

**Minutes of the Meeting of Ashton Parish Council held on Wednesday  
10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 at 7.15 pm at Ashton Primary School**

**Present:** Cllrs Lemon, Green, Day, Roychoudhury, McAllister

**Clerk :** John Marshall

1 member of the public. NCC Cllr Walker and SNC Cllr Budden unable to attend.

**Action**

2016/

**11. Public session:**

No issues raised.

**12. Declarations of interest:**

Cllrs Lemon and Green, Hut Land; Cllr Day, Recreation field (all non-statutory disclosable interests).

**13. Approval of apologies for absence:**

The Council approved apologies from Cllrs Johnson (holiday) and Bullock (family illness). Councillors, individually and collectively sent Cllr Bullock and his family best wishes

**14. Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings:**

The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 13<sup>th</sup> January 2016.

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

The Clerk's Report had been circulated previously. The Clerk updated the Council on progress with the proposed opening ceremony for the Stoke Road Green footway. The Council agreed to set a date of 23 March at 3.30pm with an alternative of 06 April, still at 3.30pm should the March date prove to be unsuitable for those stakeholders that need to attend. The Clerk was asked to proceed with the arrangements.

**Clerk**

**16. Planning:**

**i. New Applications.**

None

**ii. Update on existing Applications**

None

**iii. Other planning matters**

None.

**17. Finance:**

**i. Financial Report:**

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 31st January 2016 £ 12,795.64

this sum includes 'ring fenced' funds as follows;

i. election contingency funds £ 277.79

ii. residue of AVN funds £ 80.00

iii. residue of Guerrilla Gardeners grant £ 255.00

iv. residue of Transparency Fund grant £ 112.05

HMRC has authorised the VAT reclaim of £2,635

**ii. Receipts and Bills for Payment:**

Receipts

Date	Payee	For	Amount
05.01.16	SNC	NHB Fund payment	3,425.00
05.01.16	GUHP	Donation	3000.00

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
13.01.16	763	Aylesbury Mains	Street light repairs	54.00	9.00
13.01.16	764	Post Office Ltd	HMRC payment	61.60	
13.01.16	765	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, Jan	295.41	2.82

**18. Highways issues****a) proposal for a 20mph speed limit**

The Clerk advised that there has been no progress with the application for the 20mph zone; the situation remains as reported at the January meeting.

**b) Hartwell Road tunnel**

The promised road painting had yet to take place.

**c) proposed footway widening at 58/60 Stoke Road**

In the light of NCC Highway's rejection of this project, the Council discussed the options for organising and managing the required works. Cllrs considered whether, as with the Stoke Road Green footway project it could, itself deliver the project. The Clerk advised it would be essential that the legal issues eg securing the grant of appropriate rights of way together with the liability for maintenance and upkeep, and financial issues ie the cost of the project and the source(s) of guaranteed funding be completed and validated before any works could start. Cllr Lemon undertook to speak to the residents of 56, 58 and 60 Stoke Road to establish the level of commitment to the formal granting of a right of way without which, the project cannot proceed further.

SL

**d) litter picking**

The next litter pick has been arranged for 13 March

**19. Other issues:****i. Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Roychoudhury reported that work on the collation of the responses to the questionnaire had been completed. A meeting to discuss the outcome of that and the next steps will be arranged.

**ii. Neighbourhood Watch**

The most recent crime etc data had been previously circulated.

**iii. Footpaths**

Cllr McAllister had nothing new to report.

**iv. Play equipment inspection**

The Clerk advised that the promised visit by Playquest to remedy the defects noted with their equipment had yet to take place. Their estimate is now w/c Monday 15<sup>th</sup> February.

The weekly safety inspection rota was agreed as follows;

Feb – March, Cllr Roychoudhury

March – April, Cllr McAllister

April – May, Cllr Johnson.

NB the duty (which may be for 4 or 5 weeks, depending on the calendar) commences the Monday of the week following the Council meeting and ends with the week of the following Council meeting, inclusive.

Cllrs

**v. Website**

The Clerk gave a resume of his discussion with Alan Beber and the work that had been carried out to build the new website. Cllrs resolved to approve the design and content of the new site and the arrangements for its management and maintenance by Alan Beber at an initial Year 1 cost of £300, representing £180 build cost and £10 per month management fee thereafter, commencing February 2016.

**vi. Stoke Road Green ownership**

The Clerk provided an update. The documents received from Wright Hassall,

Clerk

solicitors to GUHP contained several errors and inaccuracies that the Clerk was seeking to resolve with them.

**vii. Correspondence requiring a response or a decision:**

**a) Northants Best Village Competition 2016.** Cllr Lemon suggested that the WI might well be willing to compile the submission on behalf of the village. She was asked to confirm this with the WI and in that event, the Council resolved to pay the entrance fee.

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**b) Recreation Field, Charles Wells Lease**

The Clerk advised that confirmation had been received from Gerald Eve, surveyors that Charles Wells will cover all legal costs, including the Land Registry registration charges associated with the preparation of the new lease.

**20. Items for next meeting, for report only:**

1. 2016 Wind Farm Community Fund grant; suggestions for projects and items to be purchased for the community
2. Information leaflet regarding street light repairs.

Cllr Lemon closed the meeting at 8.25pm

**Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March 2016