

# *Ashton Keynes Parish Council*

## **Minutes of the meeting held in Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); R Blackaller; M Carter; S Crawford; S Hill; B Low; C Sims; M Smith.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry; Fiona Ryder – Clerk; 6 Members of Public.

The meeting commenced at 7:15pm

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave instruction in the event of a fire alarm.

### **22-23/26 Public Section**

Four members of public had attended the meeting representing a group concerned about road safety. The group would like the Parish Council to set up a formal working group to tackle road safety issues especially the B4696 Thames Path crossing.

Two members of public were in attendance as observers.

### **22-23/27 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Inzani, Moran, Ventham.

### **22-23/28 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Smith declared an interest in agenda item 36 and signed the declarations book.

### **22-23/29 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

The minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were approved and signed.

### **22-23/30 Actions from Previous Meeting**

22-23/020 – The issues raised in the High Road Highways Improvement Request have been investigated. Wiltshire Council Highways Engineer has addressed the flooding concerns and has forwarded the 30mph request to LHFIG. There are no planning conditions relating to a 20mph speed limit, path to the village, lighting or road widening. The developer has clearly not complied with the landscaping conditions of the application, it was agreed that the Parish Council, in conjunction with Cllr Berry, initiate action via the Wiltshire Council Enforcement Officer. The Parish Council to respond to the parishioner who submitted the request.

**Action: Cllr Wingrove**

22-23/20a – Highways Improvement Request regarding Happy Land has been submitted to Wiltshire Council with Parish Council comments completed. Clerk to chase a response and include Cllr Berry in correspondence.

**Action: Clerk**

It was agreed to move the following 2 agenda items up the agenda due to interest from members of public in attendance.

### **22-23/35 B4696 Safety**

The Parish Council have discussed on a number of occasions the B4696 crossing as well as other road safety matters and are happy that there is a group of willing volunteers keen to get involved. It was proposed that the Parish Council set up a B4696 Road Safety Working Group. It was agreed to set up the Working Group to investigate road safety issues on the B4696 within the village, and to make recommendations to the Parish Council on ways that these might be mitigated. Cllr Crawford agreed to coordinate the working group.

**Action: Cllr Crawford**

# *Ashton Keynes Parish Council*

It was noted that there are 2 footpaths that, if in use, can help walkers avoid walking on the B4696, these footpaths are in need of clearing.

**Action: Cllr Low**

*Cllr Smith had declared an interest in the following item, he stayed in the meeting but did not contribute to discussions or voting.*

## **22-23/036 Planning Application PL/2022/02815**

Proposal: Construction of a new 4 bed family house and a 2-bed bungalow within the existing site curtilage.

Address: Land at Pilgrims Cottage, 15 Back Street

Comments: 23<sup>rd</sup> June

The Parish Council voted unanimously to object to the application.

The proposed new four-bed house will adversely dominate the immediate environs, which are both distinctive and traditional, and will 'overpower', visibly, the smaller, adjacent buildings, some of which are of historic interest. In doing so, the privacy of a number of these adjacent buildings will be compromised.

The proposed house will take out a significant portion of the garden of Pilgrim Cottage. Pilgrim Cottage is a large, attractive old house, which will be detrimentally affected by the loss of so much of its garden.

The construction of the new house will require the effective destruction of a particularly attractive feature at the front of the site i.e. a tall, old Cotswold stone wall, which will be reduced in height from 1.8 metres down to 0.6 metre.

The proposed parking arrangements at the house are poor. The plans show two end-to-end parking spaces in a small area immediately in front of the house, which will require vehicles to either reverse out of, or to reverse into. The road that serves the proposed new house is both narrow and is close to a sharp, potentially dangerous, bend.

The proposed new house is partially located in Flood Zone 2.

The Parish Council notes that Caroline Ridgwell, the Wiltshire Council Senior Conservation Officer, opposes the proposed development, and the Parish Council fully agrees with her reasoning.

It should be noted that the above comments relate solely to the proposed new four- bed house. The Parish Council is not against the proposed new bungalow, which is actually consistent with the Ashton Keynes Neighbourhood Plan. However, because the plan for this is linked to the proposed new house, the Parish Council objects to the planning application.

*All members of the public left the meeting.*

## **22-23/31 Chairmans Report**

Wiltshire Council have formally refused the gravel extraction application at Wheatley's Farm. The Jubilee Celebrations in the village were very successful, thanks were given to Cllr Sims and the team who organised the celebrations and also to the Village Hall Committee. The Jubilee tree and plaque need to be arranged.

**Action: Cllr Sims**

The Music Festival is upcoming.



# Ashton Keynes Parish Council

## 22-23/38 Risk Assessment

The Risk Assessment was circulated prior to the meeting. The Parish Council approved the Risk Assessment.

## 22-23/39 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

### a) Planning

Minutes and Agenda for planning meetings continue to be circulated to all.

### b) Flood Risk – Report circulated. The Operational Flood Working Group is a Wiltshire Council organisation which mainly covers flooding due to surface water and works with tiered response levels. Wessex Water are the main contributors, it has been asked if Thames Water and the Environment Agency could be more involved. The main topic of discussion at their last meeting was Property Level Protection (PLP), a funding support scheme for door barriers.

It was agreed that the Parish Council should carry out a review of kit held in case of flooding.

#### Action: Flood Risk Working Group

A question was raised regarding riparian owners responsibilities and action not being taken. The Parish Council do not have the power to enforce action, we can only write a polite letter of request.

### c) Internal Affairs – No report.

### d) Village Hall – No report.

### e) Playing Fields Committee – A meeting had taken place last week, terms of reference and Policy were discussed and will be an agenda item at the July Parish Council meeting.

### f) Cotswold Lake Trust – Filming continues. Input was requested from the Parish Council regarding a recently commissioned Active Gloucestershire detailed feasibility assessment. It was not clear what was needed to be discussed.

It was asked if the plans for moving the Head Office to Cleveland Lake was still going ahead. There has not been an update.

### g) School Governors – Nothing to report.

### h) Police – Nothing to report.

### i) Highways – Nothing to report.

### j) Footpaths & Cycle Routes – Report circulated. The Working group have contacted a landowner to request clearance of overgrown paths, the landowner has stated that they now need permission due to SSSI status and will speak with Natural England. A number of footpaths are currently blocked, a list is being compiled and all blocked paths will be walked with Stephen Leonard on his visit on 18<sup>th</sup> July.

### k) Ashton Keynes Charities – Nothing to report.

### l) Parochial Church Council – Nothing to report.

### m) Phone Box Project – Nothing to report.

### n) Speed Mitigation – Nothing to report.

### o) Millennium Green – Nothing to report.

## 22-23/40 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to contact the Clerk with any items to be put forward for the agenda and to submit any reports for the Committees, Working Groups and Representatives section at least 8 days in advance of the next meeting.

## 22-23/41 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022 at Ashton Keynes Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 9.14pm.