

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

**Present:** Cllrs Lemon, Green, Day, Johnson and McAllister

**Clerk :** John Marshall

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

**Action**

2016/

**21. Public session:**

No issues raised. Cllr Budden gave an update on SNC matters.

**22. Declarations of interest:**

Cllrs Lemon and Green, Hut Land (all non-statutory disclosable interests).

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

The Council approved apologies from Cllr Roychoudhury (business); Cllr Bullock absent.

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

The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016.

**25. 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. Ashton Primary School Head has confirmed that a pupil will be available to perform the opening ceremony ie cut the ribbon, SNC will be represented by Cllr Peter Rawlison, Cabinet Member and Portfolio Holder for Grants and GUHP by Susan Bland. Gavin Moore, SNC Comms Officer will organise a press release and photo; the WI will provide refreshments. The event will be advertised via the AVN and village e-mail; the Clerk will provide suitable text.

**Clerk**

**26. Planning:**

**i. New Applications.**

None

**ii. Update on existing Applications**

None

**iii. Other planning matters**

None.

**27. Finance:**

**i. Financial Report:**

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 29<sup>th</sup> February 2016 £ 15,037.63

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

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

Receipts

Date	Payee	For	Amount
01.02.16	HMRC	VAT refund payment	2,653.00

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
	755	CANCELLED			
09.02.16	767	Post Office Ltd	HMRC payment	61.60	
09.02.16	768	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, Feb	294.53	
09.02.16	769	JAS Landscapes	Grass cutting, Feb	115.00	
09.02.16	770	J Willetts	Guerilla Gardeners	113.34	
09.02.16	771	ABCS	Website + pc service	330.00	

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

The Clerk confirmed that the application for the 20mph zone had been refused by the Road Safety Panel. After discussion, the Council resolved to take no further action..

**b) Hartwell Road tunnel**

Helen Howard of NCC Highways has advised that their line painting contractor has been instructed to complete all outstanding work by the end of April 2016.

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

Cllr Lemon advised that due to illness, she had yet 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.

**d) hedges**

The Clerk was asked to write to the landlord of the Old Crown requesting that garden vegetation overhanging the Stoke Road / Hartwell Road corner be cut back.

Clerk

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

As Cllr Roychoudhury was not present, there was no report.

**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 confirmed that the remedial works had been carried out by Playquest. The Clerk will obtain the Feb – March weekly inspection report from Cllr Roychoudhury.

The weekly safety inspection rota was agreed as follows;

March – April, Cllr McAllister

April – May, Cllr Johnson.

May – June, Cllr lemon

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.

**v. grass cutting**

The Council resolved to confirm the appointment of JAS Landscapes Ltd as the grass cutting contractor for the coming season.

**vi. Stoke Road Green ownership**

The Clerk provided an update. The Council resolved to appoint Bucks Law Plus as solicitor to act on its behalf in the matter of the conveyance of the green.

**vii. complaint against the Council**

The Council considered a complaint that had been received from a resident regarding the spraying of dog faeces with luminous bio-degradable paint in pursuance of the recently adopted strategy for combatting dog fouling. The fouling (and thus the spraying) took place on a grassed verge area that, it now transpires is private land rather than the highway. This was clearly a genuine oversight but the Council resolved to apologise to the resident for any upset caused. The Clerk will visit the resident in person..

Clerk

**viii. correspondence requiring a response or a decision**

The Clerk reported that the Charles Wells lease for the Recreation Field was available for signing. The lease will be signed by him, as the Council's Proper Officer but Charles Wells's solicitor has requested that this be minuted. To that end the Council resolved to agree to the terms of the lease (ref OEF/60000051/527 dated 02 March 2016) for the playing field south of the Old Crown Inn, Ashton, granted to the Council by Charles Wells Ltd and instructs the Clerk as the Council's Proper Officer to execute the lease on its behalf.

**Clerk****30. Items for next meeting, for report only:**

None

Cllr Lemon closed the meeting at 8.50pm

**Date of next meeting:**Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April 2016