

**ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL**

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021 held at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall

**Present:** - Cllrs David Barlow (Chair), Roy Bailey, Sarah Emery, Jessica Elliott and David Thorley

**Also, in attendance** – Kate Egan (Clerk)

**223/2021 Welcome by the Chairman**

**224/2021 Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Andy Clemence, Lizzie Lewis, Phil Briscoe, David Gilson and Bryan Wells

**225/2021 Absent**

Cllr David Hine

**226/2021 Declarations of Interest and dispensations**

**(a) To receive declaration of interest from Councillors on items on the agenda**

No declaration of interests was received from Councillors on items on the agenda

**(b) To receive written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests**

No written requests for dispensations for disclosable pecuniary interests were received.

**(c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate**

No requests for dispensation were received

**227/2021 Public session**

There were two members of the public in attendance

**228/2021 County and District Councillor Reports**

District Councillors Josh Burr and Sam Phripp were not in attendance.

County Councillor Mike Pullin was also not in attendance but had given a verbal report to the Chair prior to the meeting. There was disappointment with the road safety improvement scheme on the junction of Roemead and the A37 as it will consist mainly of lines and signage similar to the Beacon crossroads. Highways are having another look in the future at the Beacon crossroads. The Burnt Wood crossroads is also being considered for road safety improvements with the installation of a roundabout. The hump in Oakhill will be reinstated but no time scale has been given as yet.

- 229/2021 Policies**
- (a) Volunteer Policy**  
The Council **RESOLVED** to adopt the Volunteer Policy
- (b) Standing Orders**  
The Council **RESOLVED** to review and adopt the Standing Orders
- (c) Financial Regulations**  
The Council **RESOLVED** to review and adopt the Financial Regulations
- 230/2021 To confirm the minutes of the previous meetings held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021, previously circulated**  
The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair
- 231/2021 Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda**  
There were no matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda
- 232/2021 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) 2021/1572/HSE** Erection of a single storey side and rear extension, erection of double garage and conversion and erection of existing garage. Gales Court, Bath Road, Stratton on the Fosse **Update** Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval as the minor changes are a slight improvement.
- (b) 2021/1167/FUL** Demolish existing stables and erect a new stable and storage building (revised drawings – received 30.07.21) land at Beacon View, Heckley Lane, Ashwick. **Update** Ashwick Parish Council had no comments to add and still recommended refusal/
- (c) 2021/1672/TPO** G1 (M1170 3 x Beech) 1 x Yew – Prune by 3-4m. T2 (Elm) – reduct height by 4-5m, prune by 4-5m laterally. Drake House, Manor Place, High Street, Oakhill **Update** Ashwick Parish Council recommended the decision is left to the Tree Officer.
- (d) 2021/1730/HSE** Erection of two storey side extensions and single storey rear extension. External changes to car park and entrance. 16 Withy Cottages, Bath Road, Oakhill **Update** Ashwick Parish Council recommended approval
- (e) 2021/1896/TCA** T13 – Pine – Fell. Oakhill Manor, Zion Hill, Oakhill. Ashwick Parish Council recommended that the decision be left to the Tree Officer but with a request that it is replaced.
- 233/2921 Decisions on Planning Applications**
- (a) 2021/1268/HSE** Replacement of roof finish to existing garage and erection of open carport – Brewer Court, Brewery Lane, Oakhill, Radstock. **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application.

- (b) 2021/0528/HSE** Erection of two storey side and rear extension to existing dwelling and erection of detached single-storey carport/workshop – Corner Cottage, Blackey lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application.
- (c) 2021/0529/FUL** Change of use of land from agricultural to domestic – Corner Cottage, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application.
- (d) 2021/1483/TCA** T1 (Lime) – Fell – The Old Workshop, Zion Hill, Oakhill **Update** Mendip District Council stated that a TPO is not required (no objection)
- (e) 2021/0915/HSE** Alterations to boundary wall and installation of replacement drive access gates along with installation of doors and cladding to ends of open barn – The Old Barn, Brewery Lane, Oakhill **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application.
- (f) 2021/1776/APP** Application for the approval of details reserved by condition 3 on permission 2020/0494/FUL (APP Q3305/W/3260864) – Hill Top, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne. **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application
- (g) 2021/1264/HSE** Erection of two storey side extension. Gable Cottage, Ash Lane, Neighbourne **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application.
- (h) 2021/1572/HSE** Erection of single storey side and rear extension, erection of double garage and conversion and erection of existing garage. Gales Court, Bath Road access to Sewerage Works, Stratton on the Fosse, Radstock **Update** Mendip District Council approved the application

## **234/2021 To Be Resolved**

- (a) Proposal for the Parish Council to contribute towards the Clerks costs to attend the SLCC Conference on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October. Contribution being requested is £75.00**  
The Council **RESOLVED** to contribute £75.00 towards the Clerks costs to attending the SLCC conference on 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> October
- (b) Proposal to move the October Meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> October forward a day due to Clerks unavailability.**  
The Council **RESOLVED** to move the October Meeting scheduled for 13<sup>th</sup> October forward a day.
- (c) Approval of the Grant Application from the Village Hall for the Opening Up Safely and Reconnecting Communities Fund from Somerset County Council.**  
The Council **RESOLVED** the grant application from the Village Hall for the Opening Up Safely and Reconnecting Communities Fund from Somerset County Council and will be submitted.

