

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Bradstone Pavilion on Thursday 12th March 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs S Crawford – Chairman; M Carter; T Romback; A Tindall; M Young; M Jeffery; C McMurtry; Cllr Grieves.

In attendance: Wiltshire Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk, 4 x Members of Public.

25-26/144 Public Section

Two members of public addressed the Council with concerns and questions regarding the ongoing closure of the White Hart Inn. A statement had been provided by the current landlords at last month's meeting.

One member of public raised concerns and offered assistance with various issues relating to the Playing Fields.

25-26/145 Co-option

One member of public was in attendance with a view to being co-opted on to the Parish Council. Cllr Young proposed the co-option of Katy Grieves, Cllr McMurtry seconded the proposal. The Council voted in favour of co-opting Katy Grieves. The Declaration of Office was signed and Katy took a seat on the Council.

25-26/146 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Inzani and Ellis.

25-26/147 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

25-26/148 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 26th February 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 26th February 2026 were approved and signed.

25-26/149 Actions from Previous Meetings

25-26/128 – Business debit card application is ongoing.

25-26/130 – Highway Improvement Requests have been submitted to LHFIG for additional Speed Indicator Device and two poles.

25-26/132 – Ashton Keynes Mother and Toddler group have been informed of successful grant application and grant money has been sent to them.

25-26/136 – New climbing frame quotes have been received by the Clerk and will be added to agenda for next meeting.

25-26/136a – Quote for fence works at The Lotts accepted.

25-26/150 Chairmans Report

Temporary road surface repairs have been made at the Spine Road junction. Wiltshire Councils major maintenance team are due to resurface both the Spine Road Junction West and East by the end of April.

No update has been received from the current landlords of the White Hart since the last meeting. If there is no further news in the next week, contact with Stonegate for an update will be considered.

Attendance at the annual parish meeting has been dropping over the past few years with only two members of public attending last year, it was agreed to publish a note in the newsletter stating that the Chairman of the Parish Council was not intending to call an

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annual parish meeting for 2026 with a reminder that six members of the local electorate are able to call the meeting should they wish. If interest is shown the decision will be reconsidered.

Contact with Thames Water regarding the forecast modelling for the village is still open, no new information has been received, however, Thames Water has sent a holding response earlier this month.

A Parish Council visit to the Kingswater Development was previously offered, the Clerk has made contact to arrange a visit. The date and time will be shared with all Councillors.

A standard statement to be applied to all new builds, additional dwellings or substantial development of a property via planning consultation has been proposed to the Planning Committee. The statement requests that planning permission is not granted until confirmation from Thames Water has been agreed relating to discharge of waste water into their network.

During the recent flooding and closure of the road at Rixon Gate, communication from Wiltshire Council was misconstrued as apportioning blame to the owners of Aspen Lake, which caused them distress. Cllr Berry wished to make it clear that Wiltshire Highways department has not apportioned blame to Aspen Lake. Wiltshire Highways and Drainage teams have carried out a wider inspection of the surrounding land and ditches, and continue to investigate potential issues that may be causing the road to flood.

25-26/151 Clerks Report

The Clerks report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Council approved the renewal of SLCC membership at a cost of £200.

Action: Clerk

An email had been received regarding the state of the footpath leading to the Church. Wiltshire Council are the responsible authority for footpaths.

25-26/152 Bank Signatory

Cllr Carter was appointed as the third bank signatory.

Action: Cllr Crawford

25-26/153 CIL Working Group

It was agreed that the timeline circulated prior to the meeting needed updating. A meeting of the CIL group including new members was held on Monday, it is proposed that the original survey is redesigned, this will be brought to a Parish Council meeting for approval.

25-26/154 Planning Applications for Consideration

Submission of no comment was approved for the following planning applications

PL/2026/00752 – 7 Ashfield: T1 Malus & T2 Acer – Pollard.

PL/2026/00968 – 14 Four Acre Close: Removal of 1 Field Maple.

PL/2026/00036 – 1 Birch Glade, Park Place: 2 x Silver Birch 30% crown reduction. 2 x Silver Birch – Fell.

Action: Clerk

25-26/155 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

To respond to any questions relating to reports circulated prior to the meeting.

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- a) Planning Committee (AT) – Minutes and Agendas circulated.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee () – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (MC) – A Village Hall Management Committee meeting was attended in January. One topic raised was the relationship between the VHMC and AKPC, communication improvements need to be made. The VHMC felt that communication and engagement on the potential use of CIL funds was inadequate. A meeting is to be arranged to discuss how relationship improvements can be made. The VHMC AGM is due to take place on 25th March.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (MJ) – Nothing to report.
- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (SC) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- h) Footpaths, Rights of Way and Waterways () – Nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council () – Nothing to report.
- k) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- l) B4696 Road Safety (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- m) CIL Funds (TR) – Covered as an agenda item.
- n) WC Operational Flood Risk Working Group (MC) – Nothing to report.

25-26/156 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.

Proposals for the Council need to include sufficient information for the Council to be able to make an informed decision.

25-26/157 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 9th April, 7.30pm at Bradstone Pavilion.

The meeting concluded at 8.35pm.