OSM contractor regarding the new contract.
- 20-21/144 – Comments were submitted regarding the CWPT consultation and an article was included in the newsletter.
- 20-21/147a – Objection submitted regarding application 20/10383/FUL.
- 20-21/147a – The Clerk is looking into protecting land using assets of community interest.
- 20-21/147a – The possibility of an update to Neighbourhood Plan is still being considered.
- 20-21/147b – Flood Warning signage for Rixon Gate is available from Wiltshire Council. It was agreed that we should request some of them. The signs that have been used in The Derry could also be moved should they be needed.

Action: Clerk

20-21/154 Chairman's Report

The Chairman had nothing to report.

20-21/155 Clerks Report

Report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Clerk had attended an End of Year Accounts webinar and had also received some training on uploading to the website. A reminder was given to councillors to report any jobs for the Parish Steward to the Clerk.

20-21/156 Financial Report

Income since the last meeting:

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Admin to Council	£ 676.20
Zoom Video Comms	£ 14.39
OSM February	£ 900.00
O2 Mobile Phone Contract	£ 20.21

Closing balance: £18,170.65

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The report was approved.

20-21/157 Parish Council Elections 6th May

The Chairman reminded councillors of the upcoming elections and explained the process of reapplying as there are a number of new councillors. A link to the relevant forms has been sent to all councillors via email. 2 Councillors expressed their intention to stand down and not reapply, however they would both be happy to either be co-opted following election if there were not enough candidates or to help when needed.

7.34pm Cllr Low arrived.

Nomination forms must be hand delivered, one person can deliver multiple forms, it was agreed to arrange this at the next meeting. Councillors should contact the Clerk if they need assistance with the election number for the nominee form.

20-21/158 Church Walk Footpath

A report had been sent out prior to the meeting. The Parochial Church Council and the landowner do not accept any responsibility for the footpath. There is circumstantial evidence that the Parish Council had at one time in the past considered accepting responsibility for the footpath, although no formal adoption information has been found. Wiltshire Council Senior Rights of Way Warden has stated that the responsibility for the footpath was with the parish. However, the Clerk shared an SLCC advice notice which states that the Local Authority is responsible for the maintenance of designated footpaths. Councillor Berry said that he had made his own enquiries which confirmed that it is indeed a Local Authority responsibility. The Parish Council resolved to insure that by one means or another, repair is made to the footpath. It was agreed to pursue Wiltshire Council and also seek funding from the Area Board. The Clerk is to write an order to Wiltshire council as set out in SLCC advice describing the works as an emergency and a safety concern. Councillor Berry was asked to contact Matt Perrott. Councillor Inzani to contact Ashton Keynes Charities.

Action: Clerk, Cllr Berry & Cllr Inzani

20-21/159 Grants Policy

The Grant Funding policy was approved with the deletion of 'Routine running cost' from the beginning of the second paragraph. The policy will be reviewed annually.

20-21/160 Internal Control Checklist

The Internal Control Checklist was reviewed and found to not need any amendments.

20-21/161 Emergency Plan Review

The two main contacts listed in the plan have asked to be removed, the plan requires updating and needs to include more information regarding flooding. Cllr Moran volunteered to go through the document and present back to the council at a future meeting.

Action: Cllr Moran

20-21/162 Asset Register Review

The asset register was approved. The annual health and safety inspection and photograph cataloguing of the assets needs to be put in place.

Action: Clerk & Cllr Wingrove

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20-21/163 Telephone Box

The shop are building a store for deliveries which will be ready by the end of March. All materials needed to renovate the phone box are estimated at a cost of just over £1000. Sand blasting would cost £500 but would incur additional costs due to the phone box needing to be removed and taken away. Additional costs are estimated at £500. It was agreed to ring fence £2500 for restoration but, at the same time, other options would be investigated.

Action: Cllr Blackaller

20-21/164 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Report

a) Planning

Application 20/09696/FUL

Redevelopment involving demolition of buildings, erection of 10 dwellings (C3 use) and associated works.

Former AB Carter Haulage Contractors, 14 Happy Land.

One member of public, who was in attendance as an observer, agreed to answer any questions that may arise. The Chairman explained that this site was identified in the Neighbourhood Plan as an allocated development site. Affordable Housing has been addressed and included in the plan. It was noted that there are 10 properties but only 2 visitor car bays have been included. It was asked if the number of parking spaces per property was compliant with planning guidelines. Materials to be used will be stone, brick and slate. The development has an intended start date of early August 2021 and completion due in October 2022. A parishioner had sent in concerns which were read out by the Chairman, these were as follows:

Flooding and water run off – Flooding has been addressed with a raised level to bring the land up to the correct level.

The height of the houses – The height of the houses has been lowered.

Not enough space for 10 houses – The Neighbourhood Plan had accepted 11 houses.

The entry/exit proximity to the junction – The site uses an existing entry/exit.

Would prefer a hedge rather than a fence along the boundary.

The parish council were happy with the principle of the development, however, there are several points that need clarification. It was proposed that the Parish Council would support the application but would like the planning committee to get clarification of a number of details prior to making a final decision at the next planning meeting to be held on 22nd March.

It was noted that there had been no decision made by Wiltshire Council regarding a plot of land at the end of The Derry.

The Cotswold Hoburne application to loosen the restriction of length of occupancy has been refused.

- b) Flood Risk** – River levels have started to drop and water on flood plains is receding. Wiltshire Council were going to follow up with landowners regarding flooding at Rixon Gate this is on hold until all parties can meet in one space. There was concern regarding water overflowing from Lake 200, which will be looked at in the next few days. It is understood that the owner of Lake 200 has put measures in place to slow the water flowing from the lake, but the problem is being exacerbated by water coming from adjacent fields and running into the lake. It is also alleged that a main pipe had been blocked. A ditch has been dug on Fridays Ham Lane. This may not alleviate the road flooding but will help protect the adjacent property. We are awaiting Wiltshire Council to arrange a meeting to find a solution to this overall problem.
- c) Internal Affairs** – The Internal Control Check for the end of the year cannot be done due to current restrictions.
- d) Minerals Liaison** – No report.

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- e) **Village Hall** – The AGM is being held tomorrow. An additional grant has been received due to Covid.
- f) **Playing Fields Committee** – Money will need to be spent on new equipment at some point, possibly via fund raising.
- g) **Cotswold Water Park** – The CWPT trust would like to talk to the Parish Council regarding the Cleveland Lakes project – meeting to be arranged.
- h) **School Governors** – No report.
- i) **Police** – No report.
- j) **Highways** – Have actioned concern raised by parishioner regarding the B4696, yet to receive acknowledgement or response. Also reported a sign down using MyWilts but again no response from Wiltshire Council.
- k) **Footpaths & Cycle Routes** – 2 complaints had been received regarding footpaths, one had gone straight to Wiltshire the other was regarding footpath 14. Footpath 14 was walked yesterday and found to be passable, while there a conversation was had with the landowner who is looking into options to improve the path. The complainant has been advised of the Parish Councils position and given the advice to speak with the landowner.
The footpath out of Gosditch has now been cleared by someone and is passable to the B4696 and the Thames Path. The brambles have been left on the floor, arrangements will be made for these to be cleared by volunteers.

Action: Cllr Low

- l) **Ashton Keynes Charities** – No Report

20-21/165 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to contact the Clerk with any items to be put forward for the agenda at least 10 days before the next meeting.

20-21/166 Date for the next meeting

The date for the next Parish Council meeting will be 14th April 2021. The meeting will be held via Zoom.

The meeting concluded at 9.21pm