**235/2021 Clerks Report**

- (a)** Somerset Highways were contacted with copies of emails from 2006 agreeing to move the 60mph sign further along Galley Batch, as the work has not been carried out. No response has been received; this has been chased.
- (b)** Two volunteers have very kindly stepped forward to help Cllr Sarah Emery with the flower bed by the war memorial. The Parish Council have also received a donation of 40 bedding plants from residents.
- (c)** Announcement on 21<sup>st</sup> July by the Local Government Secretary Robert Jenrick MP that he had decided to implement, subject to Parliamentary approval, the proposal for a single unitary council for the whole of the existing administrative county of Somerset. A single unitary council for Somerset will be formed on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to replace the county's five existing county and district councils.
- (d)** The Fingerpost by the Oakhill Inn has now been repaired, let's hope when the wind blows the arms stay pointing in the right direction.
- (e)** A report was received of a branch from a tree which had broken off and was now residing on the pavement. The other low hanging branches could cause injury or damage to traffic. The tree is privately owned so Mendip District Council were unable to offer any assistance.
- (f)** Additional Street Lighting – High Street, Ashwick – FM84120. Payment has been received and the task work order is now with the Team Maintenance Contractor. The lead time for materials, permissions and completion is approximately 10 – 12 weeks.
- (g)** A report has been received from residents and the difficulty of cars emerging from Fosse Road by the Oakhill Inn due to parked vehicles on the left of the junction. **Update** Cllr David Barlow will speak to County Councillor Mike Pullin and Cllr Roy Bailey will report the issue to the Road Haulage Association as commercial vehicles are also causing a problem.
- (h)** Ashwick and Binegar Parish Council have put together a collaborative bid to facilitate walks around the Parishes of Binegar and Ashwick. These would be accompanied by illustrated and informative boards focussing on the historical features, the flora and fauna. The chief aim of the walks is to enable the health benefits, both mental and physical – spending time in our countryside. Binegar Parish Council are putting the bid together.

**236/2021 Reports**

- (a)** Avon and Somerset Police Report from Guy Dury – Neighbourhood PCSO

**237/2021 Finance****Bank Balance as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2021****TSB – current account – £5,004.70****Reserve account - £12,264.06**

**Finance Report** –Email received - Logged notification of the exempt status for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021 submitted to us for Ashwick Parish Council – from PKF Littlejohn – external auditor

**Receipts**

- (a)** Bank Interest £4.25 – received 10.07.21
- (b)** £0.38 – Closure of bank account and transferred to the current account
- (c)** Bank Interest £3.66 (reserve account) – received 10.08.21

**Payments**

- (d)** Transfer of £5,000 from the reserve account to the Current account – transferred 23.07.21
- (e)** Somerset County Council – addition of new street lights - £2359.97 – paid 23.07.21
- (f)** Somerset Forge – repairs to Finger Post - £144.00
- (g)** Clerks Salary – July - £330.40
- (h)** Clerks Salary – August £330.40
- (i)** SALC – Councillor Training - £25.00
- (j)** Ashwick & Oakhill Village Hall - £40.00

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

**238/2021 Correspondence**

- (a)** Neighbourhood Planning Training on 8<sup>th</sup> September – forwarded 23.07.21
- (b)** Somerset Bus Back Better Feedback Form – forwarded 27.07.21
- (c)** Somerset County Bus Consultation with Bus Back Better – forwarded 28.07.21
- (d)** National Resilience Strategy – Call for Evidence – forwarded 01.08.21
- (e)** Help to Help Yourselves – views required – forwarded 01.08.21
- (f)** Opening up Safely and Reconnecting Communities Fund – forwarded 01.08.21
- (g)** Mendip East Monthly Newsletter from Shepton Mallet and Frome Neighbouring Policing Team – forwarded 03.08.21
- (h)** Mendip District Council Planning Bulletin – Phosphate Newsletter – forwarded 06.08.21
- (i)** Training events with Breakthrough Communications – forwarded 09.08.21
- (j)** Consultation on the Gambling Statement of Gambling Principles 2022-2025 – forwarded 18.08.21
- (k)** No vehicle idling – Promoting the message in Mendip – forwarded 28.08.21

**239/2021 Matters to report/items for next agenda**

**(a)** Ashwick Village Hall has obtained a hall mark accreditation stage one. Events and bookings are filling up and the community is getting back together. Oakhill and Ashwick Local History Group are holding a mini exhibition on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> October at 7.30pm, pop along and see items from their large archive.

**(b)** Bus Shelters

**(c)** Consultation on proposed works on Roemead Junction with the A37 Road Safety Scheme. A collision investigation and cluster report was undertaken in June 2019, this resulted in a review of the area and a commission to design safety improvements at the junction, these will include new/upgraded road markings, new/upgraded traffic signs, high friction surfacing, vegetation clearance and new kerbing.

**(d)** Local Plan 2: Sites and Policies has been published by Mendip District Council who are hoping to adopt it in October

**240/2021 Date and time of next meeting:** - Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> October in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm, please note the change of day for this one occasion.

**Meeting closed 8.30pm**