

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14 January 2015

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

In attendance: The Clerk, Mr A Glead, parishioner, Mr B Pearce representative for LD & PC Ltd

2015/001 Apologies for absence accepted by the Council

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

2015/002 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest

2015/003 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 December 2014

The minutes for the meeting held on 10 December 2014 were confirmed and signed.

2015/004 Co-option of new Councillor

All Councillors were encouraged to source potential candidates.

2015/005 Matters to Report

- The WILD co-ordinator has been invited to a follow up meeting 22 Jan 7pm, Councillors have been invited together with the Neighbourhood Plan Environment Focus Group.
Action: Cllr Wingrove
- The request for further development on the potential Outreach Post Office Service had received a holding response. The lines of communication remain open and there will be a continued effort for more information in the future.
Action: Cllr Winstone
- The removal of the spoil in the river and on the bank at Church Walk is due to commence on Friday.
Action: Cllr Ellison
- The Community Area Transport Group (CATG) had selected Mandy Thomas, Leigh PC Councillor, as the representative for the Minety Ward
- The application for Thames Path notification along the B4696 had been entered on the Community Issues log.
- The developers for the Cotswold Community site had been forwarded the Parish Council's report from the last meeting and it was noted that the developers had booked a further presentation day at the Ashton Keynes Village Hall for Saturday 17 Jan from 10:30 to 12:30.

2015/006 Chairman's Report

- The developers at The Mead, Green Square, are to hold a constructors meeting later in the week and there will be further surveys to ascertain soil variants prior to work commencement.
- A letter had been received from John Thompson, Wiltshire Council, reporting the withdrawal of the Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) as currently funded. However, as some parishes had expressed a willingness to provide a degree of local funding support, further investigations along this line will be undertaken. The Parish Council agreed that a level of cost to support the SIDs would need to be confirmed before committing any further.

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- The schedule for the visits by the village steward is available on the Wiltshire Council website. The Councillors requested a work schedule in order to ascertain what was being done on these visits.

Action: The Clerk

All Councillors were asked, over the next two weeks, to think about any specific work that they would like the Steward to do at his February visit, and pass these ideas back to the Clerk.

Action: All Councillors

- Thames Water have confirmed that a stone wall is to be erected at the pumping station in Gosditch. It was noted that no planning application had been received for the work at this point.

2015/007 Clerk's Report

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

Points to note included:

The grant application procedure and policy was discussed and the Grants and Finance Working Group are to tidy up the final details.

The Royal Mail has agreed to site a post box at the Harris Road junction with Kent End, subject to clearance by other service providers. The site had been selected to give a better spread of post boxes through the village. There is no prospect of any other placements.

Wiltshire Council had invited Councillors to attend any of the budget discussion meetings. Any Councillors wishing to take up the invitation are to make direct contact with the organisers.

The Councillors were informed that the Department of Communities and Local Government (DCLG) had announced that, as from December 2015, section 106 and Community Infrastructure Levy contributions would no longer apply to new developments of up to ten dwellings or 1,000 square metres. This has been brought in to assist smaller building companies, but the knock on effect to rural communities could be considerable. Organisations concerned with rural affairs are campaigning for a review to the decision.

It was noted that there had been break-ins and attempted break-ins in the Oaksey parish, with a similar profile to those recent occurrences in Ashton Keynes. However, also in Oaksey, there had been a disturbing break-in with the perpetrator entering the property of an elderly resident whilst she was in the property. All residents are reminded not to be complacent.

2015/008 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
- Neighbour Plan Grant expenditure £5,917.89

The Council resolved to maintain the precept for 2015-16 at the same level as for 2014-15. Proposed Cllr Carter; seconded Cllr Tidmarsh. Vote unanimous in favour.

2015/009 Section 106 - update

Site meetings with various play equipment producers for multi-use games areas (MUGAs) had been undertaken and there are various proposals being formulated. Site location will be dependent on the preferred option, currently, the greatest cost would appear to be the groundwork and a breakdown of the costs are to be presented to the Council in order to evaluate the best value for money. The project should be viewed as staged events, as continued

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maintenance will need to be considered. Planning permission would be required and the Council agreed that an application should be made in order to keep the momentum going.

