

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 10 December 2014

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman) M Carter; A Seymour; M Seymour; E Tidmarsh;
R Thomas; K Winstone

In attendance: The Clerk

2014/142 Apologies for absence accepted by the Council

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs Stefanovic; Ellison; Cooper and Berry

2014/143 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2014/145 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12 November 2014

The minutes for the meeting held on 12 November 2014 were confirmed and signed.

2014/146 Co-option of new Councillor

All Councillors were encouraged to source potential candidates.

2014/147 Matters to Report

- The WILD co-ordinator has been invited to a follow up meeting on the environment in the new year.
Action: Cllr Wingrove
- There had been an introductory meeting with the new Youth Group Liaison Officer for the Malmesbury area. Funding has been made available to encourage activities involving 13 – 19 year olds. Most of the activities would appear to be based in and around Malmesbury at the moment. The officer will make himself available to assist parishes looking to improve youth activity programmes.
- The Village Shop flyers reporting on services available, had been forwarded on to all Councillors for further distribution. Most of the transfer of services had gone smoothly. The Post Office Ltd will be contacted again regarding potential outreach services.
Action: Cllr Winstone
- Greensquare, the management for The Mead project, has appointed a new project leader who has been in discussion regarding the latest updates on the scheme. It is hoped that the project will re-commence in the new year, prior to that, Greensquare are to organise a meeting for the residents most affected by the proposed work.
- There has been an approach made to a company, with a grab lorry, to clear the spoil along the river by Church Walk and the High Road, left by Wiltshire Council when, at the request of a parishioner neighbouring the gully, had cleared some of the silt out of the river. The Council required assurances that should there be any damage made by the grab lorry during the clearance, to either the rails of the river bank, that the company concerned would make it right before completing the work. A meeting is to be arranged for the company to assess the possibility of the work.
Action: Cllr Ellison
- The clerk has been put forward to represent the Minety ward on the Community Area Transport Group (CATG), along with a Councillor from Leigh PC. The clerk will be informed of the CATG decision for representation.

2014/148 Chairman's Report

The Chairman had forwarded his suggestion of cost allocation, based on precept, for the support of the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs), which had been received by Wiltshire Council. It was noted

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that there was every possibility that not all 20 parish and town councils in the Malmesbury area use SIDs and funding of the devices would probably be divided by those councils utilising the service.

It was noted that the Wiltshire Core Strategy had been accepted by the inspector and would be up for adoption on 20 January 2015.

2014/149 Clerk's Report

The paper containing the clerk's report had been circulated previously.

Points to note included:

The request to post riparian owner responsibilities on the Wiltshire Council website is to be reviewed, the initial response was not encouraging. The clerk proposed that there be an article on the AKPC website to enable a point of referral to those concerned.

The Royal Mail has not been co-operative regarding the replacement of the post box in Fore Street, and the Parish Council has attempted other avenues in an effort to get the post boxes in suitable sites. Further contact through James Gray MP had resulted in a recommendation from Senior Royal Mail personnel to ensure the post box be re-sited in the first quarter of 2015.

Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) cost between £2,000 and £3,000 and the Parish Council would not be allowed to deploy them on a permanent basis. The placement of SIDs would need to be referred to the area board.

Additional signage at the Thames Path crossing the B4696 would be the responsibility of Wiltshire Highways and the request would need to be put through the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) and the area board issues list. The Council resolved to put the item on the issues list.

Action: The Clerk

A draft Grant Policy and application form is to be distributed to all Councillors for review.

Action: The Clerk

2014/150 Financial Report

The financial report had been circulated previously, with the additional information of the cash status of the Council.

Expenditure of note included:

- Clerk's Salary (net) £310.88
- Grants to Parish organisations £5,200
- AK Services £1,400.00
- Neighbour Plan Grant expenditure £1,472.89

The draft budget 2015-16 had been circulated previously and was adopted by the Council

2014/151 Section 106 - update

Wiltshire Council officers had been contacted in an effort to resolve the queries put forward at the meeting in November. The legal department has confirmed acceptance of the upgrade of the play facilities to the Bradstone Playing Field, enhancement to the Millennium Green and required further information regarding the improvements to the sluice gates along the Thames in the High Road.

Quotes had been sourced for Multi Use Games Areas (MUGAs). There are time constraints to the utilisation of some of the s106 fund available. The Council resolved to accept that the MUGAs option was most appropriate use of the fund and will inform the Ashton Keynes Playing Fields Committee to take the project forward. Quotes are to be sourced for the ground work for the equipment.

Action: Cllrs Tidmarsh, Winstone

2014/152 Cotswold Community

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The developers for the site had held a public exhibition on 29 November and asked visitors to complete a questionnaire in order to gauge the public perception of the proposed development. No application for the development has, as yet, been lodged with Wiltshire. The Council discussed Amita's latest proposals and it expressed the view is that it was not able to support the proposal of 150 new houses be built on the site. However, subject to certain conditions, the Council agreed that it would be willing to consider a smaller alternative plan, to which Amita alluded at its recent presentation. It was agreed that the Chairman should draft an e-mail to be sent to Rob Garnham outlining the Council's position and circulate in to Councillors for comments and observations.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2014/153 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Report

- Minerals Liaison – no report
- Planning – the minutes had circulated previously – it was noted that the application refused by Wiltshire Council, for a new build in The Derry had gone to appeal.
- Emergency Planning – meeting planned for January 2015
- Footpaths – no report
- Grants and Finance – the minutes of the meeting had been circulated previously.
- Communications – no report
- Hedges and Ditches – strategy for ensuring hedge and ditch owners legal compliance to be discussed at the next meeting.
- Police – it was noted that there had been two non dwelling break ins in Oaksey on 2/3 December and a dwelling burglary in Ashton Keynes on the 9/10 December.
- Village Hall – no report
- Playing Fields Committee – following the recent retirement of the Chairman and Treasurer, there was an "Acting Committee" to be ratified at the next AGM due in April 2015.
- Area Board – the minutes of the November meeting had been circulated previously
- Open Space Maintenance – the contract for the next year is to be reviewed by the working groups for Hedges and Ditches and the Playing Fields representatives.
- Best Kept Village – a working group is to be sourced from the village in order to ensure the village will be in a state to enter the completion in 2015.

014/154 Neighbourhood Planning - update

It was noted that referendum for the Malmesbury Neighbourhood plan had received significant backing from the area. Cllr Wingrove agreed to take the lead on the next stage of Ashton Keynes Neighbourhood Plan.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2014/155 Ashton Keynes Charity – nomination for Parish Council representative

The term of office for Cllr Wingrove had been completed. The proposal that Cllr Wingrove be the Council representative for another term of office was made by Cllr Thomas, seconded by Cllr A Seymour. The vote was unanimous in favour. The Clerk will advise the Charity of the decision.

Action: The Clerk

2014/156 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to forward any items for inclusion on the next agenda to the Clerk by Wednesday 7 January 2015

- Strategy for improved acceptance of responsibility by Riparian owners

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 14 January 2015 at 7:15pm

The meeting was concluded at 10:12pm

Signed:

Date:

Dave Wingrove, Chairman