

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Michelle English, Delamere House, Hill Furze, Fladbury, Pershore, WR10 2NB
Tel: 01386 860502, email ashtonunderhill@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2015 @ 7pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

Members and Officers present: Cllr Moore (Chair) Cllrs Barnett, Cllr Fletcher, Cllr Sanger-Davies, Cllr Cope & Cllr Hague

In attendance: Clerk & 2 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence . Cllr Smith (S)
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. None
 - b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. Cllr Hague on mowing quotation
 - c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature. None
 - d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting.

**The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time – at 7.30 & re convened at 7.40.
Notes attached**

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire.

3. The minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2014 were signed as a true record
4. **Progress reports:**
 - a. Social Centre –
 - Wickstead have inspected the Playground and equipment
 - There are three new members on the committee
 - 25 year lease has been signed between the Cricket Club and the Social Centre, the cost of the lease £750.00 was covered by the Social Centre
 - There is a possibility of a new football team hiring the pitch.
 -
 - b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group – No report
 - c. PACT
1 crime to report from a petrol station. 1x make off without payment 06/01/15
 - d. Lengthsman
It was agreed that the Parish Council would not pay for the Public Liability insurance nor would they increase the hourly rate.

It was agreed to advertise further including in the Parish Magazine stating that PL insurance is necessary for the role. The Clerk to inform Mr Hudjec and to arrange for the Vehicle Activated equipment to be returned to the Chairman.
 - e. Vehicle Activated Sign
Nothing further can happen until such time as a Lengthsman is employed.

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f. Defibrillator

We have written and spoken to reps at 'direct 365' they will not accept the defibrillator back for a credit.

The cabinet has been installed at the First School and awaits the free unit from Ambulance service - and then it's training. We have approximately 15-20 volunteers lined up.

g. Flooding

No issues

h. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School)

The Council agreed the following points would be issued to Highways with a copy to the local MP along with photos of busses in the village.

Once the consultation has been issued the Parish Council will send out flyers to residents together with our list of points so that they can make their own comments.

SCHOOLS' TRAFFIC ISSUE Ashton-under-Hill P.C. Jan 2015

- **Around 83 pupils only (<14.56%)** at any one time attend Bredon Hill Middle School (34/464), Ashton First School (40/94) and Play Group (9/12est.) and **actually live in Ashton**
- Up to **487 children or 85.44%** of pupils live outside Ashton-u-Hill and **are ferried up and down our village twice daily during term time**
- The building of BHMS was instigated by **higher authorities** which **should be obliged to provide or improve an infrastructure acceptable to Ashton-u-Hill Parish Council**
- **The proposed employment of mandatory no parking**, ie double yellow lines is a cheap and cynical "cop-out" for the higher authorities and **wholly unacceptable to the inhabitants of Ashton-u-Hill**
- From the start **Traffic Engineers** have stuck to a simple plan of painting double yellow lines virtually the entire length of Elmley Road. So called "consultation" thus far has shown that traffic engineers, with minute exceptions, **do not appreciate the will of Ashton inhabitants by failing to listen and modify their thinking** for an ideal and acceptable solution **to a problem which occurs for 60-90 minutes on school days only** equating to just 10 days of the year! **The inhabitants of Ashton will not have inflicted upon them a no parking scheme in their village by an outside authority for 96.86% of time when it is not required at all!**
- **Ashton does not possess any off road public parking** due mainly to the natural contours in an Area of Outstanding Natural beauty sited as it is on the side of Bredon Hill
- **About 25 residents along Elmley Rd have little or no off road parking and logically park their vehicles adjacent to their properties**
- **In term time as many as 70 additional vehicles, excluding buses, arrive and depart (Parents, Teachers, Governors etc.)**

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- **Where would all the visitors park**, including parents and teachers, **who are obliged to travel to Ashton by private vehicles?**

The following Proposals have been agreed by the Parish Council

- 1 **No Yellow Lines** – this would encourage speeding and move congestion to other parts of village
- 2 **20mph speed limit**
- 3 **Introduce smaller buses**
- 4 **Strict Disciplines for Bus Drivers** – no mounting kerbs; no arrivals more than 10 mins ahead of boarding times; more courtesy for pedestrians and other road users
- 5 **Regular reminders to parents** to car share and/ or walk
- 6 Middle School to revert to old time-table
- 7 **Bus Park/enlarged turning circle at BHMS**
- 8 **Traffic Warden**
- 9 **Leaflets/stickers on visiting cars** “Please do not Double Park”