Action: Cllrs Tidmarsh, Winstone

2015/010 Historic and Conservation Focus Group proposal - Cotswold Community

The Ashton Keynes Neighbourhood Plan focus group had issued the proposal to Wiltshire Council to ensure the area concerned, Ashtonfields latterly known as the Cotswold Community, came under the conservation area, as with much of the rest of the village. The Parish Council agreed to support the proposal and will inform the focus group of the decision. The focus group will also be informed that the developers of the site will be informed of the proposal.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2015/011 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Report

- Planning – following a Planning Committee's decision to object to application 14/11217/FUL, the full Council agreed the application be 'called in' should the case officer consider approving the application.

Application: 14/11978/OUT

Proposal: Demolition of existing farm buildings & erection of 18 dwellings (Outline, all matters reserved except access)

Site address: Wheatley's Farm, High Road

Decision: Object to the application on the grounds that the proposed development is outside the Settlement Boundary; a development of this nature is a variance with the emerging Wiltshire Core Strategy; the housing proposed is not required in Ashton Keynes which has been confirmed both by a local housing needs survey and the projected housing needs in the Wiltshire Core Strategy; the site is served by poor pedestrian links to the centre of the village; the access road to the village from the site is narrow and it was considered that the site was liable to flooding, contrary to statements in the application.

Majority vote 7 to object, 1 abstention

Action: The Clerk

- Emergency Planning – a meeting due later in the month
- Footpaths – no report
- Communications – no report
- Hedges and Ditches – a paper indicating the responsibilities of the riparian owner and roadside ditches had been prepared for inclusion on the website. The paper will be circulated to all Councillors.

Action: The Clerk

A request was made for a short introductory paragraph outlining the purpose of the working group as a cover for further items that could be placed on the website.

Action: Cllrs Tidmarsh, A Seymour, M Seymour

- Village Hall – no report
- Playing Fields Committee – it was noted that the new beech hedge along the access drive to the pavilion had been planted. It was also noted that garden and river waste had been dumped at the Millennium Green. The only access had to be through the Bradstone Playing Field. The Council are to review the possibility of fencing off the Parish Council land by the Millennium Green at the next meeting.
- Open Space Maintenance – the contract as agreed by the Hedges and Ditches working group had been circulated previously. The Council agreed to accept the contract with a view to continual reviews as the open space maintenance responsibilities changed. The contract will go to tender for agreement at the next meeting.

Action: The Clerk

- Best Kept Village – as agreed at the previous meeting, a request for volunteers from the village to form a working group will be placed in the Parish report of the newsletter. The project to be led by Cllr Wingrove.
- Neighbourhood Watch signage – the local co-ordinator had requested the Parish Council purchased NW signs for the village in an effort to curb the recent break ins.

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The Council agreed to donate £175 to the Neighbourhood Watch to purchase and display the signs.

Action: The Clerk

- Area Board – Cllr Wingrove will attend the next meetings which do not clash with Ashton Keynes Parish Council meetings.
- School Governors – a report had been circulated previously indicating the new Head teacher, Samantha settling in well and establishing a good rapport with staff, parents and governors; a number of new parent governors joined the team in Autumn 2014; the school has launched a new strap line for the school "Shine Bright Reach for the Stars" along with a new logo; the Breakfast Club, introduced in September 2014 is building numbers steadily and should be a strong attraction for new pupils; numbers are growing steadily with a lot of interest from parents for the next academic year and the head is doing a lot of prospective pupil visits

2015/012 Neighbourhood Planning – update

It was noted that the housing site consultation procedure has been booked for Tuesday 20 Jan and the following Saturday, Councillors were encouraged to attend to assist with the presentation. The consultation has been arranged to engage with land owners and to encourage Parishioners to express their views about potential housing development sites within the Parish.

2015/013 Parish Council meal

Cllr Thomas will receive sample menus to distribute, from the White Hart, and has requested that Councillors contact him with their preferred date of Friday 20 February or Friday 27 February.

Action: All Councillors

2015/014 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to forward any items for inclusion on the next agenda to the Clerk by Wednesday 4 February 2015

- Demarcation of Millennium Green Trust land and Parish Council land beside the Bradstone Playing Field

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 11 February 2015 at 7:15pm

The meeting was concluded at 09:23pm

Signed:

Date:

Dave Wingrove, Chairman