

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on Wednesday 14th December at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall

Present: - Cllrs David Hine, David Barlow (Chair), David Thorley, Sarah Emery, Monica Mundy, Philip Briscoe and Philip Blatchford

Also, in attendance – Kate Egan (Clerk)

Items were out of order from the agenda

1 **Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

2 **Apologies for absence**

All Councillors were present

3 **Absent**

No Councillors were absent

4 **Declarations of Interest and dispensations**

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

No declarations of interest were received from Councillors on items on the agenda

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

No written requests were received for disclosable pecuniary interests

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

No requests for dispensation as appropriate were received

5 **Public session**

There were no members of the public in attendance

6 **County and District Councillor Reports**

County Councillors Tony Robbins and Edric Hobbs sent their apologies

7 **To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 9th November 2022, previously circulated**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for the meeting held on 12th October be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair

8 **Matters arising from the minutes but not on the agenda**

(a) Cllr David Thorley met with Somerset County Councillor Edric Hobbs to talk about the diversion of the footpath currently running through the School Playing Fields as mentioned at the last meeting

9 **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) **2022/2245/REM** Application for approval of reserved matters following outline approval 2020/0788/OTS for the erection of two detached dwelling and garages. Matters of appearance, landscaping and scale to be determined. Rock House, Old Frome Road to Underhill, Gurney Slade **Update** the Parish Council recommended approval

(b) **2022/2350/HSE** Erection of a single storey rear extension and conversion of utility room to ensuite bathroom. Laburnum, Zion Hill to Underhill, Ashwick **Update** the Parish Council recommended approval

10 Planning Applications – Responses to be noted from Mendip District Council and others.

- (a) **ENF/2022/0222** Abandoned Vehicles. Highcroft Quarry, Gurney Slade, Somerset. Mendip Enforcement Team have registered the enforcement issue and an investigation will be carried out into the complaint.
- (b) **2022/2312/AGB** The development is for an agricultural steel portal framed building to be used for storing hay, straw and farm machinery. Land at 361998 147954 Roemead Road, Binegar. **Update** Mendip District Council have stated prior approval not required.

11 To Be Resolved/Discussed

- (a) **Discussion on whether to form a Steering Group to update the Parish Design Statement.**

The Parish Design Statement is currently out of date, it was published in 2003 and the Council **RESOLVED** to form a Steering Group to update the Design Statement. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact the Parish Clerk

- (c) **Discussion on whether the Parish Council are organising an event for the Kings Coronation in May 2023 or whether it will support village organisations.**

The Council decided to see whether any other organisations were organising an event and offer to support financially if necessary.

- (d) **Proposal to remove signatures from the Bank Account and add new Councillors to the mandate.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to remove three signatures from the mandate for the bank account and add three new Councillors. The mandate form was completed.

- (e) **Proposal for the Parish Council to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge**

The Council **RESOLVED** to sign up to the Civility and Respect Pledge

- (b) **Proposal to agree the Parish Council Budget for 2023-2024 and set the Precept**

The Council **RESOLVED** to agree the Parish Council Budget for 2023-2024 and to increase the precept by 5%. The deficit on the budget will be taken out of the reserves.

12 Clerks Report

- (a) There has been no update from Somerset County Council on signage for vehicles travelling along Fosse Road towards Oakhill although this has been chased with County Councillor Edric Hobbs
- (b) There has been no update from Somerset County Council on moving the speed sign at Galley Batch Road although I have been informed, they should be in touch soon.
- (c) Bryan Wells due to non-attendance for six months has vacated his seat as a Parish Councillor. The Parish Council would like to thank him for his many years of service and experience on local matters.

13 Village Hall Reports

Work is currently in progress improving the access to the village hall and chippings / clean stone will be placed at the rear of the hall. The community café was officially opened on Saturday 3rd Market followed by lots of positive comments. Quotations are currently being obtained for the outside Gym Equipment. The Village Hall has been awarded funding for warm spaces, so the community café will be open every Saturday Morning from 9am – midday plus alternate Wednesday mornings. This will start at the beginning of January. Volunteers are still required to help run the community café.

14 Finance

Bank Balance as at 5th December 2022

TSB – current account – £3,545.92

Reserve account - £11,630.65

Receipts

(a) Bank Interest - £5.75 – received 10.11.22

Payments

(b) Purchase of Ink - £17.85

(c) Clerks Salary – November and Backpay to 1st April - £555.75

(d) HMRC – November - £51.00

(e) Idverde - £206.38

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the above payments and also **RESOLVED** to pay the extra payment below

(f) Village Hall – Hall Hire - £25.00

15 Correspondence

(a) Have Your Say and Help Reshape the Constituency Boundaries – forwarded 22.11.22

(b) Invitation of a Councillor Forum on behalf of Avon and Somerset Police on 6th December at Croscombe Village Hall.

16 Matters to report/items for next agenda

(a) Loss of the Beacon Magazine and how the Parish Council can help.

17 Date and time of next meeting: - Wednesday 11th January 2023 in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting Closed 8.34pm