NB. Steve Charlton (Head at BHMS) and Chris Holloway (Snr Traffic Eng.) agreed to stagger buses

Some additional solutions offered by villagers:

10 **Transform verges into lay-by parking** for residents

11 **Acquire land** accessible from Elmley road **for off street parking**

12 **Stagger school start/end times & avoid 2 buses crossing by holding all buses at school until last arrives**

13 **Construct new access road to BHMS** as “anticipated” prior to completion of BHMS

- i. Trees in the Parish – it was agreed to accept the quotation from Christ Arnold Tree Surgery to commence work on the two Ash trees at Gorse Hill to the value of £150.00
 - Remove all ivy and tidy up
 - Reduce tree of BT cables and crown lift off footpath

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5. **District and County Councillors' reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

Report from DC Darby

Appeal against refusal of permission for housing at Elmley Road, Ashton under Hill opposite Bredon Hill Middle School . W/14/00637/PN

This application was turned down by officers under delegated powers, despite the fact that the landscape officer did not raise a strong objection. A landscape architect has agreed to appear at the hearing in the summer to present the landscape case on behalf of Wychavon. DC Darby has been helping him prepare the statement of case which has to be submitted by the end of this month.

6. **Planning**

W.14/02468/RM – White Hart Villa

Approval of reserved matters following outline permission W/13/02346/OU

The Council have no objection

W/14/02725 – Middle Farm House

Construction of new dwelling

It was agreed that councillors would look at this application on line before a decision could be made

W/14/02498 – Land, The Groaten

Siting of 540 solar panels

The Council object to this application on the grounds that this development is not in keeping with the area and will interfere with the landscape view from Wychavon Way, Bredon Hill

Notices between meetings:

W/14/02042 – Middle Farm House, Beckford Rd, Refused

The Groaten

Email received from William Barber

"Dear Mr Moor

In reply to your email I can advise that the matter is still with the Planning Inspectorate of which the Council awaits a decision. As soon as a decision has been promulgated the necessary action will be taken to resolve the situation"

7. **To discuss the Parish Plan**

Funding of the Parish Plan was discussed. It was agreed that should this project be a large expense the Council would apply for funding / grants as well as asking local businesses to sponsor it.

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8. To discuss the Village Post Office

Nothing to discuss

9. Finance

Bank balance as at the 21st December 2014

Current - £2,509.27
Savings - £5,311.95

Income since last statement
HMRC - £1,279.61

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st December 2014 = £7,821.22

Cheques below were approved

M English	£ 619.34	- wages
Simon Hague	£ 1,540.00	- grass cutting
Wychavon DC	£ 89.17	- dog bins
Beckford Group Magazine	£ 84.00	- parish news letters

Grass cutting quotation accepted for 2015/16 £1610.00
Tree quotation from Chris Arnold accepted £ 150.00

It was noted that Cllr Fletcher knew of someone interested in purchasing the red paint bought for the telephone box.

10. **Correspondence for Information:** To note the attached appendix of items which have been circulated or will be available for inspection at the meeting. (OR a list of items will be available at the meeting.)

11. Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.

12. **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

- Collapsed wall at the Close, investigate when it will be repaired
- Dog Poo posters
- Letter from Mr King regarding the water problem, clerk to write to the developer again as it is believed they were responsible for installing drains, i.e. a grill and pipework under pavement to the main drain.

Date of next meeting: Date of the next meeting 10th March 2015 @ 7pm in the Green Room
The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

.....(chairman)

.....(date)

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PUBLIC OPEN SESSION NOTES

Mr Ted Williams addressed his concerns over the lack of Parish Council information available on the web site and notice board.

The clerk advised that agendas were normally posted on the board outside the school however due to the Christmas period Januarys Agenda was delayed.

It was agreed that Draft Minutes would be sent to Mr Brian Stephens and Mr Malcolm Nelson to be put on the notice board as well as the Parish website.

The chairman agreed to print and laminate a copy of the agenda and minutes for the board in Cottons Lane.

It was agreed that the dates for future meeting would be put in the parish magazine.

Mr Williams also felt that the Parish Council should do more to advertise the Elections on the 7th Mary and to encourage residents of Ashton Under Hill to become involved in the Council.

Dates of Meetings

10th March 2015 @ 7pm followed by the Annual Parish Meeting at 8pm

19th May 2015 @ 7pm Annual General Meeting

14th July 2015 @ 7pm

8th September 2015 @ 7pm

10th November 2015 @ 7pm