

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting and Annual Meeting of Ashton Parish
Council held on Wednesday 8th May 2013 at 7.00 p.m.
at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Terry Turvey (Chair), Bernard Day, Sandra Lemon, David Farrand, Steve Green, Alan Beber

Clerk : John Marshall

Annual Parish Meeting

7 members of the public present. Cllr Turvey, Chairman presented his review of the year.

Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

- 48. Election of Chairman :** **Action**
Cllr Day proposed that Cllr Turvey be elected as Chairman; all in favour. Cllr Turvey signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- 49. Election of Vice-Chairman:**
Cllr Farrand proposed that Cllr Lemon be elected as Vice-Chairman; all in favour.
- 50. Appointment of Cllrs to Parish Posts:**
Cllrs agreed unanimously to the following appointments
- | | |
|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Footpaths | Cllr Turvey |
| Neighbourhood Watch | Cllr Farrand |
| Litter picking | Cllr Lemon |
| Neighbourhood / Parish Plan | Cllr Beber |
- 51. Re-adoption of Standing Orders and Financial Regulations:**
The Council resolved unanimously that the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be re-adopted.
- Cllr Turvey announced the conclusion of the business of the Annual Meeting and that the Council would now proceed to deal with the business of the normal monthly meeting, as set out in the remainder of the Agenda.
- 52. Public session:**
Issues raised by members of the public were as follows;
- what is the current position regarding Jubilee Woods? Cllr Turvey advised that this matter would be discussed later in the Agenda (item 60 ii)
 - will the Council fund improvements to the fencing etc at the Hut Land? Cllr Turvey advised that there was money in the Council's budget for Hut Land improvements but that the Council first needed to secure the necessary planning permission (currently with SNC) for change of use of the land
- 53. Declarations of interest:**
Cllr Lemon, Ashton Playground Association
- 54. Apologies for absence:**
None.
- 55. Approval of Minutes of last Meeting (10th April 2013):**
Cllr Day proposed that the Minutes be accepted; all in favour.

56. Matters arising from the Minutes and Clerk's Report:

The Clerk's Report had been circulated previously; there were no questions.

- A quotation had been received from KJ Pickering Ltd for a footway path at Stoke Road Green. The cost - in excess of £5,000 – was considered to be outwith the Council's budget, even allowing for a contribution from SNH. Mention was made of the 'Crocodile Scheme' – a school safety initiative – as a possible source of grant funding; Cllr Farrand also mentioned an alternative route for procuring this work and was asked to obtain prices.
- Cllr Farrand provided an update on pothole repairs. Hartwell Park Road had been repaired in places but NCC Highways / MGWSP are now operating a revised county-wide protocol for dealing with the pothole problem. He also reported on the recent jetting of storm drains in the village and the need to replace a guard rail at Waterloo Hollow, following drainage improvement works there by NCC Highways / MGWS; the Clerk to report this to Helen Howard.
- Cllr Beber raised the issue of whether the goal posts were to be removed from the recreation field, during the summer. The Council heard a report of unruly behaviour by some older youths who are occasional users of the field and goals. In discussion, Cllrs reiterated that the Council was the lessee of the land and that the goals were the property and responsibility of the Ashton Playground Association (APA). Cllr Turvey considered that the continuing dispute over the use of the field might result in the unwelcome outcome of Charles Wells Brewery cancelling the lease, leading to the loss of the facility to the village; Cllr Lemon refuted that opinion, for which she said there was no evidence. The Council resolved not to ask that the goals be removed but rather to ask the APA to monitor and, where possible manage incidences of unruly behaviour that came to their attention. Cllrs also requested Cllr Beber to take back to the complainants a request for any suggestions from them to alleviate the problem, together with the suggestion that residents might consider politely approaching the people who were causing them disturbance.

DF

Clerk

AB

57. Planning:**i. New Applications**

The Council resolved unanimously* that its response would be 'no objections' to the following Applications; S/2013/

0462/FUL; 14 Stoke Road, garden store and garage

0466/FUL; 22 Hartwell Road, dormer window to front elevation

0494/FUL; 85 Hartwell Road, 3 open fronted garages plus secure store

0511/FUL; Vale Farm, variation of Plot 1house (accommodation in roof space)*, 5 in favour, 1 against

0517/FUL; 20 Roade Hill, 1st floor extension over garage to form games room / study and single storey side extension.

