

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Ashton Parish Council held on
Wednesday 11th May 2016 at 7.15 pm at Ashton Primary School**

Present: Cllrs Lemon, Green, Day, Johnson, McAllister, Bullock and Roychoudhury

Clerk : John Marshall

Approximately 50 members of the public, SNC Cllr Budden.and NCC Cllr Walker

Action

2016/

- 41. Election of Chairman:**
Cllr Green proposed Cllr Lemon; Cllr Johnson seconded the proposal; all in favour.
Cllr Lemon was duly elected as Chairman for the coming year and signed the declaration of acceptance of office.
- 42. Election of Vice Chairman:**
Cllr Day proposed Cllr Johnson; Cllr Green seconded the proposal; all in favour. Cllr Johnson was duly elected as Vice Chairman for the coming year.
- 43. Acceptance of apologies for absence:.**
None
- 44. Adoption of**
a) Standing Orders:
The Clerk confirmed that he had reviewed Standing Orders and that they continued to be fit for purpose. Cllrs approved the Resolution 'that Standing Orders be re-dopted'
b) Financial Regulations:
The Clerk advised that an updated version of model Financial Regulations had been prepared by NALC and that he had reviewed and customised the model to fit the structure and organisation of the Council; a copy had been provided for each Cllr. Cllrs approved the Resolution 'that the Financial Regulations be adopted'
- 45. Appointment of Councillors to Parish Posts:**
The Council resolved to make the following appointments;
Footpaths - Cllr McAllister
Neighbourhood Watch - Cllr Johnson
Neighbourhood / Parish Plan Group - Cllr Roychoudhury
Hut Land Trustees - Cllrs Lemon and Green
Internal Controls Cllr – Cllr Johnson
- 46. Public session:**
Cllr Lemon opened the public session by explaining that the unsigned flyer regarding a proposal housing development at Old Farm Lane had not been prepared or distributed by the Council; any and all material published by the Council will always be attributable, normally under the name of the Clerk. She further explained that contrary to the information given in the flyer, as this was not a planning application the Council would not be discussing the proposed development at this meeting. If and when the Council is notified by SNC that a planning application has been submitted then, as with all planning applications it will be placed on the Council's Agenda for the next available meeting and discussed, in public in the normal way. She invited messrs Amies and Tanner to introduce their proposals for the development of Old Farm Lane and then opened the discussion to questions.
- 47. Declarations of interest:**
None.
- 48. Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings:**
The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 13th April 2016.

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

The Clerk's Report had been circulated previously; there were no questions. The Clerk provided a verbal update on progress with renewal of the Recreation Field lease (Freeths, solicitors for Charles Wells Ltd (CWL) report that the lease is with the appropriate person within CWL, awaiting signing) and the transfer of ownership of Stoke Road Green (Bucks Law plus report that they are awaiting a response to enquiries raised with Wright Hassall, solicitors for South Northants Homes).

50. Planning:**i. New Applications.**

S/2016/0930/FUL; 23 Roade Hill. The Council resolved to support the application.

ii. Update on existing Applications

None

iii. Other planning matters

The proposed Vale Farm Phase 2 development was discussed during the public session. The Council had no further discussion and formed no view on the proposal. The Clerk advised that consultation on SNC's proposals for 'Local Plan Part 2A Options' is open until 10 June.

51. Finance:**i. Financial Report:**

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 30th April 2016 £ 18,620.06

this sum includes 'ring fenced' funds as follows;

i. election contingency funds	£ 277.79
ii. residue of Guerrilla Gardeners grant	£ 141.66
iii. residue of Transparency Fund grant	£ 112.05

ii. Receipts and Bills for Payment:Receipts

Date	Payee	For	Amount
28.04.16	SNC	1 st half year precept	7,400.00

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
11.05.16	779	JAS Landscapes	Grass cutting, April	230.00	
11.05.16	780	Post Office Ltd	HMRC payment	127.20	
	781	CANCELLED			
11.05.16	782	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, April	225.20	
11.05.16	783	St Michael PCC	Church floodlighting	92.00	

iii. Internal audit report:

a) The Clerk had previously circulated the report from David Harries, Internal Auditor. The Council noted the two issues raised in the report – insufficient details of the nature of the interests declared at meetings by members and the lack of documented reports of the checks carried out by the Internal Controls Cllr – and noted that the Clerk had already put in place the necessary changes to procedures.

iv. Spending proposals for income from Wind Farm (WF) and New Homes Bonus (NHB) funds:

Details of a menu of spending proposals to utilise the income from these two funding streams had been discussed by the Finance Working Group (Cllrs Lemon and Green with the Clerk). After discussion and taking account of funds either currently (NHB) or likely to be (WF) available, it was resolved;

- a) that a price would be obtained to replace all existing street light lamps with led lights, with a view to requesting funds from the Wind Farm fund to cover this **Clerk**
- b) to spend a maximum of £1,600 ex VAT on a replacement notice board for the wall of the Old Crown. The Clerk was asked to liaise with Vanessa Gray, licensee **Clerk**
- c) in principle, to invest no further funds in the maintenance and repair of the two remaining notice boards but to post notices on them indicating that they will be removed in due course, inviting comments to the Clerk about this proposal. **Clerk**
- d) that a price would be obtained for a combination vehicle / personnel gate for the Rec. Cllrs Day and Lemon agreed to provide the Clerk with a specification including dimensions to enable enquiries to be made with suppliers **BD/SL/
Clerk**

52. Highways issues:

Proposed footway widening at 58/60 Stoke Road

Cllr Lemon reported that she had spoken to the residents of 56, 58 and 60 Stoke Road regarding the proposal to widen the footway. 56 and 58 are in favour; the resident of 56 wishes to discuss the matter further.

53. Other issues:

i. Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Roychoudhury advised that a meeting of the NHP group was due to take place on 25th May.

ii. Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Johnson had nothing to add to the reports previously circulated

iii. Footpaths

Cllr McAllister had advised the Clerk that there was nothing new to report.

iv. Response to SNC Local Plan Part 2A consultation

The Clerk's draft response to the questionnaire had been previously circulated; the Council resolved to submit the response unchanged **Clerk**

v. Play equipment inspection rota

The weekly safety inspection rota was agreed as follows; **SL**

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.

54. Correspondence requiring a response or a decision

None

55. Items for next meeting, for report only:

None

Cllr Lemon closed the meeting at 9.20pm

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 1st June 2016. NB different date from normal