

**Minutes of Meeting of Ashton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 13th February 2013 at 7.15 p.m. at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Sandra Lemon, Jeremy Roychoudhury, David Farrand,
Clerk : John Marshall

The Chairman being absent, Cllr Roychoudhury took the chair.

2013/

13.

Public session:

PCSO Cooksammy reported on a spate of thefts in the area of catalytic convertors, mainly from vans.

14.

Declarations of interest:

Cllr Lemon, Ashton Playground Association; Cllr Farrand, AVN.

15.

Apologies for absence:

Cllrs Green (work), Day (ill-health), Turvey (ill-health), Beber (prior commitment). Dis Cllr Wilson had also sent apologies.

16.

Approval of Minutes of last Meeting (9th January 2013):

Cllr Farrand proposed that the Minutes be accepted; all in favour.

17.

Matters arising from the Minutes and Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's report had been previously circulated; there were no questions. Matters arising were covered elsewhere on the Agenda.

18.

Planning:

i.

New Applications.

None.

ii.

Update on existing Applications.

S/2012/1558/FUL; 85 Hartwell Road has been approved.

iii.

Other Planning Matters.

i. Cllr Farrand updated Cllrs on the flooding involving raw sewage at Stoke Road (see Minutes 118 iii, page 397 and 6.iii, page 408) and on the recent work undertaken by Anglian Water to clear the blockage in the sewer. He commented favourably on the speedy response provided by the Street Doctor reporting scheme and Cllrs agreed to pass this on to Helen Howard of NCC Highways at the meeting with her on 19th February. Cllrs went on to discuss the implications for the Ashton sewerage system arising from the proposed housing development in Road. The Clerk was asked to write to SNC Development Control, drawing attention to the recent flooding problems and enclosing Cllr Farrand's report.

Clerk

19.

Parish / Neighbourhood Plan:

Cllr Roychoudhury had nothing to report. Following discussion, when several names of residents known to be interested were put forward, Cllr Roychoudhury was asked to make contact with them in an attempt to 'kick start' the process.

JR

20.

Finance:

i.

Financial Report.

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank as at 31st January 2013

£14,100.37

Receipts

Date	From	For	Amount
			Nil

ii. Bills for Payment:

The Council approved unanimously the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
	578	Cheque cancelled			
13.02.13	579	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, Jan	210.29	
13.02.13	580	Post Office Ltd	HMRC (PAYE)	44.80	
13.02.13	581	May Gurney Ltd	Salt	16.67	3.30
13.02.13	582	David Farrand	AVN printing	117.50	

21. Highways issues:**i. Flooding.**

This matter had been dealt with in part under item 18 iii above, but Cllrs also discussed the flooding on Roade Hill at Waterloo Dip, a matter which will be raised with Helen Howard on 19th February.

22. Other issues:**i. The Hut Land.**

Cllr Lemon reported that there had been a considerable interest in having an allotment and preliminary arrangements in terms of allocations, the provision of water butts etc were moving ahead. The Clerk advised that once the period for advertising the proposed changes to the Charity Scheme finished on 16th February, he would be contacting the CC to request the Scheme and changes to be finalised. It would then be for the Council to appoint 2 Trustees (at least one of whom would need to be a Parish Councillor) and arrange for the election of 3 further Trustees and formation of a Committee of Management.

Clerk

ii. Footpaths.

Cllr Roychoudhury had nothing to report.

iii. Network Rail work by bridge 201.

The Clerk advised that he had spoken to the contractors, Hewletts on site who had promised to attend to the road surface after completion of the works. However, Cllrs felt that the condition of the roadways was such that the matter should be taken up with Network Rail; Clerk to write to NR.

Clerk

iv. Grass cutting, 2013 season.

2 contractors had been invited to tender but only 1 response was received. Cllrs noted that the cost for the Churchyard showed no increase from the previous year and that the cost for additional work to cut Stoke Road Green was within budget. Cllrs resolved unanimously to accept the tender from J S Landscapes, including the option to remove the cut grass from Stoke Road Green.

Clerk

23. Correspondence requiring a response or decision:

A questionnaire had been received from SNC regarding their Play Ranger and SPLAT summer activities. Clerk to respond.

Clerk

24. Items for next meeting:

None.

There being no further business and before Cllr Roychoudhury closed the meeting, Cllr Lemon advised Cllrs that she was about to start work on the entry submission for the Northamptonshire 'Best Village' competition. Cllr Lemon also advised that she has been appointed to the SNC Standards Committee, following her successful application in response to the recently advertised vacancy. The appointment was in her own right rather than as a representative of the Council.

Cllr Roychoudhury closed the meeting at 8.45pm.