

# ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING

Held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at Ashwick and Oakhill Village Hall

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

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

### **1 Welcome by the Chairman**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

### **2 Apologies for absence**

Cllr Monica Mundy

### **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 dispensations 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.

Cllr David Simons joined the meeting at 7.35pm

### **6 Somerset Councillor Reports**

Somerset Councillor Edric Hobbs was in attendance and gave a verbal report. Subjects covered were the refuse collection strike which has been delayed for two weeks, the new 20mph scheme being offered to local Councils, Local Community Networks – the first meeting for the area is taking place at the end of the month, Beacon Crossroads and whether a survey could be considered as the traffic is becoming worse.

### **7 To confirm the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and the Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May and the Parish Council Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023, previously circulated**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Council Meeting and the Parish Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May and the Parish Council Meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be accepted as a true record and were signed and dated by the Chair.

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

**(a)** The consultation for the extension of the 30mph zone at Gally Batch and Fosse Road has finished, no further correspondence has been received as to when this will take place.

**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) **2023/0800/FUL** Erection of dwelling, car port and associated access. Land at Goodrest Cottage, Blackey Lane to Withy Lane, Neighbourne response  
**Recommendation** Due to the previous meeting being inquorate, recommendations from Councillors were made by email and submitted under delegated authority, the Parish Council recommended approval.
- (b) **2023/0969/TCA** T1 – Beech – Crown reduction of up to 3m. T2 – Thuga Plicata – Clear 2m from house. T3 & T4 – Sycamore – Cut back overhanging branches. G1 – Laurel – Reduce height to 3m. Spencer House, Manor Place, High Street, Oakhill. This is a **notification only** and in line with Somerset Council's constitution and the adopted scheme of delegation and terms of reference, the decision for this application is delegated to the planning officers.
- (c) **2023/0791/CLP** Application for a proposed lawful development certificate for a single storey rear extension. 19 The Old Maltings, Oakhill. This is a **notification only** and in line with Somerset Council's constitution and the adopted scheme of delegation and terms of reference, the decision for this application is delegated to the planning officers.
- (d) **2023/1260/TCA** T1 – Oak – reduce limbs by 2m. T2 – Beech – reduce by 5m. T3 – Ash – reduce limbs by 2m. The Beeches, Gas Lane, Oakhill. This is a **notification only** and in line with Somerset Council's constitution and the adopted scheme of delegation and terms of reference, the decision for this application is delegated to the planning officers.

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

- (a) **2023/0190/HSE** Creation of a 6m x 10.5 decking. Oakhill Lodge, Bath Road, Oakhill.  
**Decision** Somerset have approved the planning application
- (b) **APP/Q33305/W/22/3313162** Residential development of 26 dwellings, including 30% affordable housing, together with associated landscaping, parking, access, sustainable urban drainage system and any other associated infrastructure. **Decision** Following the appeal hearing held on 18<sup>th</sup> April, the Planning Inspector has dismissed the appeal.
- (c) **2023/0231/FUL** Change of use of agricultural land to domestic curtilage with associated access / parking. Holly Cottage, Pound Lane, Oakhill. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (d) **2023/0748/HSE** Demolition of existing two storey and single storey extensions and conservatory. Proposed erection of two storey extension. Sunnycott, High Street, Oakhill **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (e) **2023/0763/NMA** Application for a non-material amendment to permission 2021/0530/FUL for the regularisation of drawing no. 808/20/13B. Highcroft Farm, Old Frome Road to Underhill, Gurney Slade. **Decision** Somerset Council have granted approval.
- (f) **2023/0784/CLP** Application for a proposed lawful development certificate for ancillary log cabin within residential garden. Gales Court, Bath Road access to sewerage works, Stratton on the Fosse, Radstock. **Decision** Somerset Council have stated the development is lawful.
- (g) **2023/0791/CLP** Application for a proposed lawful development certificate for a single-storey rear extension. 19 The Old Maltings, Oakhill, Radstock. **Decision** Somerset Council have stated the development is lawful.

**11 Under Section 1, Paragraph 2 of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

The Council **RESOLVED** that the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

The Clerk left the meeting at 8.05pm

**(a) Contracted Hours for the Clerk**

The Council **RESOLVED** the Clerks hours would be reduced until the end of the Financial Year.

