

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM
ON 11TH NOVEMBER 2020 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllrs David Barlow (Chair), David Thorley, Roy Bailey, Phil Briscoe

Also, in attendance – Kate Egan (Locum Clerk) and Cllr Josh Burr District Councillor

39/2020 **Welcome by the Chairman**

40/2020 **Apologies for absence**
Cllrs Lizzie Lewis and Bryan Wells

41/2020 **Absent**
Cllrs Lizzie Lewis, Bryan Wells, David Gilson, Becky Battagel, Sarah Emery

42/2020 **Declaration of Interest**
Cllr Phil Briscoe in relation to items 12(f) and (g)

43/2020 **Public Session**
Two members of the public were in attendance

44/2020 **County and District Councillor Reports**
District Councillor Sam Phripp sent his apologies
The report had been previously sent to the Councillors and has been included as Appendix A.

There was some discussion about a prospective new Bus Stop outside the Old Nettlebridge Inn, this will be an agenda item at the next meeting.

45/2020 **To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 31st August 2020, previously circulated.**
The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 31st August be accepted as a true record and would be signed by the Chair once physical meetings are resumed.

46/2020 **Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda**
Grass Bank at Gurney Slade, A37 – The obstructions have now been cleared and the trees have been trimmed. This will brought back to the next meeting.

47/2020 Overhanging vegetation along Dye Lane and around Pondsmead – Brambles and overgrown vegetation are causing a hazard as they are growing from the neighbouring properties. Cllr Roy Bailey will speak to the residents and report back at the next meeting.

48/2020 Highcroft Quarry – A WhatsApp group has been set up and is working well and notifications are being received from one user of the quarry. Contact details for the quarry owner are trying to be obtained so that all users can be involved in notifying residents.

49/2020 **To Be Resolved**
Co-Option Policy
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the policy

Signature: -

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- 50/2020 **Co-Option of New Councillors to Ashwick Parish Council**
Two applicants spoke on why they wished to join the Council and they were both accepted onto the Parish Council. The Council would like to welcome David Hine and Julia Barrett as Parish Councillor for Ashwick Parish Council. The Acceptance of Office forms were signed on camera and the Declaration of Interest Forms will be forwarded. This brings Ashwick Parish Council to a full Council.
- 51/2020 **To Be Resolved Standing Orders**
This was discussed and the Council would like them amended to include virtual meetings, this will be put on the agenda for the next meeting.
- 52/2020 **Financial Regulations**
The Council **RESOLVED** to approve and adopt the policy
- 53/2020 **Ashwick Parish Council going out to tender for the grass cutting around the village and splitting the cost with the Village Hall Committee.**
This was discussed as all grass cutting costs including the recreational field are currently being paid by the Parish Council, although the Parish Council are custodian trustees of the Village Hall and Recreational Field. The Council **RESOLVED** for prices to be obtained and quotes will be brought back to the next meeting.
- 54/2020 **New accessibility website to comply with the new regulations**
This was discussed as to whether the Parish Council requires its own website in order to comply with the Public Sector Bodies (Websites & Mobile Applications) (No.2) Accessibility Regulations 2018. A report and further information will be prepared for the next meeting.
- 55/2020 **Proposal for an annual donation for a remembrance wreath**
The Council **RESOLVED** to pay for the annual donation of £25 for a remembrance wreath.
- 56/2020 **Parish Council representative on the Village Hall Committee**
Cllr David Thorley is the current representative, there were no volunteers so this will requested again at the next meeting.
- 57/2020 **To confirm that the Parish Council are Custodian Trustees of the Village Hall and Recreational Field.**
The Council **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council are Custodian Trustees of the Villa Hall and Recreational Field
- 58/2020 **Finger Posts**
The Council **RESOLVED** that quotes would be obtained to reinstall the Finger Post at Badgers Cross.
- 59/2020 **Memorial Flower Bed**
The Council **RESOLVED** to obtain quotes for repairing the wall around the memorial garden
- 60/2020 **Grant Policy**
After some discussion it was decided to amend it slightly and this will be bought back to the next meeting.

