

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING HELD VIA ZOOM

On 13th January 2021 at 7.30pm.

- Present: - Cllrs David Hine, Phil Briscoe, Julia Barrett, David Thorley, David Barlow (Chair), Lizzie Lewis, Bryan Wells, Roy Bailey
- 116/2021 **Welcome by the Chairman**
- 117/2021 **Apologies for absence**

Cllr David Gilson
- 118/2021 **Absent**
Cllrs David Gilson and Sarah Emery
- 119/2021 **Declarations of Interest**
None Received
- 120/2021 **Public session**
There were no members of the public in attendance
- 121/2021 **County and District Councillor Reports**
District Cllr Josh Burr was in attendance and presented a short verbal report which is attached in appendix A.
- 122/2021 **To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 9th December previously circulated**
The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 9th December be accepted as a true record and would be signed by the Chair once physical meetings are resumed.
- 123/2021 **Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda**
(a) The overhanging vegetation around Pondsmead are still causing a hazard, this will be chased.
(b) Full costs for including the Green Bank in Gurney Slade have not yet been received, this will be brought back to the next meeting.
- 124/2021 **Policies to be Approved and Adopted**
(a) Adoption and Approval of the Email Privacy Policy
The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt and approve the Email Privacy Policy
(b) Annual Approval of the Asset List
The Notice Board at the Post Office, Gurney Slade was removed from the Asset List as this was physically removed a few years ago and not replaced. After the above amendment the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Annual Asset List
(c) Adoption and Annual Approval of the Financial Risk Assessment
After a couple of slight amendments and correction of spellings, the Council **RESOLVED** to adopt and approve the Financial Risk Assessment.
(d) Adoption and Approval of the Publication Scheme
The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt and approve the Publication Scheme.

124/2021

To Be Resolved

(a) Appointment of Tim Light from Lightatouch as the Internal Auditor for 2020-2021

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Tim Light from Lightatouch as the Internal Auditor for 2020-2021

(b) Proposal for contribution towards costs for a new Bus Stop in Nettlebridge

This will be deferred until a firm proposal is received including costs.

(c) Proposal to obtain costs to repair the Finger Post outside the Oakhill Inn

The Council **RESOLVED** to obtain costs to repair the Finger Post outside the Oakhill Inn.

(d) Proposal to purchase a new battery for the Defibrillator located at Oakhill School.

Wel Medical Limited supplied the defibrillator and a replacement battery costs £176.00 + VAT plus a delivery charge of £9.95

The Council **RESOLVED** to purchase the new battery for the Defibrillator located at Oakhill School.

125/2021

Planning Applications – If other planning applications are received between the date of this notice and the date of the meeting, they may be considered.

(a) 2020/2484/HSE – Erection of a side and rear single storey extension to

dwelling, double garage erection and existing garage conversion and extension. Location – Gales Court, Bath Road, Stratton on the Fosse
Cllr David Thorley proposed that the Council recommend approval, this was seconded by Cllr Roy Bailey and unanimously agreed.

(b) 2020/2670/TCA – T-12 Ash – Fell due signs of Hymenosyphus Fraxinus, T34

– Beech – Fell due to decay. Location – The Beeches, Gas Lane, Oakhill
The Council recommended that the decision be left to the Tree Officer

(c) 2020/2655/HSE – Creation of driveway and parking.

Location – 1 Sunnymead, Oakhill, Radstock, Somerset.

Cllr David Thorley proposed that the Council recommend approval but with the following conditions that the driveway include a permeable surface to avoid flooding further down the village, this was seconded by Cllr Julia Barrett and unanimously agreed.

126/2021

Clerk's Report

(a) Village Website –There are currently discussions to incorporate an Accessibility Statement within the Website, enquiries have been made about adding Councillor Emails.

Update: An accessibility statement has not been added to the website making the Parish Council compliant, this will be formally adopted at the next meeting.

(b) A complaint was received on 11th December regarding loud noises from the Quarry, the police and Environmental Health were contacted by local residents. Any notifications received via WhatsApp are being posted onto the Facebook group.

(c) Further to last month's meeting, and a post put out on Facebook requesting volunteers to help maintain the flower beds around the War Memorial, a resident has come forward offering use of her outside tap, garden hosepipe in the summer and garden bin if required by arrangement.

