

**Minutes of Meeting of Ashton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 16th October 2013 at 7.15 p.m. at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Terry Turvey, Sandra Lemon, Bernard Day, Carl Johnson, Alan Beber, Steve Green

Clerk : John Marshall

10 members of the public. SNC Cllr Wilson & NCC Cllr Walker were unable to attend

2013/
99.

Public Session:

A representative from ASPA requested a grant towards the fireworks event. The Council resolved unanimously to award a grant of £350.00.

Several members of the public raised the issue of possible housing development by Grand Union Housing Partnership / South Northants Homes (GUHP / SNH) of land to the north of Stoke Road Green, currently a garage area owned by them. Concerns expressed centred on the Parish Council's involvement in the project to date. The role and remit of the Council in planning matters was explained and a *resume* of the chronology of meetings and events was given. The Council made it clear that;

- the Planning Authority is South Northants Council (SNC), not the Parish Council and that as such, it is SNC that will receive and determine any Planning Application (PA) that is submitted
- the Parish Council will be consulted by SNC for its view on any PA that is submitted for this site but that to date, a PA for this site has not, so far as the Council is aware been submitted to SNC
- if and when a PA is received, it will be discussed by the Council at its first available meeting, the Agenda for which will be published 3 working days before the meeting. It is open to any member of the public to either send comments on the PA to the Clerk by 'phone, letter or e-mail ahead of the meeting or to attend the meeting and express their view in person; the Council encourages residents to do so
- before deciding its response, the Council will take into consideration any comments it receives from the public
- the Parish Council will not be the sole consultee; residents living in the vicinity of the proposed development will also be formally consulted by SNC but any resident, whether formally consulted or not is able to comment to SNC on any PA and the Council encourages them to do so.

100. Declarations of interest:

Cllr Lemon, Ashton Playground Association (as Committee member) and the Hut Land (as Trustee); Cllr Green, the Hut Land (as Trustee).

101. Acceptance of apologies for absence:

Cllrs Farrand (prior commitment).

102. Approval of Minutes of last Meeting (11th September 2013):

The Council resolved to approve the Minutes as a true record.

103. Matters arising from the Minutes, including the Clerk's Report:

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

104. Planning:

i. New Applications

S/2012/0382/MAO; ex PSL site, Roade. The Council resolved to object to the Application on the grounds of the inevitable exacerbation of sewage flooding problems on Stoke Road that would arise, unless improvements were made to the existing sewerage arrangements (as highlighted in the letter from the Environment Agency to SNC) and increased traffic flows through Ashton.

S/2013/1191/FUL, 11 Hartwell Road, 2 storey rear extension, porch and off-road parking. The Council resolved its response to be 'no objections'.
APP/Z2830/C/13/2204231, appeal against Enforcement Notice in respect of a tree house at 29 Hartwell Road. The Council noted that its previous comments, supporting the original Planning Application would be taken into consideration by the Inspector conducting the Appeal.

ii. Update on existing applications

All other PAs remain pending.

iii. Other planning matters

Cllr Lemon raised the matter of building works being carried out in the south eastern corner of the field between Stoke Road and the Vale Farm development, that had been raised with her by a resident of Stoke Road. The Council noted that Planning Permission had previously been granted (S/2011//FUL) for the development of stables at this site, that was believed to be of historical importance as a ridge and furrow field. Attention was drawn to the importance of including this site in the Neighbourhood Plan, once developed.

105.

Finance:

i. Financial Report.

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at Bank at 30 th September 2013	£18,381.36
Uncleared cheque	£ 90.00
Cash available (inc £500 AVN funds)	<u>£15,291.36</u>

ii. Bills for Payment and Receipts.

