

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held remotely via Zoom on Wednesday 10th June 2020

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove; S Crawford; M Carter; M Cooper; M Smith; N Inzani; B Low; R Blackaller; B Ellison; D Wain.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry; The Clerk; 4 Members of the Public and David Clarke - Architect.

The meeting commenced at 7:17pm

There were four members of public in attendance and David Clarke – Architect. The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the meeting structure. David Clarke was in attendance to represent planning application 20/03599/FUL and was invited to talk to the meeting. Drawings were shared on screen for all to see. The proposal is for a 3-bed house with the 2 existing Lime trees being kept as a key feature. The applicant had originally considered a more traditional building but had been advised that such a design was not favoured by Wiltshire Council. To reflect this, the design is now of a more modern building with flat roof to minimise the height and impact on the surroundings. Rounded corners will have a softer feel and natural materials such as timber cladding and a grass roof would be used. The house will be raised slightly to avoid damage to the roots of the Lime trees. Councillors were invited to ask questions. It was established that the site is currently a garden, screened by willow hurdles, and the new property would be set back. It was also noted that new property would be within the Settlement Boundary. *[Editorial Note: After the meeting, it was established that the proposed new property would, in fact, be **outside** the Settlement Boundary]*

Two members of the public spoke of their objection to planning application 20/03599/FUL for the following reasons: Harm to the trees, property will be visible on all sides, valuable open space would be lost, access would be via a busy narrow part of the Thames Path.

No other members of the public wished to speak. The Chairman thanked those who had spoken and asked for item 37 of the agenda be brought forward.

20-21/029 Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

20-21/030 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Low asked for it to be noted that she lives in The Derry and her husband is a Trustee of Cotswold Water Park Trust.

20-21/031 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th May 2020

The minutes of the Council Meeting 13th May 2020 had been circulated previously and were agreed and signed as a true record with one amendment to 20-21/023.

20-21/032 Parish Council Vacancy

One vacancy remains on the Parish Council. Due to the current situation it was felt that it could be a difficult time to try to fill the vacancy. Item will stay on the agenda.

20-21/033 Actions from Previous Meeting

- 19-20/120 no further update since last meeting. Clerk to chase Matt Perrott. **Action: Clerk**
- 20-21/019 Wiltshire Shield have had to stop production due to regulations.
- 20-21/020 Cllr Crawford to liaise with Martin Young re weekly playground equipment checks. **Action: Cllr Crawford**
- 20-21/021 The Annual Return has been signed and will be sent off to the auditors.

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- 20-21/024 Ownership of land in Ashfield and other amenity spaces is ongoing, Wiltshire Council have been proactive.
- 20-21/026J Cllr Crawford will produce a proposal for an additional SID. An update will be provided next month regarding the corner of Happyland/Waterhay.

Action: Cllr Crawford

20-21/037 Planning Application 20/03599/FUL

A letter of objection from a parishioner was circulated prior to the meeting and noted by the council. The Parish Council fully understand the objections raised but need to look at the application from a planning perspective and make considerations. The property would be within the settlement boundary* and there is a large plot for the proposed building. The materials being proposed are not of the "scale and character of existing" as stated in the Neighbourhood Plan. The area is classified as an 'area of special character' and to reduce the open space would diminish the area. The Parish Council voted to object to the construction of a house on this site. Draft objection to be written.

Action: Cllr Carter

*[Editorial Note: After the meeting, it was established that the proposed new property would, in fact, be **outside** the Settlement Boundary]*

20-21/034 Chairman's Report

The Chairman had received an email from the Mayor of Malmesbury. Wiltshire Council had approved a planning application for 71 houses against the Neighbourhood Plan. The reason cited was that Wiltshire Council has failed to maintain a 5-year land supply plan and currently have a 4.62 year supply. A 3-year plan was previously needed if you had a Neighbourhood Plan, however, this has been changed to say that the Neighbourhood Plan needs to be less than 2 years old. Cllr Berry reported that the loophole is likely to be closed by the end of September at the latest. Chairman feels strongly about this and will draft a letter to James Gray.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

20-21/035 Clerks Report

The annual subscription to WALC/NALC is due for renewal, this is a useful source of information for the Clerk, the Parish Council resolved to renew the subscription to WALC/NALC and noted the report.

