

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 1st September 2015 @ 7.00pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

Members and Officers present: Cllr Smith (Chair), Cllr Moore, Cllr Cope, Cllr Rowley, Cllr Becket & Cllr McIntyre

In attendance: Clerk & 1 member of the public

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Hague.

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.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

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.

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.

Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.

3. **Minutes were approved as true and accurate**

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time at 7.35 to listen to Mr. Brian Stephens

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.

4. **Progress reports:** for information / discussion and comments if necessary

a. Social Centre

Litter bins are being replaced to prevent foxes getting into them.

New bark may be needed

A couple of the new trees have been vandalised

Football club has started up

The Social Centre would like to purchase a new marquee. It was agreed the council would purchase it on their behalf and deduct the amount from their annual grant.

Copy of village hall and recreation ground lease was handed to the Chair and Clerk

b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group Clerk to send meeting dates out

ME

c. PACT

The Vale services had a vehicle make off without paying for fuel on 7/07 and the cash machine was stolen on the 17/07 which you will have seen reported in the local press. This was one of a series of nationwide targeted crimes for which enquiries are on going and a vehicle involved has since been recovered.

The third incident was damage to a vehicle at a property on Elmley Road on 22/07.

We have received notification from a company called AGS Global Fundraising Services letting us know that they will be in the Worcestershire area between 31/08 and 27/09 carrying out fundraising activities on behalf of the RSPCA.

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Fundraisers will wear photo ID at all times and will be attempting to raise funds by signing residents up to monthly direct debits. They have also provided us with a helpline number which is 0800 031 9811 which residents can call if they are uncertain about the legitimacy of the caller.

d. Lengthsman

It was agreed to ask the contractors who mow the church yard if they would be prepared to amalgamate the mowing and strimming with Lengthsman work. NM

e. Vehicle Activated Sign, it was agreed to discuss the possibility of Cllr Hague doing this further FM/SH

f. Defibrillator, re-advertise original purchase on EBay, and send details to Cllr Becket for Council's potential sale SS

g. Flooding

Email from Wychavon

Dear Michelle

This has rumbled on for almost a year but I was determined to get some conclusion, at least as far as land drainage was concerned and for the landowners I have involved.

I do not believe there is a pollution issue. The Environmental Health Officer has been out to the site again and although there is a main sewer crossing if there was a problem there would be a really foul smell and there is not.

The residents path behind Cornfield Way has a build up of algae and has been very slippery but this is because over the months the water has leaked down the bank, ponded and become stagnant. This is something Rooftop will have to address.

The owner of the track is Mr Hughes and he has been very helpful with his local knowledge, as I said before.

Worcestershire County Council have recently been to investigate the highway drainage/structures.

I have seen the report and this now confirms to me that the flooding to the track, footpath and gardens of the properties in Cornfield Way are due to an open chamber and the collapsed highway drainage system on the track. This system takes surface water from the gullies in Elmley Road and during heavy rainfall is fairly substantial. Potentially this water should outfall somewhere in Mr Hughes field in an easterly direction (away from the residential boundaries). I am also concerned that the inlet outside School Bungalow is not working.

I have asked Highways to take ownership of these issues and instruct a maintenance team to remedy.

This concludes my involvement in this vicinity.

I trust this updates your records.

Kind regards

June

On 9 Jun 2015, at 09:58, Hiden, June <June.Hiden@wychavon.gov.uk<<mailto:June.Hiden@wychavon.gov.uk>>>> wrote:

Dear Michelle

I sent you a copy of my informal letter on 29 April which was to Rooftop Housing the landowner of Cornfield Way. After discussion with Rooftop I then contacted the farmer who informed me that he had cut a channel at this location some years ago but not as a drainage ditch.

I met with the farmer, accompanied by an Environmental Health officer, for further investigations. As it had been raining we could identify the flooding issues and I queried whether there was a pollution problem as well.

I have now asked Highways to carry out an investigation so that this matter can be progressed.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

September 2015

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If there are any further updates I will keep you informed.

h. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School) SS
Agreed to follow up with Highways on the Councils proposal of the three locations as well as the 20mph limit in the village

i. Trees in the Parish - The Millennium Trees in the Groaten may be diseased – reported by Andy Tustin. Cllr McIntyre to liaise with Andy Tustin and investigate if this is true, determine action and if there is any comeback with the supplier

NM

j. Communication - It was agreed that a closed Facebook page would be created.
Pass on County "My Parish" admin and password ME/KR
Mr Brian Stephens advised that Lawrence who prints the Ashton News would be happy to do photocopying and printing on behalf of the PC at a competitive price

k. Neighbourhood plan
It was proposed to speak to Cleve Prior before we begin. Set up a steering group, this would be advertised on the website, newsletters asking residents who wants to be involved.

l. Footpaths
The strimmer needs to be repaired, plus a couple of small items required – potential for discount NM

5. **District and County Councillors' reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.) none provided

6. Planning

- AB/15/01741/AB – Application for prior notification of agricultural development – proposed livestock building. Northfield Farm
- W/15/01025/PP – Notification of Appeal against refusal – Harvest Fields, Back Lane
- Approved
 - W/15/00990/PN Willow Cottage
 - W/15/01290/PP Mitha Dara, Cheltenham Rd

7. New Homes Bonus

It was agreed to input all ideas and gather costing's, once done this would be put out to residents for consultation.

Ideas are :-

Dog Poo signs

White gates into the village

Wooden posts by the triangle

Water fountain in the playing field

Storage Container for the playing field etc

Replacement Marquee

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Designated Village Sign

8. Phone box door needs a new wooden frame. To be done at the end of October FM
9. Mirror at the bottom of Hill Side was discussed, Highways have advised they are against these. Defer DC
10. Parking issues in Elmley Road, defer for Cllr Hague's input DC
11. Footways between the Memorial – Church & Old Manor Farm, follow up with Cllr Hardman ME
12. The following procedures, policies were adopted
 - Risk Assessment Policy
 - Partnership Agreements
 - Standing Orders
 - Financial regulations
 - Discussion on AUHPC – General Power of Competence
13. Japanese Knotweed in the Parish. Thanks to Mr Hughes for dealing with this promptly. Letter of thanks to be sent. ME

14. Finance

Bank balance as at the 21st August 2015

Current - £ 4,813.43

Savings - £ 3,3134.32

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st August 2015 = £8,127.75

Cheques below for approval

M English £ 420.19

M Cole (Lengthsman) £ 178.80

CALC £ 120.00

It was agreed that all councillors would make comments on the budget before the 12th October. Chair and Clerk to meet prior to the meeting, week 19th October.

15. **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.)
16. **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.
17. Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.
18. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 10th November at 7pm. The meeting closed at 8.25pm

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.....(chair)

.....(date)