

Ashill Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held on Tuesday 15 January 2019 in Ashill Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present : Cllrs P Lang (Chairman), C Criddle, A Knight, K Lyons, Mr P Davidson (Acting Clerk) and no members of the public.

63/18 Apologies

- a) Apologies from Mrs J Davidson - Clerk - were received and noted. It was confirmed that Mr Peter Davidson would be acting as the Clerk for the purposes of this meeting.
- b) It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Abel, Cllr Crouch and Cllr Perryman.

64/18 Declarations of Interest/Dispensation Requests

Cllr Knight declared a personal interest in agenda item 6 ii) (Planning Application 17/04328/OUT).

65/18 Minutes

It was resolved for the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 5 November 2018 to be agreed and signed as a true record.

66/18 Public Participation

- No public representation.
- County/District Cllr Linda Vjeh.had conveyed her apologies due to being unwell.

67/18 Playing Field

- a) A playing field report was not presented due to Cllr Perryman not being present at this meeting.
- b) The Acting Clerk advised a response was still awaited from Mr Hewson regarding an assessment of the actions required as a result of the SSDC Playground Inspection Report. The Chairman advised he was going to talk to Mr Hewson with a view to the two of them undertaking a joint assessment of the playing field.
- c) No other matters relevant to the playing field were tabled.

68/18 Planning

- i) The following planning application which had been submitted to SSDC since the last meeting of the Parish Council was received for consideration :

Application No.	18/04010/PAPA
Proposal	Notification for prior approval for the change of use from premises in light industrial (Use Class B1(c)) and any land within its curtilage to dwellinghouses (Use Class C3)
Location	2 Wood Road, Ashill.

It was resolved that the Parish Council had no objection to this application.

- ii) The Parish Council response to the amendments made by the applicants to the following planning application with regard to **revision to number of units** and **removal of car park** was noted :

Application No.	17/04328/OUT
Proposal	Erection of 10 dwellings and associated works including the formation of 2 No. accesses (outline)
Location	Land West of School Lane, Ashill.

The Chairman reminded Councillors that the Clerk had submitted, on behalf of the Parish Council, a well-considered and comprehensive response to this planning application. The Chairman also reported he had received correspondence from a resident regarding SSDC

posting additional information, received from the applicant, onto the website and then removing it. The Chairman then read out what had been sent directly, from himself, to the Planning Authority, echoing the concerns expressed by the resident. The Chairman then stated that a copy would be sent to the Parish Clerk.

- iii) The Parish Council responses to the following planning applications submitted to SSDC since the last meeting of the Parish Council were noted :

Application No.	18/03531/FUL
Proposal	Change of use from paddock to domestic use with erection of outbuilding.
Location	The Cottage, Windmill Hill Lane, Ashill,
Response	No objection

Application No.	18/03679/HOU
Proposal	Erection of car port extension
Location	Stones Throw, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill
Response	No objection

- iii) It was noted the following planning applications have been permitted by SSDC since the last meeting :

Application No.	18/02632/FUL
Proposal	Erection of a Steel Portal Framed building to cover an existing Agricultural Manure Store.
Location	Southtown Farm, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

Application No.	18/02633/FUL
Proposal	The erection of a steel portal framed building to cover an existing outside agricultural concrete yard used as a cattle feed area.
Location	Southtown Farm, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

Application No.	18/03199/HOU
Proposal	Alterations, erection of an extension and the conversion of existing domestic storage to living accommodation ancillary to the main dwellinghouse.
Location	Hastings, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

Application No.	18/03679/HOU
Proposal	Erection of car port extension
Location	Stones Throw, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill

Correspondence (noted)

South Somerset District Council – Regulation Committee 18 September 2018

69/18 Highways / Footpaths

- a) Parish Ranger Scheme - the Acting Clerk pointed out to Councillors that the SSDC Parish Ranger scheme comes at a cost of £19/hour which, if all of the footpaths indicated on the Chairman's list were targeted, would potentially add up to a considerable cost to the Parish Council. Councillors agreed that, if possible, a more local solution to footpath maintenance should be adopted. It was agreed the Clerk should approach Mr Hewson to establish from him a cost to maintain the footpaths. This could then be brought back to the Parish Council and compared to the SSDC charging rate.
- b) Possible purchase of a grit bin for the footpath running parallel with the A358 from Stewley Cross leading down towards the main road - the Acting Clerk advised that the County Highways winter gritting service was being scaled back. In the future, it would be necessary for Parish Councils to both purchase their own grit bins and keep them filled with salt. The Chairman suggested that Mr P Underhill might have a grit bin

which the Council could acquire. He would therefore ask Cllr Crouch to discuss with Mr Underhill to establish whether he had a grit bin available.

- c) Winter gritting arrangements - given the comments above from the Acting Clerk Councillors recognised that the Parish Council needed to adopt a community-based approach to winter gritting. It was suggested the Parish Council should make salt accessible to residents. In this regard, the Chairman reported the Parish Council had only a limited supply of salt bags remaining, which were currently stored at Mr Underhill's yard. It was noted that salt bags could be purchased from Highways but Cllr Lyons suggested she might be able to purchase salt at a cheaper rate.
- d) Missing handrail on the footpath behind Ashton Close - the Chairman reported that, despite repeated efforts, he had so far been unable to contact the SSDC representative.
- e) Parish Footpath Warden Scheme - Cllr Lyons suggested it would be worth contacting the Parish Ramblers as they frequently used the parish footpaths. Councillors agreed that this was an excellent suggestion. The Chairman would pass on the contact details of the Ramblers to the Clerk.
- f) Other relevant matters regarding Highways/Footpaths - none.

Correspondence (*noted*)

Mr R Wyatt – Footpath Maintenance

Ms S Kauth – Windmill Hill gritting arrangements

70/18 Consultations (*noted*)

Somerset County Council - Parish Paths Consultation

South Somerset District Council – Rural Housing Plan Consultation Pond

71/18 Ashill Village Hall

The Chairman reported the Christmas tree lighting event had been very successful and enjoyed by all. In terms of lessons learned he said that better advertising of the event was needed this year. There was also an issue that the batteries for the Christmas lights needed changing frequently.

72/18 Finance

- i) To give further consideration to the 2019/20 budget and to agree the precept - the Acting Clerk reported the bank reconciliations as of 5 December 2018 for both the Parish Council and the Playing Field. He also pointed out that two draft budgets for 2019/20 had been prepared - a "baseline" budget - and an option which included the necessary funding to enable the speed limit at Rapps to be implemented. After discussion it was resolved that the latter option should be pursued. It was therefore resolved to collect the sum of £5,120 for parish purposes.
- ii) It was resolved for the following payment to be approved :
Mt P Lang – Christmas Lighting £ 31.19

73/18 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Parish Meeting
- Pond Picnic Bench
- May Elections
- Use of Facebook in addition to the Parish Council website
- Notice board on the oak tree near the Flying Fish public house

74/18 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed the next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on Monday 11 March 2019.

The meeting closed at 8 :45 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
11 March 2019