

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting and monthly Business meeting of Ashton Parish Council
held on Wednesday 9th August 2017 at 7.15 pm at Ashton Primary School**

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

Clerk : John Marshall

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

Action

2017/

75.

Election of chairman

Following the resignation from the Council of Cllr Lemon, Cllr Johnson, as Vice Chairman took the chair. Cllr McAllister was elected by unanimous vote as the new Chairman and having signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office, took the chair. Cllr McAllister proposed and it was unanimously agreed that a letter of thanks be sent to Sandra Lemon in recognition of her contribution and achievements over her years of service.

Clerk

76.

Public session:

No issues raised.

77.

Declarations of interest:

Cllr Green, Trustee of the Hut Land and Cllr Day as Trustee of Ashton Relief-in-Need Charity Fields (item 84 iv).

78.

Acceptance of Apologies for absence:

Cllr Bullock (holidays)

79.

Approval of Minutes of previous Meetings:

The Council resolved to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of 12th July 2017.

80.

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.

81.

Planning:

i. New Applications

None

ii. Update on existing Applications

None

iii. Other planning matters

It was resolved that based on advice from Defra, protection for Stoke Road Green would be better achieved through incorporation in the emerging Neighbourhood Development Plan rather than by the more formal and inflexible method of registering it as a Village Green; the NHP Steering Group will take this forward with Kirkwells.

NHPSG

82.

Finance:

i. Financial Report:

The Clerk reported the financial situation as follows;

Cash at bank at 31th July 2017 £21,165.24

this sum includes 'ring fenced' funds as follows;

i. election contingency funds £ 777.79

ii. AVN funds £ 365.00

iii. NHP Fund grant £ 250.94

ii. Receipts and Bills for Payment:Receipts

Date	Payee	For	Amount
05.07.17	NCALC	Transparency Fund	250.94
20.07.17	Roade Windfarm Ltd	Annual grant	4,549.77

Payments

The Council resolved to approve the following payments;

Date	Cheque	Payee	For	Amount	VAT
12.07.17	859	N Boards Online	Notice boards (50%)	1012.80	202.56
09.08.17	860	SR Lemon	Guerilla Gardeners	137.10	2.00
09.08.17	861	David Farrand	AVN	45.00	
09.08.17	862	JAS Landscapes	Grass cutting July	270.00	
09.08.17	863	Post Office Ltd	HMRC payment	69.80	
09.08.17	864	WJM Marshall	Salary + exes, July	312.13	
09.08.17	865	N Boards Online	Notice boards (50%)	1012.80	202.56

It was noted that the bank mandate will need to be altered following the resignation of Cllr Lemon but to defer that until the vacancy has been filled.

iii. Grants, income and applications:

The Clerk reported on grants received; see details under 'receipts' at Minute 82 ii. above. It was resolved to defer replacement of the Stoke Road Green fence and therefore the application for a grant from the New Homes Bonus Fund until the next financial year commencing April 2018.

83. Highways issues:

Cllr Day reported that the painted road signage, especially that outside the school was worn away. The Clerk will raise the issue with Helen Howard and ask her to visit to view the problem..

Clerk**84. Other issues:****i. Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr Roychoudhury reported that the draft NHP Minutes would in future be provided to the Council via the Clerk. He also reported that having consulted the SNC Village Confines methodology, the Steering Group was satisfied that Little Ashton cannot be included. The SG will reconsider the arrangements for consultation with the community, should the event in September to celebrate receiving ownership of Stoke Road Green not go ahead.

JR/SG**ii. Footpaths**

Cllr McAllister had submitted a written report; there were no questions.

iii. Play equipment inspection rota

Cllr Roychoudhury provided the Clerk with the May – June report; Cllr Bullock will do likewise with the June – July report on return from holiday. The Council agreed to advance the rota, by one month to take account of Cllr Lemon's resignation and to review the rota once the vacancy is filled. The new rota is

PB

August – September, Cllr McAllister

September – October, Cllr Roychoudhury

October – November, Cllr Bullock

November – December, Cllr Johnson

repeating *ad infinitum*

iv. To consider the appointment of Managing Trustee to each of the Hut Land and the Ashton Relief-in-Need Charity Fields charities

The Council resolved to appoint Cllr Johnson to be a trustee of the Ashton Relief-in-Need Charity Fields charity, to serve for one year (which is renewable) with effect from 09 August 2017.

A suggestion for the Hut Land trustee vacancy will be followed up by Cllr Green who will sound out the resident to see whether she is interested.

SG

v. Pathfinder II project

The Clerk reported that the Council's application to be included in this flood alleviation and management scheme had been accepted. Officers from NCC's Emergency Planning Team wish to visit Ashton to discuss how to take forward the project. Cllrs McAllister and Green expressed an interest in attending and Cllr Green indicated that he was willing, in principle to be a Flood Warden. The Clerk will now make the arrangements.

Clerk

vi. Arrangements for the maintenance of the Millennium Garden

The Clerk reported that JAS Landscapes have agreed to take on this extra task. They will carry out an initial weed kill and will then tend the garden as needed at an estimated cost of £50 per session.

85. Correspondence requiring a response or a decision

None.

Items for next meeting, for report only:

Progress report and discussion on the Stoke Road footway widening proposal.

Cllr McAllister closed the meeting at 8.30pm

Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 13th September 2017.