- 61/2020 **Grant to Oakhill Parish Magazine**
After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** to give the money as a donation instead and the request of £350 was agreed.
- Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered.**
- 62/2020 2020/1597/FUL Erection of multi-purpose farm storage, vehicle maintenance and administration building. Location - Badgers Cross Farm, Zion Hill to Underhill, Ashwick.
Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval
- 63/2020 2020/1660/VRC Variation of condition 2 (plans list) 2020/0684/HSE (two storey extension and single storey link to garage). Location – Gales Court Bungalow, Nettlebridge, Oakhill.
Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval
- 64/2020 2020/1730/HSE – erection of single storey rear extension following demolition of existing extension. Location Field View, Zion Hill, Oakhill
Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval
- 65/2020 2020/1906/TCA T1 Black Pine – Fell. T2 – Lawsons Cyprus – Fell. Location – Church of All Saints, Bath Road, Oakhill.
Ashwick Parish Council recommended that the decision be left to the Mendip Tree Officer.
- 66/2020 2020/1929/FUL – erection of 1 dwelling house. Location land adjacent 22 the Old Maltings, Oakhill.
Ashwick Parish Council recommended refusal
- 67/2020 2020/2140/TCA – As per the tree schedule. Location Oakhill Manor, Zion Hill, Oakhill
Ashwick Parish Council recommended that the decision be left to the Mendip Tree Officer.
- 68/2020 2020/2141/TPO – As per the tree schedule. Location – Oakhill Manor, Zion Hill, Oakhill
Ashwick Parish Council recommended that the decision be left to the Mendip Tree Officer.
- 69/2020 2020/2103/TCA – T1 – Alder – Fell. Location – The Old Kitchen Garden, Zion Hill, Oakhill.
Ashwick Parish Council recommended that the decision be left to the Mendip Tree Officer.
- 70/2020 2020/2143/FUL – Installation of biomass boiler and associated works –Mendip Golf Club, Links Lane, Ashwick
Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval

71/2020

Clerk's Report

Due to the non-attendance of a Councillor a Casual Vacancy arose, the Elections Officer was notified on 14th September 2020, notices were placed on the noticeboard and website.

Additional grass cutting was required at the Recreational Field, this was outside the annual contract and this was agreed by Councillors.

As Custodian Trustees of the Village Hall and Recreational Field, they have been notified that an Electric Company would like to install a transformer on a pole on the edge of the field.

Update – The Village Hall Committee have agreed to go ahead with the plans.

Various posts on social media about rubbish being left behind by football players on the recreational field. The Village Hall Committee are aware of the situation and dealing with it.

Finance

Bank Balances as at: - Business Instant Access as at 28th Sept 2020
£9,223.37

Club Account as at 28th July 2020 - £12,219.49

72/2020

PKL Littlejohn have confirmed that the AGAR for 2019/2020 has been received and confirmed notification of exempt status and no auditor certificate or report will be issued

Receipts

73/2020

Bank Interest received between April 2020 and September 2020 - £37.21

Payments

74/2020

Clerks Salary – August - £330.40 – already approved and paid 23.09.2020

75/2020

Locum Clerks Salary – September - £330.40 – already approved and paid 23.09.2020

76/2020

Idverde Invoices - £400.55 – already approved and paid 23.09.2020

77/2020

Zoom Invoices - £43.17

78/2020

Beacon Trinity - £25.00

79/2020

Oakhill Parish Magazine - £350.00

80/2020

Locum Clerks Salary – October - £303.00

81/2020

HMRC Payment - £27.40

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the above payments and receipts

82/2020

Correspondence

List of Correspondence are itemised under appendix B

83/2020

Matters to report/items for next agenda

Although the village hall has been quiet this year due to COVID-19, the committee have been carrying out maintenance and plans are afoot in replacing the kitchen. Drawings are being prepared and once finalised fund raising will be carried out to help with the costs.

Monthly PCSO report – Appendix C

There were explosions being carried out at Highcroft Quarry on 11th November and 17th – 19th November

A Councillor mentioned the junction at Galleybatch Lane with the A37 and it is becoming dangerous. Cllr David Barlow will raise it with Highways.

84/2020

Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 9th December at 7.30pm. This will be held virtually via Zoom.

Meeting Closed at 9.54pm

Draft minutes subject to confirmation

Appendix A

Councillor Report from District Councillors Sam Phripp and Josh Burr

October/November 2020

In case we can be of assistance in key areas, our responsibilities at the Council are:

- Sam Chairs Licensing and sits on Scrutiny
- Josh is the Portfolio Holder for Neighbourhood Services and is Deputy Leader of the Council

Key Council Update:

Recycle More collections : Recycle More is a fundamental change in the delivery of services – and the change is not just the new materials/refuse frequency but different collection days for around a third of Mendip households. Hence the individual calendars to everyone, and the improved online tools to enable people to download a calendar. Whilst encouraging people to retain their individual calendar would be of great help. I hope that helps explain the changes and the support Mendip and SWP are putting in place to help people through it. Where rounds have changed days SWP have had staff driving the ‘old’ days so that to engage with the residents to help support them through the change, dropping in a postcard if they’re presenting on the wrong day, pushing their bins/boxes back in if possible. SWP also had staff going out ahead of the rounds to do similar on ‘new’ days – again identifying issues and resolving them. I note the start of Recycle More has been considered a success so far.