Receipts

Date	From	For	Amount
20.09.13	SNC	Second half precept	6000.00

Payments

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
16.10.13	614	W J M Marshall	Salary + exes for July	210.65	
16.10.13	615	Post Office Ltd	HMRC/PAYE	46.60	
16.10.13	616	JS Landscapes	Grass cutting, Sept	105.00	
16.10.13	617	Barbara Osborne	1/4ly payroll services	30.00	
16.10.13	618	e-on	Street lights electricity	140.20	6.77
16.10.13	619	ASPA	Grant for fireworks event	350.00	

iii. Half yearly budget review and Internal Controls Cllr's Report:

The Clerk circulated a copy of the receipts and payments spread-sheet for the first half-year, that Cllrs then considered alongside the review of the half-year review of the budget that had been circulated previously as part of the Clerk's Report. The financial position is sound, with sufficient free funds in place to cover the anticipated ie budgeted expenditure for the second half year and adequate reserves in line with audit guidelines. Cllr Lemon, as Internal Controls Cllr advised the Council that she had carried out checks in line with the Council's Internal Controls procedures and all appeared to be in order.

106.

Highways issues:

The Council noted that Helen Howard, NCC Highways / MGWSP as well as NCC Cllr Allen Walker had visited on 19th September; Cllrs Lemon, Johnson and Beber had also attended what was considered to be a successful village walkabout. Helen Howard has reported to Street Doctor the damaged road surface at Waterloo

Hollow and at Helen's request the Clerk has spoken to Jane Hawtin, Trees & Hedges Officer regarding issues on Stoke Road.

Cllr Day reported that potholes were still present on Hartwell Park Road; the Clerk agreed to follow this up and report as necessary to Street Doctor.

Clerk

107. Anglian Water issues:

The Clerk provided an update on his dealings with AW regarding the sewerage outflow and overflow issue at Stoke Road. On 9th September, AW's contractors carried out a camera survey of the Stoke Road sewer(s). This revealed the presence of 'calcination' that was obstructing the flow and AW is arranging for the calcination to be removed by water jetting and a re-survey carried out. The manhole outside 61 Stoke Road is also to be re-sealed.

108. Other issues:

i. Fireworks event

Cllr Day reported that the event would be staged solely by ASPA and that insurance cover had been obtained. Cllr Lemon sought clarification that the Pumpkin Event would be staged under the auspices of the Parish Council; this was confirmed by the Council.

ii. Publication of Parish Council Minutes and Ashton Village website

Cllr Farrand, not being present had indicated in an e-mail to all Cllrs of 19 September that he will continue to own and operate the village website but in the interests of maintaining independence, he wishes to do so without Council (or other) funding. Furthermore, whilst he is happy to continue publishing Council Minutes on the site, he does not wish to commit to providing that as a monthly service but rather to do that when time permits. In the event that the Council wishes to establish its own website, he is willing to provide a link from the village website to the Council's website. Cllr Lemon advised that a village resident had offered assistance and after discussion, the Council resolved to establish a small working group (Cllrs Lemon, Beber, Farrand and the Clerk) to investigate the options for an enhanced village website incorporating a dedicated section for Parish Council matters, where Minutes etc could be posted.

SL,AB,
DF,
Clerk

iii. Neighbourhood / Parish Planning

Cllr Lemon advised that Paul Joyce of Ridgeway Farm had offered to chair a meeting of interested parties and residents in the interests of kick-starting the process. Cllr Beber, as the Council's representative on the NHP Group noted the offer; a meeting of the Group has been arranged for 4th November.

AB

iv. Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator

Cllr Farrand had indicated that he wished to stand down from this post. Cllr Johnson agreed to take on the role; the Clerk was asked to advise PCSO Cooksammy of the change and Cllr Farrand to be asked to update the AVN.

Clerk
DF

v. Christmas tree

The Council resolved to spend up to £30 ex VAT to purchase lights for the village Christmas tree; Cllr Lemon offered to organise the purchase.

SL

109. Correspondence requiring a response or decision:

None.

110. Items for next meeting:

None.

Cllr Turvey closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Date and time of next meeting:

Wednesday 27th November; NO meeting in December