

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN OAKHILL VILLAGE HALL
ON 10TH APRIL 2019 AT 7.30PM

Present D Barlow (DB, Chair), R Battagel (RB), P Briscoe (PB), S Emery (SE), D Gilson (DG), E Lewis (EL), C Sully (CS), D Thorley (DT) and B Wells (BW).

In Attendance Cllr R Carter (District Cllr; in part) and S Vaillant (Clerk).

- APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE** **Action**
- 90/19 Apologies were received from P Dennis (PD).
Apologies were also received from J Carter (District Councillor).
- DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS**
- 91/19 No requests for dispensation was made.
C Sully declared an interest in the pre-planning consultation; and requested to speak as a member of the public when the application is discussed.
- AGREEMENT OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD**
- 92/19 The minutes of the meeting held on 13th March 2019 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held with the following amendments:
- 64/19 Should read Mike Pullin.
- MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (where not dealt with later)**
- 93/19 (157/18) Registration of playing field with Fields in Trust & raised garden bed in High Street – Clerk has confirmed agreement of costs with Solicitors, and has contacted SALC for advice on how to proceed. Ongoing. **SV**
- 94/19 (12/19) Request for a defibrillator at the Village Hall – Parish Council has received an email from Andy North from the VHC asking for a donation towards the purchase of a defibrillator to be located at the Village Hall. Chair proposed to donate £500, which was unanimously agreed. Clerk to add to agenda for next month meeting to agree spend; and to respond to Andy North. **SV**
- 95/19 (35/19) Litter Pick up day – The day was a great success with lots of new people taking part.
- 96/19 (33/19) Truespeed – The works in the High Street have been made good. Chair agreed to invite M. Pullin to have a walk around to assess the situation. **DB**
- 97/19 Grass cutting – A first cut has been made. BW will monitor the quality of the work.
- 98/19 (69/19) Oakhill Buzz project – Lizzie reported that a terrific job was done at the Pound Garden, cleaning and creating spaces to plant seeds that are good for the pollinators. Exsiting plants were kept.
- 99/19 (70/19) Gurney Slade Ditch – Chair met with chairman of Binegar PCC and Primrose who agreed to clear the ground. The cost came up to streaming monthly £175 split into 7 monthly payments. Supply plants and planting £225. Costs are to be split between Ashwick and Binegar.
It was agreed to respond to Richard to give our agreement.
- 100/19 (73/19) Chairman's Award – A nomination is being submitted for Peter & Pam Dennis.

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DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

101/19

R Carter (District Cllr) reported as follows:

- This is the last time Rachel will be here until the Elections and read a short summary of her and John's activities over the past 4 years.
- Mendip's budget has been balanced for the year. Rachel confirmed that the Council was well run by professional people.
- The chair thanked Rachel and John for their work and help.

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

102/19

Chair spoke with the headmaster Mr Morris who was happy to attend the Parish Council meeting. Clerk to issue a formal letter to invite him also giving information about the format for the meeting.

SV

Clerk to purchase tea and coffee, Sarah will set up.

CREATION OF WHATSAPP GROUP FOR COMMUNICATION WITH VILLAGE HALL

103/19

It was agreed to create a Whatsapp group for easy and quick communication with Councillors on matters that do not require formal approval. Councillors to send confirmation of mobile numbers to Clerk to set up the group.

SV

NEW VILLAGE SIGNS

104/19

Peter Langmaid suggested to have some nice Village name stones some years ago, but it proved difficult to find spots to site them.

After some discussion, it was agreed to look at getting new signs or improving the current signs with the addition of a picture or logo. Chair agreed to speak to Highway contact at County to see what is possible, and if they would also contribute.

DB

OAKHILL CROSSING UPDATE

105/19

Highways have advised that the scheme would go ahead in the summer and asked for the PC's help to identify residents where vegetation needs cutting back.

SV/DB

The school governors sent a letter and results from The Oakhill School crossing petition with everyone in favour. Clerk to think about how to keep the names and email addresses of people who signed the petition.

SV

PLANNING

106/19

Updates on previous applications:-

2018/1849/FUL; Demolition of existing buildings on site and erection of replacement dwelling and attached building; Stable Cottage, Highcroft Lane, Gurney Slade – No decision.

2019/0143/FUL; Conversion of existing hangar and its related landing area to create single residential dwelling; Rookery Farm, Zion Hill to Underhill, Ashwick – No decision.

2019/0402/TCA; Proposed works to a tree in a conservation area: T1 Goat Willow; fell; The Beeches, Gas Lane, Oakhill – No decision

2019/0243/FUL; Erection of a four-bedroom detached dwelling house and associated works; Kingsdon, Old Frome Road to Underhill, Gurney Slade – No decision.

2019/0464/TCA – No decision

107/19

Pre-planning consultation – Mr & Mrs Miles, The Beeches, High St; Various alterations to garden and adjoining land – Drawing and supporting document were circulated. After a discussion, councilors unanimously agreed to be in favour of the proposals in principle but were aware that some residents have concerns over the use of Site B as car park, which is outside the Village Development area and in a conservation area and two previous application for same have previously been refused.

Councillor C. Sully abstained from voting.

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108/19 2019/0143; land owner has asked if Chair would attend the planning board meeting to give the parish council's view.

109/19 2016/0112; advice of appeal. Noted; no further comments.

FINANCE

110/19 Financial Statement – Statement to 9th April 2019 was agreed and signed.

111/19 End of year Accounts and External Audit – To amend as per discussion and annotations on the Asset register. To be signed at June meeting **SV**

112/19 Review of Financial Regulations and Standing Orders – Clerk has reviewed advice from SLCC and SALC and no amendments needed. **SV**

113/19 Review of Risk Assessment and Asset Register – Both documents were reviewed. Clerk to amend. To be signed at June meeting. **SV**

114/19 Parish Council Insurance update – Quotations being sought; to be reviewed at next meeting. **SV**

115/19 The following invoices were agreed and cheques signed:-

		£
872	S Vaillant; Clerk's Net Salary & Expenses	362.98
873	HMRC	64.00

MATTERS OF REPORT

116/19 PCSO – report circulated prior to the meeting.

117/19 Village Hall – Events in the diary.

An email was received from Andy North regarding the walking bus idea for the school children in the morning with a request to create a footpath across the field. The Parish Council is supportive of the idea and will consider making a contribution if costs are involved. However, implementation would be between the PTA and the VHC.

118/19 Village Hall Rejuvenation – Meeting held in March attended by around 20 residents and some questionnaires have been received. However, it was agreed that further consultation and more responses were needed.

119/19 SALC – Clerk's briefing on 12th April, 10-1pm in Somerton.

120/19 School / Highways / Footpaths / GDPR – Nothing further to report.

121/19 A white van outside the Recreation Field gates is creating a hazard for people driving out of the car park.

122/19 Chair presented his apologies for the Annual Meeting which he will not be able to attend, and thanked Councillors for their work throughout the year, and in particular Chris Sully and Peter Dennis who are standing down.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

123/19 The Annual Parish Council Meeting and Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th May 2019, at 7.00pm.

The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on 12th June 2019.