Affordable and social housing programme: For the first time in over 16 years, Mendip District Council is working with partners to deliver new social and affordable housing, reflecting the Lib Dem administration’s [corporate priorities](#) to do so, to reduce inequality and deprivation. Subject to [Cabinet](#) approval, the first tranche of five sites (all owned by the Council) could deliver over 300 new homes for either social rent or shared ownership. The sites are in Street, Glastonbury and Frome where a pilot scheme for modular housing is being considered at the back of the car park. A report to Cabinet on Monday 2nd November adopted progressing the programme at pace.

Fuel poverty: Mendip’s Cabinet adopted a [report](#) (click here) of a programme to address fuel poverty and improve home energy efficiency across the district, in line with its climate commitments and with simply helping people through the cold this winter.

Home energy efficiency grants and loans available: Mendip District Council is encouraging residents to check if they are eligible and apply now for financial assistance to help keep their home safer and warmer – please [see here](#).

Council issues Bonfire safety advice: Mendip has issued guidance on how to observe Covid restrictions this Halloween, and to stay safe on Bonfire Night – please [see here](#).

Housing the homeless: Mendip has secured [new funding](#) to help people sleeping rough, a matter very close to me, having slept out rough to highlight the issue I am glad this almost invisible issue, which is a problem locally, is being actively addressed.

Outline of our activities this month and next:

- We’ve commented on several planning applications over the last two months and are happy to take any questions from parishes
- We’ve been in conversations regarding issues surrounding Highcroft Quarry and are working to get hold of the quarry owner

- We've met with County Representatives regarding the installation of Bus Stops in Chilcompton and Nettlebridge, regarding Nettlebridge a proposal has been put to the Chair of Stratton and Nettlebridge Parish council
- We have been supporting and assisting with social housing issues
- We will be contributing to the Local Plan discussions with the Inspector on December 1st
- We have met with residents regarding the planning applications on The Old Maltings in Oakhill and raised concerns with the planning officers and the tree officer

Appendix B

List of Correspondence

- (a) Thoughts about Somerset – forwarded 10.09.2020
- (b) Bag yourself a Bright Blue Bag – forwarded 10.09.2020
- (c) Invitation from Cllr David Fothergill to attend virtual meetings about plans for One Somerset – forwarded 18.09.2020
- (d) Tree Preservation Order for a tree in the Grounds of All Saints – forwarded 18.09.2020
- (e) Recycle More Information – forwarded 25.09.2020
- (f) Autumn Consultation – One Somerset – forwarded 25.09.2020
- (g) GDPR Training – forwarded 12.10.2020
- (h) Survey from Mendip in reference to access and parking strategy – forwarded 14.10.2020
- (i) MDC Bulletin – Green Grants and funds – forwarded 22.10.2020
- (j) Highways Improvements – forwarded 22.10.2020
- (k) MDC Community Briefing Issue 12 – forwarded 27.10.2020
- (l) Local Parish Alliance with St Cuthbert Out Parish Council in regard to One / Stronger Somerset – forwarded 3.11.2020
- (m) Response from Ros Wyke in response to questions regarding Stronger Somerset – forwarded 3.11.2020

Appendix C



Parish Council report for *Oakhill*

November 2020

Shepton Mallet Rurl Beat also covers a large area including the villages *of Alhampton, Binegar, Chilcompton, Cranmore, Ditchheat, Doulting, Evercreech, Gurney Slade, Lydford on Fosse, Oakhill, Stoke St. Michael, Ston Easton, Stratton on the Fosse and many hamlets in between.*

1st September – Report of a cold caller in the village, knocking on elderly residents doors – Police attend but find no trace of cold caller's.

12th September – Report of a theft from a farm in the village.

3rd October – Report of a vehicle seen apparently abandoned along the A367 Nettlebridge Hill – Police attend and contact the owner.

3rd October – Report of a tree in the road along the A37/A367 – Highways dealing.

7th October – Report of a car dumped in the recreation ground in the village – Police contact owner.

8th October – Police arrest a village resident for murder.

21st October – Report of an accident at Sunnymead, Oakhill – Emergency services attend.

21st October – Reporting the driver of a van seen apparently taking photos of houses along Pound Lane, Oakhill – The van drove off when approached.

26th October – Report of damage to a vehicle parked in the High Street, Oakhill.