

# ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2023 at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall

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

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

Items were taken out of order from the agenda

**1 Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting on an unpleasant evening

**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 interest

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

Cllr David Barlow was granted a dispensation in regard to the potential development at Chapelfield, this was granted for a period of four months and is valid until 8<sup>th</sup> June 2023

**6 County and District Councillor Reports**

There were no District or County Councillors in attendance. Somerset County Councillor Tony Robbins sent his apologies

**7 Co-Option of Parish Councillor**

Cllr Philip Blatchford proposed David Simons be co-opted as a Parish Councillor for Ashwick Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr David Thorley and unanimously agreed.

**(a) Signature of the acceptance of office form**

David Simons signed the acceptance of office form and was welcomed to the Parish Council.

**5 Public session**

There was one member of the public in attendance and the following item was also discussed this session.

**12 To Be Resolved/Discussed**

**(a) Further updates and discussion on how the Parish Council can help to support in resurrecting the Beacon Magazine**

Research had been carried out as to the various options and costs, this was discussed but volunteers are required to help with the design of the magazine and the layout. Questions were asked and information will be sought, an update will be brought back to the next meeting.

Cllr Monica Mundy left the meeting at 8.07pm due to the bad weather.

**8 To confirm the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> February, previously circulated**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes for 8<sup>th</sup> February be accepted as a true record and were signed by the Chair.

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

(a) The Parish Council are still awaiting the litter pick to happen.

**10 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) **2023/0231/FUL** Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage with associated access/parking. Holly Cottage, Pound Lane, Oakhill **Update** The Parish Council recommended approval for the change of use but wished to refer to Highways for the decision regarding the access/parking.

(b) **2023/0126/HSE** Erection of timber orangery to northern elevation. Gates Court, Bath Road, Stratton on the Fosse. **Update** The Parish Council recommended approval.

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

(a) **2022/0951/FUL** Conversion and alteration of the barns to ancillary residential use, domestic storage and garaging (part-retrospective). Neighbourne Farm, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne. **Update** Mendip District Council refused the application

(b) **2022/0952/LBC** Conversion and alteration of the barns to ancillary residential use, domestic storage and garaging (part-retrospective). Neighbourne Farm, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne. **Update** Mendip District Council refused the application

(c) **2022/1961/FUL** Change of use from agricultural to commercial (bottling facility) and siting of a shipping container. Little Oakhill, Brewery Lane, Oakhill. **Update** Mendip District Council granted approval.

**12 To Be Resolved/Discussed**

(b) **Updates and possible proposal on whether the recently hired consultants will be attending the Appeal Hearing on behalf of the Parish Council.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint the consultants from Context Planning and DMMason Engineering Consultants Ltd to attend the Appeal Hearing on 18<sup>th</sup> April. The Parish Council would also like to thank formally all the residents who contributed to the GoFundMe fundraising to help cover the costs.

(c) **Proposal to approve the Asset List**

Following some amendments, the Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Asset List.

(d) **Proposal for the Parish Council to pay the Clerk £6.50 a month Home Working Allowance starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> April.**

The Council **RESOLVED** to pay the Clerk £6.50 a month Home Working Allowance starting from the 1<sup>st</sup> April.

(e) **Proposal for the Parish Councillors to set up a WhatsApp group**

Following a discussion, it was felt there was not really a need for a Councillor WhatsApp group.

**13 Clerks Report.**

(a) County Councillor Tony Robbins will chase Mendip again in regard to the litter picking along the main road.

**14 Village Hall Reports**

The outside gym equipment has been ordered. A new boiler has been ordered and hopes to be replaced soon, some of the costs are being covered by grants. Repairs to the children's play area are being carried out. Funding for the warm spaces currently being held on a Wednesday morning runs out at the end of the month but the committee will keep the sessions going. Quotes are being sought for the roof which needs replacing along with the guttering.

**15 Finance**

Bank Balance as at 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Current account £4,446.72

Reserve account £8,654.63

**Receipts**

(a) Bank Interest - £8.87 received 10.02.23

(b) GoFund Me - £3585.18 – received 07.03.23

**Payments**

(c) Context Planning - £3,900.00

(d) Clerks Salary – February £342.53

(e) HMRC – February £14.20

(f) DM Mason Engineering Consultants - £3,600.00

(g) Village Hall – Hall Hire - £25.00

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

**16 Correspondence**

(a) Somerset County Council monthly report – forwarded 06.03.23

**17 Matters to report/items for next agenda**

There were no matters to report or items for the next agenda

**18 Date and time of next meeting:** - Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2023 in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 9.13pm