

Ashill Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council
held on Monday 4 September 2017 in Ashill Village Hall at 7.30 pm**

Present : Cllrs H Hewson (Chairman), R Abel, C Criddle , K Lyons, R Perryman, Mrs J Davidson (Clerk), County/District Cllr L Vjeh and 3 members of the public (Mr C Slow, Mr D Boggon (planning agent) & Mr C Downing.

39/17 Apologies

It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Lang and Cllr Knight.

40/17 Declarations of Interest/Dispensation Requests

None.

41/17 Minutes

It was resolved for the minutes of the meeting held on 7 August 2017 to be signed as a true record

42/17 Public Participation

- Mr Slow brought attention to damage which had been caused a few weeks ago to the side of the bus shelter which is located opposite the Square & Compass Inn. Mr Slow speculated that the appearance of the damage looked like it could have been caused by a contractor working in the area. However this could not be certain as the incident had not been witnessed and had only been noticed after it had happened.
- Mr Slow spoke of his planning application -16/ 03294/FUL - and the reasons as to why he wished to change the proposed access from Wood Road to Windmill Hill - of planning permission 16/05090/FUL. Mr Slow considered that access from Windmill Hill would be a much more safe and sensible option than access from Wood Road where traffic travels at speed. The site already has gateway access from Windmill Hill and historically there has been gateway access. The hedge which had been growing within the curtilage of the site, adjacent to Windmill Hill, has already been removed. Mr Slow stated he had been completely within his rights to have removed a hedge which had been growing on his own private property.
- Mr Downing spoke of planning application -16/ 03294/FUL – he was of the opinion that the previous plans - 16/05090/FUL – had provided for the privacy and protected the amenity of the properties opposite on the north side of Windmill Hill. Mr Downing also expressed concerns regarding a possible increase of traffic movements and turning to access what would be the only driveway in this area of the south side of Windmill Hill.
- The August Ilminster Division County/ District Coun cillor Report was received and noted. Cllr Vjeh also advised she has the opportunity to be able to submit two small improvement schemes this year and the deadline for submissions is the end of October. There is also an opportunity for Parishes to be able to purchase their own Speed Indicator Device.

43/17 Planning

- i) The following planning application which had been submitted to SSDC since the last meeting was received and considered :

Application No.	16/ 03294/FUL
Applicant	Mr Christopher Slow
Proposal	Application to vary conditions 02 (approved plans) and 05 (proposed access) of planning permission 16/05090/FUL to change access from Wood Road to Windmill Hill
Location	Paddock Adjoining Square & Compass Public House, Windmill Hill, Ashill.

The Parish Council compared the proposal to change the access to be from Windmill Hill with the planning permission -16/05090/FUL – which had been granted for the access to be from Wood Road. The proposal for the access to be from Wood Road, adjacent to the open frontage of the Square and Compass Inn, was considered to not impact on this area of the streetscene of Wood Road. The Parish Council was disappointed by the proposal to create an access from Windmill Hill as it necessitated the removal of a significant length of the hedgerow. This was considered to be out of character and intrusive, in the context of the more rural landscape of the Windmill Hill boundary of the site, and would impact on the residential and visual amenity for the properties which are located on the north side of the lane. As Windmill Hill is a narrow lane there were also concerns regarding the impact on highway safety which could be caused by the introduction of a site entrance, where there are currently none, in this area of the lane. There also appeared to be insufficient information regarding visibility at the nearby Windmill Hill/Wood Road junction, and the proposed new point of access, to demonstrate that the proposal would not adversely affect highway safety. Therefore the Parish Council wished to make the request that Highways are fully consulted regarding these highway safety concerns.

- ii) It was noted the following planning application has been granted by SSDC since the last meeting :

Application No.	16/00899/REM
Applicant	Mr Robert Doak
Proposal	Demolition of petrol station and the erection of 2 No.detached dwellings with double garages and alterations to access (Reserved Matters)
Location	Stewley Cross Filling Station, Ashill.

44/17 Playing Field

- a) Cllr Perryman presented a September Playing Field Inspection Report :
- The mole problem has returned;
 - The tennis court has had the moss removed and been repainted;
 - Both benches require wood treatment;
 - The goal posts need to be repainted and the nets need to be fixed;
 - The Wendy House has some roof and wood erosion;
 - One tyre chain is missing.

45/17 Highways / Footpaths

- a) **Wildlife & Countryside Act 1981 – Section 53 Application to upgrade CH 1/23 from a footpath to a restricted byway (511M)** - an appeal which has been submitted to the

Planning Inspectorate against Somerset County Council's decision not to make an Order under Section 53 (2) of the above Act to upgrade public footpath CH 1/23 was received and considered. It was agreed to reinforce the comments to the Inspector which had been made by the Parish Council to the County Council consultation regarding this matter.

b) **Correspondence**

- A358 Taunton to Southfields Automatic Traffic Count
- A358 Taunton to Southfields Supplementary Consultation

46/17 Environment

Cllr Hewson reported that Mr Hewson is proposing to carry out some Autumn maintenance in the area of the Millennium Pond. Appreciation was conveyed to Mr Hewson for all of his help and support with this matter.

47/17 Village Hall

A report regarding any Village Hall matters would be deferred to the next meeting due to Cllr Lang not being present at this meeting.

48/17 Website/Communication

- a) The Clerk reported that the Website continues to be regularly updated with Parish Council agendas, Parish Council minutes and the Ilminster Division District/County Reports
- b) An update regarding the replacement of the wooden notice boards would be deferred to the next meeting due to Cllr Lang not being present at this meeting.

49/17 Parish Council Governance

Draft Standing Orders and Financial Regulations were received and considered. It was resolved for these documents to be approved.

50/17 Electoral Review of South Somerset

The current public consultation regarding the electoral review of South Somerset warding arrangements was received and considered. The independent Local Government Boundary Commission for England is asking local people for their help to draw up a new pattern of council wards for SSDC. The consultation will run until 30 October 2017 and further information can be found at consultation.lgbce.org.uk and www.lgbce.org.uk. The Parish Council agreed that it would not be submitting a response as a corporate body.

51/17 Finance

It was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

Ashill Village Hall – Meeting Room Hire 2017/18	£ 72.00
Kings Courts – Tennis Court Refurbishment	£2,160.00
Clerks' Salary (July-September)	£ 574.81

52/17 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Financial Report
- Ashill Christmas 2017
- Village Hall Report
- Notice Board Replacement Update

53/17 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed the next scheduled meeting would be deferred from 6 November 2017 and it was confirmed the next meeting will be held on **13 November 2017**.

The meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
13 November 2017

DRAFT