

Ashill Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 5 September 2016 in Ashill Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present : Cllrs A Knight (Vice-Chairman), R Abel, M Brunt, A Knight, P Lang, R Perryman (left the meeting at 8pm), County/District Cllr L Vjeh, Mrs J Davidson (Clerk) and three members of the public (one who left after the Planning item).

34/16 Apologies

It was resolved for apologies with reasons given to be noted from Cllr Hewson.

35/16 Declarations of Interest/Dispensation Requests

None.

36/16 Minutes

It was resolved for the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2016 to be signed as a true record.

37/16 Casual Vacancy

Mrs Yolanda Stunt, who had registered an interest in the Casual Vacancy, was welcomed to this meeting. At the end of the meeting Mrs Stunt advised she would give further consideration as to whether she felt she should take on the Parish Council commitment at the present time and would liaise with the Clerk.

38/16 Public Participation

- A written report submitted by County/District Councillor Vjeh was received and noted.
- Mr P Underhill attended the meeting and presented a report, with a copy of a site illustration 2287-SK=02 (dated April 2016), for a proposed housing development adjacent to 2 Wood Road, Ashill. The site illustration shows a proposal for five dwellings all of which will have a garden, garage and parking spaces. Mr Underhill advised the development line of the proposed dwellings would not be any further forward than the current development line along the road and the trees, as shown on the site illustration planting scheme, are already in place. Mr Underhill also advised he had discussed this matter with the residents adjacent to the site who it is understood have raised no objections.

39/16 Playing Field

- a) It was reported that the work had commenced today, and should be completed tomorrow, to install the adult exercise equipment on the Playing Field.
- b) Consideration was given to what arrangements should be made for an opening ceremony to launch the adult exercise equipment. Cllr Linda Vjeh was invited to open the event and she conveyed that she would be pleased to do this. It was agreed the launch date would be 15 October 2016 commencing at 11.30pm, and
 - Posters would be displayed on all Ashill and Broadway Parish Council Notice Boards;
 - A poster would be put in the Isle Valley News (deadline 9 September);
 - An invitation to the opening would be sent to SSDC Area West who had sanctioned the funding (Community Fund); and
 - All communications must mention the Lottery Awards4All funding.
- c) A Playing Field Inspection Report – dated 5 September 2016 – carried out by Cllr Perryman was received and noted. The work to secure the skate board ramps has now been completed. Increasingly more holes are appearing which it is thought are being caused by rabbits.
- d) It was noted that eight tennis court membership subscriptions have been received for 2016/17. The current key and padlock arrangements would remain the same for this year and it was agreed that future membership/padlock arrangements would be reviewed again in January.
- e) A discussion was introduced regarding the condition of the tennis court surface. It was agreed that Mr Underhill should explore the cost of filling in the holes, cleaning and painting the surface with Mr R King.

- f) Cllr Perryman reported he had adjusted the height of the tennis net to the recommended height of 3 ½ feet (1.07 m). There is a spanner available in the electricity meter cupboard which can be used to carry out this task

40/16 Planning

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

Application No.	16/03413/FUL
Applicant	Mr & Mrs G Marsh
Proposal	Construction of a rear dormer window and the addition of two first floor slit windows
Location	Hastings Cross, Thickthorn Lane, Ashill.

There were no observations.

Application No.	16/03303/FUL
Applicant	Mr & Mrs G & J Payne & Dawson
Proposal	Construction of replacement roof including raising the ridge and eaves heights to main dwelling, conversion of garage to habitable accommodation
Location	Forest Farm House, Wood Road, Ashill.

The Parish Council was of the opinion that this proposal was a positive one and would provide an improvement to the amenity of the property.

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

Application No.	16/01790/FUL
Applicant	Dr Speke
Proposal	Change of use of land for the siting of two Shepherd Huts for tourist accommodation, together with alterations to the access onto the old A358 and use of the existing access. The erection of an agricultural building
Location	Shrubbery Farm. Old A358, Horton, Ilminster.

Application No.	16/01890/FUL
Applicant	Mr Christopher Speke
Proposal	The erection of an agricultural building
Location	Shrubbery Farm, Old A358, Horton, Ilminster.

Application No.	16/01996/FUL
Applicant	Mr & Mrs Clift
Proposal	Alterations to include part demolition of the rear living room and the erection of a two storey rear extension and the erection of a porch to front elevation
Location	8 Windmill Hill Lane, Ashill.

