

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting and monthly Business meeting of Ashton Parish Council  
held on Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> July 2017 at 7.15 pm at Ashton Primary School**

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

**Clerk :** John Marshall

One member of the public, SNC Cllr Budden; NCC Cllr Walker unable to attend

**Action**

2017/

66.

**Public session:**

The possibility of temporary closure of Hartwell Road, for works by Anglian Water to connect a water supply to the Hut Land was raised. Cllr Lemon explained that the AW survey would show whether this was necessary and if it was, that this would be due to legal safety requirements; the Council would have no control over this matter. In that event, representations would be made early on to NCC and the bus company in an effort to ensure that the bus service was not suspended as previously.

67.

**Declarations of interest:**

Cllr Lemon, Trustee of the Hut Land and Trustee of Ashton Relief-in-Need Charity Fields (item 62 iv).

Cllr Green, Trustee of the Hut Land.

Cllr Day, Trustee of Ashton Relief-in-Need Charity Fields (item 62 iv)

68.

**Acceptance of Apologies for absence:**

None

69.

**Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings:**

The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 14<sup>th</sup> June 2017.

70.

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

The Clerk's Report, including actions taken on matters from the previous meeting had been circulated previously; there were no questions.

71.

**Planning:**

**i. New Applications**

None

**ii. Update on existing Applications**

None

**iii. Other planning matters**

The Council resolved to pursue the legal registration of Stoke Road Green as a village green under section 15(8) of the Commons Act 2006

**Clerk**

72.

**Finance:**

**i. Financial Report:**

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 30 <sup>th</sup> June 2017	£18,842.90
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this sum includes 'ring fenced' funds as follows;

i. election contingency funds	£ 777.79
ii. AVN funds	£ 365.00
iii. NHP Fund grant	£ 4,250.00

**ii. Internal Controls; Q1 Report**

Cllr Johnson reported that he had carried out the Q1 checks on 14 July and found all to be in order

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

Date	Payee	For	Amount
			Nil

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
12.07.17	854	JAS Landscapes	Grass cutting, June	320.00	
12.07.17	855	L Boro of Harrow	Legal expenses	454.88	68.65
12.07.17	856	Barbara Osborne	Payroll services	60.00	
12.07.17	857	Post Office Ltd	HMRC payment	69.60	
12.07.17	858	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, June	304.33	
12.07.17	859	N Boards Online	Notice boards	1012.80	202.56
20.07.17	DD	Total Gas&Power	Street lighting electric	54.20	2.58

**iv. Grants, income and applications:**

The Clerk reported on

Grants applied for:

i. M1 Windfarm £4549.77 (Notice Boards and Hut Land water supply).

Confirmation has been received from EDF that the application has been approved

Grants approved:

i. SNC New Homes Bonus £2935.74 (New street light and flowers for planters)

Grants received:

i. Transparency Fund £250.94 (payable to Clerk for additional hours worked due to extra compliance requirements). The Clerk suggested that, as with last year's grant it would be paid to him at the end of this financial year ie 31March 2017

**Clerk**

**71. Highways issues:**

The Clerk reported that the displaced road sign close by Ridgeway Farm has been replaced. Notification has been received from NCC Highways that the two roadways from Ashton to Bozenham Mill and thence to Grafton Regis are due to be closed for repair on 10 August..

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

Cllr Roychoudhury reported that the draft NHP is being finalised prior to consultation with the residents. There will be an event in September to celebrate receiving ownership of Stoke Road Green and consultation on the draft Plan. The Steering Group requested and the Council approved a budget of £200 to cover stationery and administrative costs.

**ii. Footpaths**

Cllr McAllister had no new issues to report. She and Cllr Johnson are continuing to assess all footpaths, for the NCC Rights of Way survey and install and / or renew signs on the paths. Cllr McAllister will complete the NCC Rights of Way survey.

**SMcA**

**iii. Play equipment inspection rota**

Cllr Roychoudhury will provide the Clerk with the May – June report and Cllr Bullock will do likewise with the June – July report. The Council agreed to vary the terms of the duty rota such that the duty now commences on the Monday of the week of the Council meeting and ends on the Sunday of the week prior to the following Council meeting, inclusive. The rota is

**JR  
PB**

July – August, Cllr Johnson

August – September, Cllr Lemon

September – October, Cllr McAllister

October – November, Cllr Roychoudhury

November – December, Cllr Bullock

repeating *ad infinitum*

**iv. To appoint 2 Managing Trustees of the Ashton Relief-in-Need CharityFields:**

The Council resolved to appoint Cllrs Lemon and Day as Managing Trustees to serve for one year term (which is renewable) with effect from 12 July 2017.

**v. Stoke Road Green; fence**

The Council resolved to apply to SNC for grant funding from the New Homes Bonus fund to cover the costs of replacing the wooden fence with bow topped powder coated metal railings. The Clerk will obtain a quote for the work from JAS Landscapes, required before the application to SNC can be submitted, for consideration at the August meeting.

**Clerk**

**73. Correspondence requiring a response or a decision**

The Council resolved to apply to NCC to join the Pathfinder II Flood Alleviation Scheme, but to offer no response to the consultation on whether the role and remit of the Police & Crime Commissioner should be extended to include Fire, due to a lack of information.

**Clerk**

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

Arrangements for the maintenance of the Millennium Garden.

Cllr Lemon closed the meeting at 8.29pm

**Date of next meeting:**

Wednesday 09 August 2017.