

**Minutes of Meeting of Ashton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 9th April 2014 at 7.15 p.m. at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Terry Turvey, Sandra Lemon, Bernard Day, Carl Johnson, Alan Beber,
Lee Gardiner

Clerk: John Marshall

In attendance: SNC Cllr Wilson, 2 members of the public.

2014/

35.

Public Session:

A resident raised concerns regarding Planning Application S/2014/0438/FUL, specifically the over-looking of neighbouring property, the expansion of industry, car parking and traffic and lighting from this effective 'change of use' that will likely ensue. Concern was also expressed over alleged contraventions of the existing Planning Permission in respect of the site working hours and the storing of materials and equipment; Dis Cllr Wilson agreed to refer this matter to SNC Planning.

36.

Declarations of interest:

Cllr Lemon, Ashton Playground Association (as Committee Member) and the Hut Land (as Trustee); Cllr Gardiner, Ashton Playground Association and Planning Applications S/2014/0389/MAF (prior business associate) and S/2014/0449/FUL (applicant); Cllr Day, St Michael and all Angels (as PCC member).

37.

Acceptance of apologies for absence:

Steve Green, ill-health.

38.

Approval of Minutes of last Meeting (12th March 2014):

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

39.

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

The Clerk's Report had been previously circulated; there were no questions. Cllr Turvey had spoken to the contractors carrying out work at 12 Hartwell Road and the verge area had been improved by them.

40.

Planning:

i. New Applications

S/2014/0323/FUL Vale Farm House; the Council resolved its response to be 'no objections with no additional comments'

Clerk

S/2014/0389/FUL Long Acre Kennels, Roade; the Council resolved its response to be 'no objections with no additional comments'

Clerk

S/2014/0438/FUL Pickerings, Roade Hill; to be 'object due to the the over-looking of neighbouring property, the expansion of industry, car parking and traffic and lighting from this effective 'change of use' that will likely ensue'.

Clerk

S/2014/0449/FUL 14 Stoke Road. Cllr Gardiner left the room. The Council resolved its response to be 'no objections with no additional comments'.

Clerk

ii. Update on existing applications

No outstanding applications.

iii. Other planning matters

None.

41.

Finance:

i. Financial Report.

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at Bank at 31 st March 2014	£13,008.00
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NB includes AVN funds, currently	£ 155.00
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Cash available	<u>£12,853.00</u>
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ii. Bills for Payment and Receipts.Receipts

Date		From	For	Amount	
				Nil	

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
09.04.14	639	W J M Marshall	Salary + exes for Feb	210.65	
09.04.14	640	Post Office Ltd	HMRC/PAYE	46.60	
09.04.14	641	St Michael's PCC	Grant	210.00	
09.04.14	642	Barbara Osborne	Payroll services	30.00	
09.04.14	643	AS Agricultural	Hut Land fence	500.00	
09.04.14	644	NCALC	Annual fee	284.91	
09.04.14	645	JS Landscapes	Grass cutting	45.00	
09.04.14	646	e-on	Street lighting	139.10	6.62

iii. Approval of the Annual Return.

The Clerk then took Cllrs through Part 1 'Accounting Statements' of the Audit Annual Return form; there were no questions. Councillors then unanimously approved the Resolution 'that the accounting statements that form part of the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014 be approved'. The Accounting Statements were certified by the Clerk as Responsible Financial Officer and the confirmation of approval by Cllr Turvey as Chairman of the meeting.

The Clerk then addressed each of the questions in the Governance Statement set out in Part 2 of the Annual Return form; there were no questions. Councillors then unanimously approved the Resolution 'that the Council acknowledge and confirm the Annual Governance Statement as required by the Annual Return for the year ended 31 March 2014'. The approval was signed by the Clerk and Cllr Turvey as Chairman of the meeting.

The Clerk advised that David Harries, the NCALC Internal Auditor was due to visit on 14 April to conduct the internal audit.

42. Highways issues:

The damaged pole for the bend sign on Hartwell Road opposite Cook's close has been replaced.

43. Other issues:**i. Neighbourhood / Parish Planning:**

Cllr Beber reported on a recent Steering Group meeting that had been well attended by approx. 15 residents. It was agreed to invite Adrian Colwell from SNC to attend the following meeting in March to advise on the options available and the appropriate way to proceed, but he was unable to attend, so it was cancelled until another meeting could be arranged to accommodate him.

ii. Footpaths:

Cllr Turvey reported that path KA4 was now cleared of hedge trimmings etc. An e-mail had been received from a resident complaining that the path was now obstructed by a partially collapsed fence. The resident also raised the issue of an excessively high stile on path KA15. The Clerk was asked to report both matters to NCC RoW officer via Street Doctor.

iii. Website:

The Clerk reported that the website was now completed and arrangements were being made for it to be handed over to the Council. Cllr Beber agreed to speak with Stewart Childs of ADC Online to make the necessary arrangements. The cost

Clerk

AB

to the Council for the website build will be £150. Cllrs Gardiner and Beber will service the site in terms of monthly uploading of Agenda and approved Minutes.

LG/AB

iv. Approval of grass cutting contract for 2014 – 15 season.

The Council resolved to confirm JS Landscapes as the contractor for the coming year at the agreed cost of £60 per cut of the Churchyard and £45 per cut of Stoke Road Green. The Clerk to advise Jason Smith of the Council's acceptance of the terms and request a copy of his current public liability insurance.

Clerk

v. Consideration of the Council's response to the proposed de-registration of Hartwell Road Village Green.

The Council had previously heard from and questioned Mr Firth, the applicant on his proposal. As part of the process will involve the applicant convening a meeting to which all residents are invited, the Council resolved to send a 'without prejudice' holding reply highlighting the issues that it had identified to date *viz*;

- whether it was appropriate to appoint trustees to manage the transferred replacement land or to transfer ownership outright to the Parish Council. The Council reserved its position on whether it was appropriate for it to accept ownership and / or responsibility for the replacement land that was proposed for transfer and considered that it would require a full statement of the liabilities that would transfer with ownership before it decided whether it was appropriate to accept the land.

- confirmation over right of access to the land from the access roadway at the eastern side

- confirmation that the applicant would be responsible for any costs incurred by the Council, if transfer of ownership was agreed

The Clerk was asked to prepare a draft letter for approval.

Clerk

vi. Grant applications.

The Council considered a request from Ashton Playground Association (APA) for a matched funding grant of approx. £2500 towards the cost of play equipment.

The Clerk reminded Cllrs of the New Homes Bonus funds (currently £5,371) held by SNC and available to the Ashton community. Cllrs agreed to point the APA towards that source of funding; Cllr Gardiner to progress the application.

LG

The Council also considered a request from the Guerrilla Gardeners (for a grant to purchase plant troughs for the village entrances and a garden refuse bin) and the Allotment Committee (for a grant to provide improvements including edge boarding). Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr Gardiner would attempt to source a green bin and that the Clerk would apply for the other items from the NHB fund on the basis of them being village improvement items. Cllr Lemon was asked to supply the Clerk with details of the items and costings.

**LG
Clerk
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44. Correspondence requiring a response or decision:

None.

45. Items for the next meeting:

Proposal to de-register the village green that forms part of Orchard House, 29 Hartwell Road.

Cllr Turvey closed the meeting at 9.25pm.

Date and time of next meeting:

Wednesday 14th May 2014

NB Annual Parish Meeting, 7pm followed by Annual Meeting of the Council and May business meeting, 7.15pm