

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN OAKHILL VILLAGE HALL
ON 9TH OCTOBER 2019 AT 7.30PM

Present D Barlow (DB, Chair), R Battagel (RB), P Briscoe (PB), D Gilson (DG), D Thorley (DT) and B Wells (BW).

In Attendance S Vaillant (Clerk), Josh Burr (District Cllr), Mike Pullin (County Cllr) and four parishioners

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Action

249/19 Apologies were received from D Hine (DH) and E Lewis (EL). District Cllr J Burr advised that he would be late joining the meeting. County Cllr M Pullin sent his apologies.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

250/19 No request for dispensation nor declaration of interest was made.

AGREEMENT OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

251/19 The minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2019 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held with the following amendment:

- (247/19) Should read Zion Hill instead of Zyon Hill.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (where not dealt with later)

252/19 (160/19) Walking Bus – Chair has been walking around at school times and found that parents were not parking on the yellow lines. The Chair also read letter issued by the School encouraging parking the Rec Field and to be considerate of local residents. Action complete.

253/19 (188/19) Traffic in Nettlebridge – Clerk has sent request to Highways to review situation. Waiting for response.

SV

254/19 (192/19) VE Day 75; 8th May 2020 – D Thorley suggested for the event to be organised and led by the Village Hall. SV to send link of VE Day website to DT.

SV

255/19 (193/19) Grass bank at Gurney Slade, A37 – Clerk has written to IDVerde with a scope of works. Waiting for quotation. Forward IDVerde's email to Richard at Binegar.

DB

256/19 (204/19) Overhanging vegetation at Pondsmead – Clerk has written to Pondsmead. Waiting to hear. Clerk to follow up.

SV

257/19 (227/19) Additional light on the High Street – Clerk to write to Highways, copying Mike, to request an additional light.

SV

258/19 (228/19) Oakhill Inn – Clerk to enquire about way forward to look at creating new pavement and cross-hatch area to prevent car parking directly outside the entrance.

SV

259/19 (229/19) Repair of benches at the Recreation field – Clerk to pursue.

SV

260/19 Parishioners present spoke about the impact of the activities at Highcroft Quarry on their lives and queried how this amount of disruption was allowed to happen (the Police have confirmed that the quarry had permission for their activities). The noise is different from a normal quarry in that the explosions cannot be predicted, some tend to be much stronger and there are no warning sirens going off to alert residents.

Chair stated this was the second time this issue came up on the agenda over the past few years.

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It was agreed to write a letter to request a copy of the permissions, with evidence that a risk assessment was undertaken before granting a licence, together with detailed terms and conditions of the licence.

After joining the meeting, District Councillor Josh Burr confirmed that he had asked MDC for further information about the licence and details of the permissible activities.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

261/19

J Burr (Mendip District Councillor) reported as follows:

- Planning Response form – it was agreed that it would be useful.
- Pathway from Kings Combe, tree has fallen down and path starting to subside. It was agreed to report to Highways.

SV

MENDIP FUND; AONB FOR COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENTAL PROJECTS

262/19

Chair read email from S. Sargent requesting the Parish Council's support in submitting a bid for funding. RB proposed (DT seconded, unanimously agreed) to support an application. Becky Battagel agreed to lead the project with Sally Sargent.

RB

CONSULTATIONS

263/19

Proposed Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Changes - The deadline has now been extended until December. DT proposed to wait to hear from Mendip (PB seconded, all agreed).

PLANNING

264/19

Updates on previous applications:-

2019/0464/TCA – No decision

2019/1154/FUL & 1155/LBC Alterations to the existing house. Use of historic dairy as a holiday let. Change of use of the sheep barn from agricultural Little Oakhill, Brewery Lane, Oakhill – No decision.

2019/1658/FUL; Conversion & Extension of a Redundant Rural Building to a Dwelling (retrospective); Moorewood – Approved w/conditions.

2019/1646/FUL; A 2 bedroomed agricultural worker's dwelling; Woodside Farm, Bath Road – No decision.

2019/1793/HSE; Erection of single storey conservatory to provide utility space on south side elevation; Spencer House, Manor Place, High Street – Approved w/conditions.

2019/1806/FUL; Conversion of existing bungalow to two storey dwelling, change of use to adjacent land to ancillary curtilage incidental to 'Hill Top', and replacement of the existing dilapidated barn with new ancillary workshop; Hill Top, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne – No decision.

2019/2057/LBC & 2056/HSE; Proposed single storey rear extension and conversion of garage; Nelson Cottage, Pound Lane – Approved w/conditions.

2019/2148/HSE; Proposed single storey rear extension and internal alterations; 17 Chapelfield, Oakhill – No decision.

2019/2052/TCA; Proposed works to tree(s) in a Conservation Area: Trees between T36, T37 and T42 (Beech and Laurel) – Fell all trees in area that are on top of a Listed Grotto in order to rebuild and protect it. T1 (Thusa Plicata) Crown raise to 25 feet to allow light into top garden; The Beeches, Gas Lane, Oakhill – No decision.

2019/2208/TPO; T1 Western Red Cedar & T2 Ash: fell both trees to prevent further damage to the mass retaining wall and damage from falling branches; 1 The Elms, Halcyon Park, Bath Road – No decision.

265/19

It was agreed to hold an extra planning meeting in two weeks time to discuss two planning applications that have already been received.

FINANCE

266/19

Financial Statement – Statement to 8th October 2019 was agreed and signed.

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267/19 The following invoices were agreed and cheques signed:-

		£
892	HMRC	66.20
893	S Vaillant; Clerk's Net Salary & Expenses	290.86
894	Ashwick with Oakhill and Binegar News	350.00

268/19 Parish Magazine – it was agreed to grant £350 toward the publication of the parish magazine.

MATTERS OF REPORT

269/19 Highways – Removed hump at the top of the High Street – Highways' engineers are monitoring the situation in order to work out a solution. Residents have stated that the current road layout does not prevent water ingress in the High Street. To be monitored.

270/19 PCSO – Report circulated prior to the meeting.

271/19 Village Hall – D Thorley gave a brief update.

272/19 School – Chair attended opening of the nursery school, which was very successful.

273/19 SALC – Area Meeting in October, Clerk to attend.

274/19 Footpaths/GDPR – No further update.

275/19 D Gilson is slightly concerned about parking at the bottom of Zyon Hill and will keep an eye on the situation.

276/19 P Briscoe tabled and read a thank you letter from The Good Companions.

277/19 BW reported a hole in the wall around the Poundmead site and that Highways should be notified as it is believed that the wall retains the road. DB agreed to liaise with Highways.

DB

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

278/19 Extra parish meeting in 2 weeks time.

The next parish meeting will be held on Wednesday 13th November 2019, 7:30pm.