

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); M Carter; S Hill; N Inzani; T Romback; D Ventham.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk.

24-25/016 Election of Chairman for the council year 2024-2025

Cllr Wingrove was nominated by Cllr M Carter and seconded by Cllr Hill. There were no other nominations. Cllr Wingrove agreed to stand as Chairman and was elected as Chair. The declaration of office was signed.

24-25/017 Public Section

There were no members of public in attendance.

24-25/018 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Crawford, M Low, B Low and G Carter.

24-25/019 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

24-25/020 Standing Orders

The standing orders were approved.

24-25/021 Election of Vice Chairman

Cllr Crawford was proposed by Cllr Hill and seconded by Cllr M Carter. It was agreed that the declaration of office be signed at a future meeting.

24-25/022 Appointment of Members to Committees and Working Groups

The Committees and Working Groups were updated. Updated details attached.

24-25/023 Appointment/Confirmation of Representatives to Outside Bodies

Representatives to outside bodies were agreed as follows:

Cotswold Lakes Trust – Cllr M Low

Police – Cllr Wingrove

School Governors – Cllr Crawford

Village Hall Management Committee – Cllr B Low

Highways – Cllr Crawford

Ashton Keynes Charity – Cllr Inzani

Parochial Church Council – Cllr B Low

Millennium Green Trust – Cllr Inzani

Operational Flood Risk Working Group – Cllr M Carter

24-25/024 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th April 2024

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th April 2024 were approved and signed.

24-25/025 Actions from Previous Meeting

23-24/175 – No cycling signage to be requested for the Thames Path.

Action: Cllr B Low

24-25/001 – Cllr Berry has raised a request for additional signage to reduce the number of vehicles not following the official diversion route. Clerk to chase up.

Action: Clerk

24-25/013h – A LHFIFG form was completed and sent to Steve Hind requesting funding to replace gates at Gosditch. Cllr Berry confirmed that this was discussed at the end of the

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recent meeting and it will be discussed formally at the next LHFIG meeting. The Clerk agreed to forward the relevant form to Cllr Berry, who will follow the matter up.

Action: Clerk; Cllr Berry

All Councillors were asked to check the second sheet on the Action Tracker for actions that need to be completed or deleted.

Action: All Cllrs

24-25/026 Chairmans Report

The Chairman reminded Councillors of the upcoming Annual Parish Meeting on Monday 20th May at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

It was noted that this is the last year in the four-year cycle for the Council. In May 2025 all Councillors will stand down and will be required to re-apply should they wish to stand. There are 11 seats available.

24-25/027 Clerks Report

The report was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Council approved the renewal of the Wiltshire Association of Local Councils and National Association of Local Councils annual membership at the cost of £594.24 including VAT.

A list of gullies was submitted to Wiltshire Council and the gully service team visited during the week of 15th April. Feedback has been received on the gullies that were visited, unfortunately, not all gullies were visited as the team ran out of time. Three pages of gullies were sent and only one page was dealt with.

A Smart meter has now been fitted at High Road, there was an obstruction to the meter at Bradstone. The obstruction has now been removed and we are awaiting a new appointment date for the smart meter to be fitted at Bradstone.

I have contacted SSE regarding a contract, we are currently not in a contract and potentially paying higher rates than we need to be.

Contact from Parishioners

Thanks have been received for arranging with Wiltshire Council the removal of Ivy and Brambles from a dead tree in Harris Road. It has been requested that the dead tree is fully removed, awaiting response from Wiltshire Council.

24-25/028 Annual Governance Statement

The annual governance statement was approved and signed.

24-25/029 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Lloyds Bank

Income since the last meeting:

Wiltshire Council Precept	£19,086.50
Wiltshire Council Planning Refund	£ 289.00

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Payroll Services	£ 13.80
Mobile Phone Contract	£ 14.35
Village Hall Hire	£ 30.00
Clerks Expenses	£ 79.98
HMRC PAYE	£ 22.20

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Unity Bank

Income since the last meeting:

Playing Fields Hire £ 165.00
Community First Grant (Unity) £9000.00

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Bradstone Cleaning £ 166.72
Castle Water £ 7.12
SSE High Road £ 192.54
SSE Bradstone £ 461.45
Corinium Plumbing & Heating £ 364.82
AK Cricket Club £ 1052.00

The council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.
The Accounting Statement was approved and signed.
The Annual Governance and Accountability Return was approved.

24-25/030 Litter Pick

The Litter Pick was a worthwhile exercise and was well attended. Only two black bags of rubbish was found during the pick, most litter was found on Fridays Ham Lane and it was noted that the area around the pub was messy, mainly with cigarette ends.

Thanks were expressed to Cllr Ventham for organising the litter pick and to the Clerk for arranging the loan of the equipment.

24-25/031 Asset Register Review

The asset register review was carried forward awaiting confirmation from the Playing Fields Committee.

Action: Playing Fields Committee

24-25/032 Playing Fields Committee

There was no update from the Committee.

Cllr Inzani had been in contact with Playdale regarding the Zip-wire and had received a call from their president. The issue with the Zip-wire has been looked into, it has been found that the platforms cannot be made any higher/lower as they are at the standard height. Several options were given by Playdale, including the shortening of the length of the run to speed up the ride. These will be shared with the Playing Fields Committee and a plan to move forward can be made.

Action: Playing Fields Committee

Cllr Berry also spoke to the President of Playdale on behalf of Cllr Inzani, he stated that Cllr Inzani had written a very good letter, and Playdale are keen to come to an arrangement. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Inzani for progressing the matter.

24-25/033 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- a) Planning Committee (SH) – Minutes and Agenda circulated.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee (SC) – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (BL) – Nothing to report.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (ML) – Nothing to report.
- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (DW) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC) – Nothing to report.
- h) Footpaths, Cycle Routes and Waterways (BL) – Nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council (BL) – Nothing to report.
- k) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- l) B4696 Road Safety (SC) – Nothing to report.
- m) CIL Funds (TR) – The reports previously circulated to Cllrs. were noted.
- n) Flood Protection Initiatives (ML) – Nothing to report.

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24-25/034 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 10 days in advance of the next meeting.

24-25/035 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 19th June 2024 at 7:15 p.m. at Ashton Keynes Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 8.06pm