

Ashill Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 7 November 2016 in Ashill Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present : Cllrs H Hewson (Chairman), R Abel, M Brunt, A Knight, P Lang, R Perryman (left the meeting at 8,15pm), County/District Cllr L Vijeh, Mrs J Davidson (Clerk) and no members of the public,

49/16 Apologies

All members of the Parish Council were present at this meeting.

50/16 Declarations of Interest/Dispensation Requests

None.

51/16 Minutes

It was resolved for the minutes of the meeting held on 5 September 2018 to be signed as a true record.

52/16 Casual Vacancy

It was noted the Parish Council still has a Casual Vacancy which needs to be filled by co-option. Mrs Yolanda Stunt, who had registered an interest in the Casual Vacancy, at the last meeting of the Parish Council, had since advised that she felt she would not be able to commit the time she would like to be able to give to the role. The Clerk was instructed to place an advertisement in the Isle Valley News to encourage anyone who has an interest this vacancy to come forward.

53/16 Public Participation

- A written report submitted by County/District Councillor Vijeh was received and noted.

54/16 Playing Field

- a) It was reported that an event to launch the adult exercise equipment, which has now been installed on the playing field, had been held on 15 October 2016. It was felt that the event had been well attended by members of the Public, a number of members of the Parish Council, and the Clerk. Appreciation was conveyed to District Cllr Vijeh for launching the event. Appreciation was also conveyed to Mrs B Pyle and Mrs J Knowles for all of their work to obtain the funding which has meant that the provision of this Parish amenity could be achieved.
- b) A maintenance contract for the adult exercise equipment was received and considered. It was agreed that no further action should be taken for the time being as it was understood the equipment should be covered by a warranty for the first twelve months.
- c) The SSDC playing field inspection which has been carried out since the last meeting was received and considered. It was felt that a number of issues which had been raised were subject to interpretation and therefore it was agreed that SSDC should be asked to provide recommended solutions to the issues raised.
- d) A draft Terms of Reference for the Ashill Playing Field Trust was received and considered. A number of comments were made and it was therefore agreed that no further action should be taken regarding this matter until the recruitment of additional Playing Field Trustees had been explored. The Clerk was instructed to place an advertisement in the Isle Valley News to encourage anyone who had an interest in the Playing Field to come forward.
- e) Cllr Underhill presented a playground inspection report carried out on 7 November 2016. The following issues were raised :
 - The mole problem has returned;
 - There is an issue with the Wendy House roof covering plus some wood erosion;
 - Both of the benches require sanding down and the wood treated;
 - The all-weather surface needs to be made level in the corner.

55/16 Planning

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

Application No.	16/03363/FUL
Applicant	Mr & Mrs Gardiner
Proposal	The conversion of existing detached garage into ancillary accommodation or holiday let.
Location	Brookside, Old A358, Ashill, Ilminster, TA19 9NH.

There were no objections/observations.

Application No.	16/04454/OUT
Applicant	Mr & Mrs P Underhill
Proposal	The erection of 5 No. dwellings with associated access (Outline).
Location	The Builders Yard, Wood Road, Ashill, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 9NP,

No objections were raised regarding the proposal for five dwellings all of which it is understood will have a garden, garage and parking spaces. It is also understood that 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 indicated as the planting scheme on the site illustration, are already in place.

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

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.

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.

- iii) Cllr Hewson advised that she had attended the SSDC Town & Parish Council Information Session Area West - Housing & Employment Land Availability Assessment (HELAA) – held on 20 September 2016. Only one site in Ashill – the field opposite Field Head - has been identified in the South Somerset Land Allocations Plan as having potential for, but understood to be unlikely, future housing/employment development.

56/16 Highways / Footpath

- a) Speed Indicator Device readings taken between 4 October 2016 and 18 October 2016 were received and noted. Concerns which have been raised by members of the public regarding the increasing incidents of cars coming at speed round the corner from the direction of the Ashill Inn were received and considered. It was agreed that a meeting with Highways should be explored in order to discuss speeding issues. Cllr Lang agreed that he would act as the Parish Council contact regarding this matter.
- b) The arrangements for the Highway Winter Service for 2016/2017 were received and considered. Somerset County Council Highways will be holding a depot open day on Saturday 3 December 2016, from 09:00am to 13:00pm, to enable all Parish Councils the opportunity to collect 10 x 20kg salt bags in advance of the winter season. Due to last year's mild weather salt/grit bins will only be filled this year on a reactive basis and therefore Parish Councils are being asked to review their existing grit bins. It was agreed to ask Mr Underhill as to whether he felt the current stock of salt needed to be

replenished and, if so, whether he would be able to collect the bags. It was confirmed there are no salt/grit bins in the Parish of Ashill.

- c) The proposed diversion - HIGHWAYS ACT 1980 Proposed Diversion of public footpath CH 1/9 in the Parish of Ashill - was received and considered. It is understood the alternative route is already regularly used by walkers and therefore no objections were raised to the removal of the footpath from the domestic garden of Prettyhayes.
- d) Cllr Lang raised concerns regarding young children from Ashill Community Primary School having to cross the A358 to get to a sports hall. It was agreed that this matter should be discussed during the proposed possible meeting with Highways to also discuss Parish speeding issues.

57/16 Environment

No matters were raised regarding the Environment.

58/16 Village Hall

A discussion was introduced regarding the provision of a 2016 Ashill Christmas Tree. Cllr Lang advised that the Village Hall Committee would be happy for a tree to be provided at the front of the Village Hall. It was resolved that the Parish Council would provide the funding for the purchase of a tree and appropriate lighting. Advice would be sought from Cllr Underhill regarding the provision of a tree and Cllr Abel would make the arrangements for the lighting.

59/16 Website

It was resolved to approve a Website application for funding to be submitted to the Department of Communities and Local Government.

60/16 Finance

- i) It was reported the External Audit has now been completed and the report was received and noted. The Notice of Conclusion of Audit has been displayed on the main Parish Council Notice Board and the Website. The complete Audit Return and External Audit Report is also available to be viewed on the Website. In accordance with the Audit Commission's scale of audit fees for small bodies there is no audit fee payable as the payments and receipts for the year ended 31 March 2016 are both less than £10,000.
- ii) It was resolved for the following payments to be approved :

SSDC – Playground Inspection	£ 57.60
Vitaplay – Adult Exercise Equipment (Paid)	£16,800.00

61/16 Items for consideration for a future agenda

- Financial Planning
- Wood Road Notice Board
- Millennium Pond Bench
- Tennis Court Membership/Surface

62/16 Dates of 2017 Meetings

The following 2017 meeting dates were confirmed as being 16 January, 6 March, 8 May (Annual Meeting), 3 July, 4 September and 6 November.

The meeting closed at 9 : 00 pm

Signed : (Chairman)
16 January 2017