20-21/036 Financial Report

Income since the last meeting:
VAT Reclaim £ 195.00

Expenditure since the last meeting:
Clerks Salary £ 497.13
Mobile Phone Contract £ 20.21
Payroll Admin (Mnth 1) £ 11.40
Internal Audit £ 25.00
Competition Prizes £ 46.50
OSM Contract April £ 900.00

Closing balance: £26,842.97

The Parish Council noted the financial report and approved the income and expenditure to date.

20-21/038 Planning Application 20/03838/FUL

The Parish Council voted to object to the application for change of land from amenity to residential. The reason given on the application is not a legitimate justification to move a

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boundary fence. Although the appearance of the site may be more aesthetically pleasing due to the urbanisation of the area this is not in keeping. The loss of amenity space has caused a loss of ground cover habitat and interrupted the wildlife corridor.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

20-21/039 Roles and Responsibilities

Last year saw a restructure of committees and working groups incorporated. Whilst this has generally worked well, the newly-established Environment Committee has been less effective. The Meeting therefore agreed a more flexible structure of working groups. Watercourses and the newly-reinstated Flood Risk Management Working Groups are to be combined. Flood risk management terms of reference have been produced and were circulated prior to the meeting. The Footpaths working group is to be revived and to include cycleways. An updated committee structure is attached to the end of these minutes. Working groups need to be active, meet and produce notes of meetings to inform the Parish Council.

20-21/040 River Thames Works

The Chairman thanked Councillors for the work over the past month that has contributed to the paper that was circulated prior to the meeting. The paper has been reviewed and supported by Wiltshire Council Flood Resilience Officer. The Council voted in favour of adopting the paper 'options for managing flood risk in Ashton Keynes'.

20-21/041 Code of Conduct

The current Code of Conduct held by the Parish Council is 7 years old. The Internal Affairs Committee are to review the Code of Conduct and propose an update to be ratified at a future meeting. The Internal Affairs Committee will also look into an Anti-bullying/harassment policy.

Action: Internal Affairs Committee

20-21/042 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Report

- a) **Planning** – Two applications were discussed at tonight's meeting no other applications have been received.
- b) **Environment Committee** – No report.
- c) **Internal Affairs** – Internal Controls check needs to be done but cannot be carried out due to current restrictions.
- d) **Minerals Liaison** – No report.
- e) **Village Hall** – The village hall is still closed for bookings but the Pre-school have reopened.
- f) **Playing Fields Committee** – The AGM is due to take place but has not yet been rescheduled.
- g) **Cotswold Water Park** – An update was circulated prior to the meeting.
- h) **School Governors** – The new building is due to be handed over on 23rd August. Years R, 1 and 6 are back in school, there are 2 pods in each year group one pod attends schools on Monday and Tuesday the school is closed on Wednesday for cleaning and the second pod attends school on Thursday and Friday.
- i) **Police** – The PCSO attended recently to reports of a group of males from outside the village using the Bradstone to play football, thereby not maintaining social distancing.
- j) **Highways** – There was a drop in vehicles due to the lockdown, we are now starting to see an increase in traffic and most vehicles are travelling within the speed limit again. Cllr Berry informed that the Auto Speed Watch cameras were due in soon.

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20-21/043 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to contact the Clerk with any items to be put forward for the agenda at least one week before the next meeting.

20-21/044 Date for the next meeting

The date for the next Parish Council meeting will be 8th July 2020 to be held remotely via Zoom.

The meeting concluded at 9.53pm

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Committee Name:	Planning Committee
Chair:	Mike Smith
Members:	Margaret Cooper
	Barry Ellison
	Sam Crawford
	Dave Wingrove
	Beverley Low

Committee Name:	Internal Affairs Committee
Chair:	Margaret Cooper
Members:	Dave Wingrove

Committee Name:	Grants and Finance Committee
Chair:	Dave Wingrove
	Margaret Cooper
	Clerk

Working Group	Flood Risk Management & Watercourses
	Malcolm Carter
	Barry Ellison
	Natasha Inzani
	Chuck Berry
	Beverley Low

Working Group	Footpaths and Cycle Routes
	Diana Wain
	Beverley Low
	Russell Blackaller

Representatives to outside bodies	
Cotswold Water Park	Malcolm Carter
Playing Fields	Sam Crawford
Police	Dave Wingrove
School Governors	Sam Crawford
Village Hall	Margaret Cooper
Highways	Sam Crawford
Ashton Keynes Charities	Natasha Inzani
Minerals	Barry Ellison