

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ashton Parish Council
held on Wednesday 11th March 2015 at 7.15 p.m. at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Cllrs Turvey, Lemon, Green, Day, Gardiner, Johnson

Clerk : John Marshall

3 members of the public. NCC Cllr Allen Walker unable to attend.

Action

156. Public session:

A resident who is currently attending university advised the Council that according to a Money Advisor at South Northants Homes, she was entitled to request the Council to make a grant for books. Cllr Turvey and the Clerk advised the resident that this was not the case, so far as they were aware and suggested that the resident obtain further details from the Advisor.

The resident also questioned whether, how and when a water supply will be laid on to the Hut Land. Cllr Lemon and the Clerk advised that this was 'work in progress'. A resident advised that the drain beneath the privately owned drive adjacent to the Hartwell Road green had collapsed and consequently, there was some pooling of surface water. Attempts have been made to deal with the problem via Street Doctor.

157. Declarations of interest:

Cllrs Lemon and Green, Hut Land.

158. Approval of apologies for absence:

Cllrs resolved to accept apologies from Cllr Beber (prior commitment).

159. Approval of Minutes of previous Meeting:

The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the meeting of 11th February 2015.

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

The Clerk's Report had been circulated previously; there were no questions. The Clerk reported that framing of the Freeman's scroll was in hand. There is still no reply from Andrea Leadsom MP to our invitation to present the scroll; in the circumstances the Council resolved to proceed on 18th April but with the presentation being made by the Chairman of the Council. The Clerk was asked to prepare an article for the AVN and the Village e-mail.

Clerk

**TT, BD
Clerk**

161. Planning:

i. New Applications

None.

ii. Update on existing Applications

None; S/2014/2505/FUL, 29 Hartwell Road remains outstanding

iii. Other planning matters

None.

162. Finance:

i. Financial Report:

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 28th February 2015 £16,512.27

this sum includes 'ring fenced' funds as follows;

i. play equipment £1,504.45

ii. election contingency funds £1,000.00

iii. AVN funds £ 413.00

Cllr Lemon advised that she had carried out the periodic check of the accounts as Internals Controls Cllr and that all was in order.

ii. Receipts and Bills for Payment:Receipts

Date	Payee	For	Amount
12.02.15	SNC	NHB grant	622.88

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
11.03.15	700	David Farrand	AVN	42.00	
11.03.15	701	Post Office Ltd	HMRC / PAYE	48.40	
11.03.15	702	W J M Marshall	Salary + exes for Feb	222.06	

The Clerk reported that GUHP had agreed to settle the invoice from Aylesbury Mains for repairs to light no 27 that arose from their contractor severing the underground supply cable to this light.

163.

Other issues:**i. Highways issues****a) Meeting on 24 March at SNC re traffic issues.**

Attendees will be Cllrs Lemon, Gardiner and Green together with the Clerk. Issues to be raised include a 20mph speed limit and the dangers identified at the village gateways including the narrow Stoke Road pavement.

b) Community Enhancement Gang

The Council agreed to request that the Clerk requests hedge trimming on Roade Hill (both sides), cutting back of the willow tree on Stoke Road approach to the village and Hartwell Road gully pots clearance.

Clerk

c) Litter pick.

Cllr Lemon will arrange a litter pick for either 26th March or 4th April

SL

ii. Neighbourhood / Parish Planning; next steps

Correspondence between the Clerk and SNC had been previously circulated. It was acknowledged that before the necessary application to SNC can be made, a decision needs to be taken on whether all or just some parts of the parish need to be identified as the 'neighbourhood area'. The Council concluded that this was properly a task for the NHP Group and resolved to request the NHP Group to make the recommendation do the Council following which and after adoption, the Clerk will submit the legal application to SNC. In the absence of Cllr Beber, details of the correspondence were passed to a member of the NHP Group who was present at this meeting; the map showing the Parish boundary will also be supplied to Cllrs and the NHP Group

**AB,
NHP
Group
Clerk**

iii. Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Johnson reported that Police had recorded just one crime, the theft of an electric fence.

iv. Grass cutting 2015 – 16

The Council resolved to appoint JS Landscapes as its contractor for the 2015-16 season.

v. Grant income and applications

The Clerk reported that to date, there had been 2 applications (from Mens Own RFC and the Allotment Group) for a share of the 2015 Wind Farm Community Fund payment and 2 suggestions as to how the Council might use the funds (repaint the village sign, purchase more play equipment). The closing date is 31st March and the matter will be considered at the April meeting.

The Clerk further reported that reimbursement had been received from SNC for the Hut Land hut and the planters. A decision was awaited from the SNC Grants Panel as to whether additional funds can be made available to meet the extra cost of the Stoke Road Green footway and also from NCC Highways regarding the required approval for the works to go ahead.

Stoke Road Green; update on transfer of ownership

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Susan Bland and Doug Choyce at GUHP/SNH regarding the transfer of the ownership of the Green and had been advised that this will be bundled with other land transfers to 3 Councils, Nether Heyford, Quinton and Helmdon. The Council agreed to the Clerk exploring with these other Councils the possibility of pooling the legal work with a view to saving on legal costs.

Clerk

164. Correspondence requiring a response or a decision:

The Clerk handed out election nomination forms to those Cllrs that requested them and also to one member of the public. The Clerk will provide Cllrs with their individual reference numbers from the Electoral Roll and the numbers of proposers and seconders on request.

Clerk

165. Items for next meeting:

None.

Cllr Turvey closed the meeting at 9.00pm

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 8th April 2015 at 7.15pm