Application No.	16/02855/FUL
Applicant	Mr Philip Grabham
Proposal	Use of site as B1 without personal condition. Alterations to existing building and the erection of an extension to form 2 No. additional B1 units. Erection of single storey extension to existing building and formation of new vehicular access and parking area (part retrospective)
Location	Forest Enterprise Park, Wood Road, Ashill.

- iii) The Parish Council gave consideration to the housing development proposal adjacent to 2 Wood Lane, Ashill, and, as no objections were raised by the Parish Council, it was agreed that support could be given to the principal of the proposal. However formal comments would only be able to be conveyed to SSDC Planning when the full copies of the plans had been submitted to SSDC and the Parish Council had been

asked to comment as part of the planning/consultation. The Clerk was instructed to convey the discussion held at this meeting, without prejudice, to the Agent – Mr N Forrest - Greenslade Taylor Hunt - Land and Planning Division.

- iv) It was noted Cllr Hewson will be attending the SSDC Town & Parish Council Information Session Area West - Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) – to be held on 20 September 2016.

41/16 Highways / Footpaths

- a) Cllr Vjeh reported that a complaint had been submitted to Highways regarding overgrown vegetation at Folly Drove and the impact this has on visibility at this junction with the A358. In response to this complaint the area has now been inspected by Highways who are of the opinion that there are no problems with the visibility splays,
- b) The Clerk reported she has submitted a formal request to Highways, on behalf of the Parish Council, for the Thickthorn Lane Gating Order to be progressed. The contractor has now to get permission to work on the Highway which involves obtaining the plant enquiries from all utility companies such as Wessex Water. This process usually takes one month and then programming for the work to be carried out can take up to four months. However the Assistant Highway Service Engineer – Mr C Weeks – has made the request for an early start if possible.
- c) It was reported there is a section of road near to Wood Bridge on Wood Road which appears to have dropped quite significantly.
- d) It was reported that the drain has dropped on the footpath, which is also becoming overgrown, adjacent to the A358 Old Road between Kenny and Stewley.
- e) A digital copy of the Highways England A303-A358 Non Motorised Survey Flyer was received and noted. HigMott MacDonald is working with Highways England as part of the planned A358 Road Improvement Scheme. A company called Tracsis has been contracted by Mott MacDonald to undertake non-motorised camera survey work. The cameras will be monitoring use of local roads and public rights of way to understand how those routes are used by members of the community on a day to day basis. An understanding of how people move around in the vicinity of the A358, not just by motorised vehicle but also by foot, bicycle and horseback, will help with development of proposals to improve the A358 for road users and members of the community. The cameras will be in situ for a day or so at each location and Tracsis will distribute copies of the flyer through the doors of properties located adjacent to camera locations.

42/16 Diversity & Equality

An extract from SSDC Council minutes of 21 July 2016 regarding Diversity & Equality was received and endorsed.

43/16 Communication

- a) The Clerk reported she has not yet placed an order for the replacement Wood Road Notice Board due to having to prioritise the payment for the adult exercise equipment before all of the pledged funding has been received.
- b) The Clerk reported she had created a new County/District Councillor page on the Website which includes copies of the County/District Councillor reports.

44/16 Environment

There was a further discussion regarding replacing the Millennium Pond picnic bench with a recycled plastic seating bench. It was agreed to defer further consideration of this matter as part of the January financial review.

45/16 Village Hall

- i) Cllr Lang reported the current post and chain fencing is to be replaced, by 1 metre high – with hanging signs – wooden post and rail fencing, due to health and safety requirements. The Village Hall flooring is to be resealed during week commencing 19 September 2016, also due to Health and Safety requirements, when the Hall will be closed.
- ii) Consideration was given to the provision of an Ashill Christmas Tree and as to whether it could be positioned at the front of the Village Hall. Cllr Lang advised he would discuss the feasibility of this at the Village Hall AGM to be held on 6 September 2016.

46/16 Finance

- i) Correspondence from NatWest was received and noted regarding the possibility of charging interest on credit balances depending on future market conditions. In the meantime from 7 November 2016 the Gross%/AER% rate on the Business Reserve Account will be 0.05.
- ii) It was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

Zurich – Adult exercise equipment Insurance	£ 82.06
Village Hall – Meeting Room Hire (Sept/Nov/Jan/March	£ 48.00
Clerks' Salary & Administration Costs	£570.02

47/16 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Christmas Tree
- Finance (January)
- Wood Road Notice Board (January)
- Millennium Pond Bench (January)
- Tennis Court Membership/Surface (January)

48/16 Date of Next Meeting

It was confirmed the next meeting of the Parish will be 7 November 2016.

The meeting closed at 8 : 50 pm

Signed : (Chairman
7 November 2016