Update: Once the restrictions regarding COVID have been lifted, local groups will be contacted to see if they are interested.

- (d) The damaged Fingerpost has been collected by Somerset Forge and taken back to their workshop where it will be repaired and reinstalled when the weather is kinder.
- (e) Road Closure – South Street, Stratton on the Fosse, to commence on 18th January and to last for 12 days and will be in operation from 8am to 6pm.
- (f) Road Closure – Tellis Lane, Binegar, commencing on 19th January and will be in operation for nine hours.
- (g) The Council has received a request from a resident asking if the old BT Telephone box at the end of Pound Lane could be used a magazine ‘pick up’ point for local residents. In addition, could it be used as a ‘repository’ for books for the benefit of residents?

127/2021

Finance

Bank Balances as at: - Business Instant Access (Reserve) from the cash book £9,231.05
Club Account (main account) from the cash book - £7,300.54

Receipts

(a) Bank Interest - £7.68

Payments

(b) Locum Clerks Salary December - £303.00

(c) HMRC for December - £27.40

(d) HMRC Fine - £100.00

(e) Idverde £1878.61

(f) Zoom Invoice £14.39

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the above Receipts and Payments

128/2021

Correspondence

(a) Mendip District Council Bulletin on Health and Wellbeing – forwarded 17th December 2020

(b) Census 2021 – forwarded 27th December 2020

(c) Letter from Ros Wyke (Leader of Mendip District Council) regarding Stronger Somerset.

(d) A list of vertical training courses supplied by SALC were forwarded on 30th December 2020.

129/2021

Matters to report/items for next agenda

(a) Report from the Village Hall – included in Appendix B

(b) Report from the PCSO – included in Appendix C

(c) A request has received for the purchase of an additional dog bin to be placed on the High Street.

(d) Various potholes have appeared between Zion Hill and Sunnymead, these will be reported to Somerset Highways.

(e) The wall on Dye Lane has fallen down, discussions are taking place as to who is responsible for the repair. County Cllr Mike Pullin visited the site and took several photographs and will make some enquiries. The footpath is now closed

(f) The 10 year national census is taking place on Sunday 21st March, it will be primarily online but posters are going up on the Noticeboards

(g) Due to the resignation of Becky Battagel there is a vacancy on the Parish Council. Please contact the Clerk if you are interested in applying.

(h) Update List of Interests for Councillors

(a) Date and time of next meeting: Wednesday 10th February 2021 at 7.30pm.
This will be held virtually via Zoom.

Meeting Closed 9.19pm

Appendix A

Report from the District Councillor for January

Mendip District Council have stepped in their efforts and are currently focusing on supporting the roll out of the COVID vaccine, test centres and Business Grants. The offices are being used for the injections and a result staff time is being prioritised for this. Statutory and non-statutory services are being affected.

Business Grants are being issued through the local authorities and Mendip can support communities through this difficult period.

Appendix B

Report from Village Hall Committee to the Parish Council for January

1. Village Hall Committee last met 11th January 2021
2. The Fire Safety Risk Assessment has been completed, filed and actions recorded
3. The Toilet Zone is being redecorated in anticipation of re-opening sometime during 2021
4. Another small grant (about £1325) has been applied for and received towards running costs and provisional bookings are being recorded for whenever the VH can be re-opened.
5. Completed drawings and a specification to Building Control standards for the proposed new Kitchen/Seating Area have now been received. These can be used to solicit estimates and quotations for the work to help define the budget required. This to inform a fundraising drive.
6. Reports of anti-social behaviour in the Car Park have been received (i.e drug use, balloons and nitrous oxide cylinders litter, etc). This has been reported to the police and our PCSO has increased his visibility in the area. It was resolved that VHC will seek to instigate a new trial of locking the Car Park overnight – this is being actioned via a Facebook Post and a WhatsApp Group of volunteers to lock and unlock the gate.
7. Date of next meeting is 8th February 2021

Appendix C

PCSO Parish Council report for Oakhill January 2021

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

14th December – Reporting a theft from a garage in the village.

15th December - Report of an unknown male acting suspiciously – He was seen trying the car door handles of a resident's vehicle in the early hours of the morning – Police attend but male had left prior to their arrival.

16th December – Reporting a theft from a garage in the village.

1st January – Report of two horses seen running loose along Bays Lane, Oakhill – Police attend and horses secured in a field and owner informed