The Clerk rejoined the meeting at 9.12pm and the meeting was reopened to the public.

**12 Finance**

Bank Balance as at 4<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Current account £5,189.93

Reserve account £16,691.58

**Quarterly Budget Review** the Council noted the Quarterly Budget Review **Approval and signing of the Quarterly Bank Reconciliation** This was deferred to the next meeting as the Bank Reconciliation was not available

**Receipts**

(a) Bank Interest - £11.20 – received 10.05.23

(b) Bank Interest - £ 13.19 – received 10.06.23

(c) VAT Reclaim - £972.80 – received 16.06.23

**Payments**

(d) Clerks Salary and Expenses – May - £441.85 – pd 15.06.23

(e) Oakhill and Ashwick Village Hall – Hall Hire - £25.00 – pd 15.06.23

(f) Idverde - £201.59 – pd 15.06.23

Payments above were paid following the meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> June, but require ratifying for approval.

(g) Oakhill and Ashwick Village Hall – Hall Hire - £25.00

(h) Clerks Salary and Expenses – June - £247.61

**Transfers**

(i) Transfer of £10,000 from the reserve account to the current account – transferred 12.05.23

The Council **RESOLVED** to ratify the approval of payments (d), (e) and (f) and also **RESOLVED** to approve the receipts and payments.

**13 Grant Applications**

**(a) Grant Application from the Village Festival for £500**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the grant application from the Village Festival for £500

**(b) Grant Application from the Phoenix Magazine - £500**

The Council **RESOVLED** to approve the grant application from the Phoenix Magazine for £500.

**14 To Be Resolved / Discussed****(a) Approval of the Health and Safety Policy**

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Health and Safety Policy

**(b) Appointment of a Parish Councillor to represent the Parish Council at the Local Community Networks.**

Cllr David Simons offered to attend the Local Community Network meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July at Pilton Village Hall starting at 7pm.

**(c) Proposal as to whether contact Somerset Forge as to whether any more work can be carried out on the fingerpost by the Oakhill Inn to stabilise the fingers.**

Following a brief discussion Somerset Forge will be contacted for a quote to repair the fingerpost by the Oakhill Inn. This will be brought back to the next meeting.

**(d) Discussion and possible replacement of a damaged bench on Pound Lane**

Cllr Philip Blatchford offered to take some photos and forward to Councillors. Quotes will be obtained for repair and replacement costs. This will be brought back to the next meeting.

**(e) Appointment of a Councillor to write a regular article for The Phoenix Magazine**

The Council **RESOLVED** to appoint Cllr David Barlow to write a regular article for the Phoenix Magazine, this will be done in conjunction with the Clerk.

**(f) Discussion and possible proposal to apply for a Health and Wellbeing Grant from SALC**

The Council **RESOLVED** to apply for the small Health and Wellbeing Grant from SALC. The application form will be forwarded to Councillors for comments.

**(g) Discussion and possible proposal on Community Funded 20mph speed limits.**

The Council **RESOLVED** not to apply this year for the Community Funded 20mph speed limits as there are not funds available and the short time scale to apply.

**15 Clerks Report**

**(a)** Due to major work being carried out in the centre of Stoke St Michael, the centre of the village will be closed for up to 10 weeks, the work commenced on 10<sup>th</sup> July and is due to last until the middle of September.

**(b)** The High Street will be closed for repairs to a culvert between 14<sup>th</sup> August and 3<sup>rd</sup> September, access for residents and emergency vehicles will be available. Letters will be delivered to residents detailing the work nearer the time.

**16 Correspondence**

**(a)** Save The Date – Local Community Network meeting Monday 31<sup>st</sup> July at Pilton Village Hall starting at 7pm – forwarded 24.05.23

**(b)** Councillor Training Courses, summer dates – forwarded 25.05.23

**(c)** Dates of various training events – forwarded 27.06.23

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

**(a)** Reports were received of a damaged car at the entrance to the Village Hall, this is not Parish Council land so the matter should be referred to Somerset Highways or the local police.

**18 Date and time of next meeting: - Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in the Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.**

Meeting closed 9.11pm