The Council resolved unanimously that its response would be 'no objections' but to make comments on the following Application;

S/2013/0476/FUL; Rose Cottage, 27A Hartwell Road, widen and reinforce the existing bridge: the bridge deck extension to match the existing in terms of materials and appearance and the deck profile be arranged to allow surface water run off to avoid pooling at the western ie road end.

ii. Update on existing Applications

The Clerk read a letter received from SNC Development Control (Daniel Callis, Case Officer) regarding Application S/2011/1421/MAF; the M1 Wind Farm. Representations received from a number of parties (including Ashton PC) after the Development Control meeting in December 2012 have been referred to the relevant Statutory Consultees. Issues raised have now been resolved with the applicant and whilst Planning Permission has yet to be granted, the matter is to be reconsidered at the Development Control meeting on 09 May.

Clerk

iii. Other planning matters

The Clerk reported that he had submitted to SNC the pre-app enquiry for the change of use for the Hut Land and their response was awaited.

58.

Finance:**i. Financial Report.**

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 30 April 2013 £17,394.50

This includes the additional 'windfall' precept payment of £379.30 from SNC.

The Clerk also reported that he had been visited by David Harries, the Council's NCalc Internal Auditor. He read out the conclusion from the Internal Audit Report confirming that no problems had been found and that the Auditor was satisfied with the Council's management of its affairs and had therefore approved and signed off the Council's Annual Return, which can now be submitted to BDO as External Auditor. The resolved that the Clerk be congratulated on his management of the Council's finances over the past year.

The Clerk also reported that as a result of Cllr Roychoudhury's resignation, a replacement 3rd cheque signatory was required. The Council resolved unanimously to appoint Cllr Sandra Lemon, Vice Chairman to that position; the Clerk was asked to arrange for the bank mandate to be amended.

Clerk

Receipts

Payee	Amount	Description
SNC	6,379.30	First half year's precept

ii. Bills for Payment:

The Council approved unanimously the following payments;

Date	Payee	Cheque	Amount	VAT	Description
08.05.13	W J M Marshall	592	223.25		Salary + exes for April
08.05.13	Post Office Ltd	593	46.20		HMRC/PAYE
08.05.13	S Lemon	594	138.40	20.57	Litter pickers + 'Best Village' entry
08.05.13	JS Landscapes	595	210.00		Grass cutting, April

59.

Highways issues:

See Minute 56 above *re* rail at Waterloo Hollow.

60.

Other issues:

i. The Hut Land. The Clerk reported that whilst the Council needs to await the outcome of the Planning Application for change of use, it could go ahead and arrange for the election of the three additional Trustees who, with the 2 Council appointed Trustees (Cllrs Lemon and Green) would form the Management Committee for the charity. The administrative changes to the charity Scheme, including the change of name could then be made and notified to the Charity Commission. The Clerk was asked to make the necessary arrangements.

Clerk

ii. Jubilee Woods. Cllrs discussed various options regarding the parcel of land adjacent to the Hut Land and that forms part of the Network Rail (NR) estate, including the alleged encroachment by NR into the Hut Land. The Council resolved to pass the matter to the Hut Land Trustees to take forward at this time. Cllr Lemon reported that the Jubilee hedge is now planted.

SG, SL

iii. Cllr Lemon reported a successful litter pick that harvested, amongst other things 8 wheels and tyres.

iv. Neighbourhood / Parish Plan. Cllr Beber agreed to speak with Jeremy Roychoudhury to establish how this matter currently stands.

AB

v. Cllr Lemon raised the issue of occasional burning of materials at Mens Own RFC, that gives rise to offensive nuisance emissions. The Clerk advised that the matter needs to be referred to SNC Environmental Health Dept at the time that it is being carried out.

vi. Salt / grit bin at the Cook's Close jitty. It was confirmed that this bin is the Council's not NCC's property and thus the responsibility for filling / stocking it falls to the Council. This will be undertaken later this year, using salt purchased from MGWSP earlier this year. Salt / grit bin at the Cook's Close jitty. It was confirmed that this bin is the Council's not NCC's property and thus the responsibility for filling / stocking it falls to the Council. This will be undertaken later this year, using salt purchased from MGWSP earlier this year.

61. Correspondence requiring a response or decision:

e-mail from NCALC advising of an event on 26 June at Roade Village Hall; to be forwarded to Cllrs.

e-mail from Jeremy Roychoudhury informing the Council of his resignation as a Councillor. The Clerk was asked to write to him, accepting his decision and thanking him for many years of service to the Council and the Ashton community. The Clerk was also asked to make the necessary arrangements for the vacancy to be filled by co-option.

Clerk

Clerk

62. Items for next meeting:

None. Cllrs Day, Beber and Farrand offered their apologies in advance

Cllr Turvey closed the meeting at 9.15pm.

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 12th June 2013 at 7.15pm.