

Ashill Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held remotely on Monday 25 January 2021 at 7.30 pm

Present : Cllrs P Lang (Chairman), R Abel, L Clay, C Criddle, A Crouch, A Knight, S Freudenberg, County/District Cllr L Vijeh, Mrs J Davidson (Clerk) and 1 member of the public.

59/20 Apologies

All members of the Parish Council were present at the meeting,

60/20 Declarations of Interest/Dispensation Requests

None.

61/20 Public Participation

- Cllr Vijeh informed that further to her last monthly written report - SSDC Area Committee Meetings have been cancelled for January and February - in order to help SSDC staff prioritise community support and vaccinations during the Covid-19 pandemic.

62/20 Minutes

It was **resolved** for the minutes of the meeting held on 2 November 2020 to be agreed and signed as a true record.

63/20 Planning

- i) The following planning applications which had been submitted to SSDC since the last meeting were noted :

Application No.	20/03610/PAMB
Proposal	Prior Approval - Conversion of barn to dwelling together with formation of parking and garden area
Location	Hay Barn, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

Application No.	20/03611/PAMB
Proposal	Prior Approval - Conversion of barn to dwelling together with formation of parking and garden area
Location	The Piggery, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

There was a discussion reflecting disappointment that Parish Councils are not included as statutory consultees for PAMB category planning applications and it was therefore agreed to not submit any comments. However there was a discussion as to whether thought should be given to writing to Marcus Fysh (MP Yeovil) and Robert Jenrick (Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government) in order to reflect this disappointment in the lack of community engagement.

- ii) The response - made by the Clerk under delegated authority on behalf of the Parish Council - to the following planning application which had been submitted to SSDC since the last meeting of the Parish Council was ratified :

Application No.	20/02902/FUL
Proposal	The erection of three detached dwellings and associated parking (Re-submission of withdrawn application 20/01419/FUL)
Location	Paddock Adjoining the Flying Fish Public House, Windmill Hill, Ashill.

The Parish Council had **objected** to the proposal.

Correspondence (noted)

Mr C Downing – Planning Application No. 20/02902/FUL

64/20 Playing Field

- a) The Chairman reported he had been exploring the replacement of the tennis net and had been advised it would be virtually impossible to install a new wire on the current infrastructure. The Chairman recommended to the Parish Council a quotation which had been received of £550 + VAT from Courtshall Services Ltd. for the supply of 2 Tennis Posts, Net, Centre Band, Ground Anchor and Measuring Stick. The Chairman also made the recommendation for the work to be carried out by Kings Courts at a cost of £100. The Parish Council **resolved** to accept the recommendation made by the Chairman and he was given the delegated authority to place the order and instruct the contractor to carry out the work. The Chairman advised the last net + infrastructure had lasted for 30 years and the new one would be guaranteed to last for at least the same period of time.
- b) The January Playing Field Inspection Report prepared by Cllr Lang was received and noted. Further to it having been agreed at the last meeting that professional advice should be sought with regard to the issues raised in the 2020 Playground Inspection Company Ltd. annual report – the Clerk and the Chairman reported they had each identified a contractor who would be able to help with this – however the Parish Council agreed that any such meetings should be deferred until after the Covid-19 national restrictions have been relaxed.
- c) The Clerk advised that further to being instructed to contact a member of the community - who had previously registered an interest in helping out with carrying out playground inspections – a reply had been received from the person with apologies that this would not be feasible at the present time.

65/20 Highways / Footpaths

- a) Correspondence from a resident was received and noted with regard to the condition of the gate and part of the fence adjacent to the footpath on Windmill Hill. The Clerk confirmed this issue had been reported to the Somerset County Council Right of Way Team Ref : 60676.
- b) No other matters regarding Highways / Footpaths were tabled.

66/20 Health / Environment

- a) Cllr Knight reported a local resident had recently re-painted and planted flowers at the bus shelter. Warm appreciation was conveyed to the resident for carrying out this kind community act. It had also been noticed that the bus shelter roof requires some attention and the Clerk was instructed to ask Mr S Hewson to establish what would need to be done to address this.
- b) Appreciation was conveyed to Cllr Freudenberg for carrying out the monthly checks of the Parish Defibrillator at the end of November and December.

67/20 Village Hall

The Chairman reported it is hoped the work to replace the 1935 water pipe which has caused leakage into the Village Hall should be completed by late February/early March.

68/20 Church

Cllr Knight reported that due to the Covid-19 national restrictions the Church is again closed until further notice. The Church is seeking to appoint two new members of the PCC, a new Treasurer and a new Church Warden during this year and members of the community are encouraged to come forward. It is hoped to be able to get the hedges cut soon, the kitchen and toilets have now been completed and the five yearly inspection is also due to be carried out this year.

69/20 Finance

- i) The January payments/receipts report was noted and further consideration was given to the draft budget for 2021/22. It was **resolved** to set the amount to be collected for parish purposes at £6,200 for 2021/22.
- ii) The Clerk asked Councillors to give consideration to the introduction of electronic banking for the Parish Council. No objections were raised and the Clerk and Chairman were given the delegated authority to commence the process.
- iii) It was resolved for the following payment to be approved :

Mr P Lang – Christmas Tree, Batteries, Battery Charger & January Zoom £78.30

70/20 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Location of Adult Exercise Equipment
- Bus Shelter Roof

71/20 Date of Next Meeting – it was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on 1 March 2021 which is more than likely to be held remotely.

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
1 March 2021

DRAFT