

Ashill Parish Council

Minutes of an *informal* meeting of the Parish Council held remotely on Tuesday 5 July 2021 at 7.30 pm

Present : Cllrs P Lang (Chairman), L Clay, A Crouch, S Freudenberg, A Knight, Mrs J Davidson (Clerk), County/District Cllr Vijeh & 2 members of the public.

17/21 Apologies / Resignation

- a) It was agreed for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Abel.
- b) The resignation of Cllr Criddle – due to other commitments - with immediate effect was noted with regret. Appreciation was conveyed to Cllr Criddle for all of the time & commitment she had given to the Parish during her time as a Councillor. A notice of the Casual Vacancy would be displayed on the main Parish Council notice board near the School. If there are no requests for the vacancy to be filled by an election - within the statutory 14 day period – then the Clerk would receive notification from SSDC that the vacancy could be filled by the Parish Council by co-option.

18/21 Public Participation

- A resident spoke of an incident on the night of Tuesday 1 June 2021 - between 23:15pm & 23:45pm - when several helicopters had been flown a number of times at a very low altitude directly over the three houses at the top of Butts Lane, Rapps. The residents had written to the Royal Naval Air Station Yeovilton voicing their concerns & were awaiting a reply.
- County/District Cllr Linda Vijeh advised she had nothing to add to her June report which had been circulated to the members of the Council & posted on the Website by the Clerk.

19/21 Declarations of Interest / Dispensation Requests

None.

20/21 Minutes

It was agreed for the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on 4 May 2021 to be signed as a true record by the Chairman.

21/21 Planning

The following planning applications which had been submitted to SSDC since the last meeting were received for consideration :

Application No.	21/01473/FUL
Proposal	The change of use of land from agriculture to equestrian for the construction of a riding area and a winter turn out area.
Location	Trumplands, Windmill Hill, Ashill.

There were no observations/objections.

Application No.	21/01791/HOU
Proposal	Installation of air source heat pump.
Location	Trumplands, Windmill Hill, Ashill.

There were no observations/objections.

Application No.	21/01698/HOU
Proposal	Alterations & the erection of two single storey extensions to dwelling & the formation of new vehicular access.
Location	Cowslip Cottage, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

There were no observations/objections.

22/21 Playing Field

- a) Appreciation was conveyed to Mrs Lang who had prepared the June Playing Field Inspection Report which was received & noted.
- b) The Chairman introduced a discussion as to whether it was thought there should be a notice regarding the use of the outdoor gym equipment. The Parish Council agreed

there should be a notice & the Chairman would make the arrangements for this to be progressed.

23/21 Highways / Footpaths

- a) The Chairman spoke of recent discussions between Highways England & eight Parish Councils - who represent the villages along the A358 - regarding the proposals to dual the A358 between Taunton & Ilminster. The Parish Councils have voiced concerns regarding the plans for the proposed new junctions along the proposed new carriageway & have put forward alternative suggestions which it is hoped could mitigate the concerns raised.
 - b) No other matters regarding Highways / Footpaths were tabled.
- Correspondence** (noted)
Highways England – A358 Lane Closures

24/21 Health / Environment

- a) A discussion was introduced with regard to the helicopter incident on 1 June 2021. It was agreed that the Parish Council was fully supportive of the concerns raised by the residents.
- b) Cllr Freudenberg reported Somerset Waste Partnership (SWP) launched its new 'Recycle More' service in South Somerset at the end of June with the introduction of – an additional new recycling container – a Bright Blue Bag.

25/21 Village Hall

The Chairman reported the Village Hall Committee is currently working through the insurance company Covid-19 guidelines & it is hoped that all necessary measures will be in place for the Hall to be re-opened week commencing 6 September 2021.

26/21 Church

Cllr Knight reported a coffee & cake fund raising event is to be held at the Church in the morning. The Church is still looking to appoint a new Church Warden – to replace Cllr Knight who retired in May – there is also still a vacancy for a Treasurer.

27/21 Finance / Insurance

- i) The Clerk reported that finally the Parish Council is almost able to introduce electronic banking after over six months of chasing the bank resulting in the Chairman registering a complaint. The bank has credited a compensation payment of £100 to the Parish Council bank account & appreciation was conveyed to the Chairman for his perseverance.
- ii) The Chairman advised he wished to defer a discussion with regard to the contracted number of hours worked by the Clerk until after the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities & Local Government - Robert Jenrick – has made a decision about the future of Local Government in Somerset.
- iii) It was agreed for the following payments to be approved:

Clerks' Salary (April-June)	£636.48
Ashill Church – Donation	£500.00
Mr P Lang – July Zoom Meeting	£ 14.39

Correspondence (noted)
Ashill PCC – Grant Funding

28/21 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Christmas Arrangements 2021
- Casual Vacancy

29/21 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed the next ordinary meeting of the Parish Council was scheduled to be held on 6 September 2021. The Chairman would decide nearer the time as to whether the meeting would be held remotely or face-to-face.

The meeting closed at 9 : 20 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
6 September 2021