

ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Date: 22nd March 2016 **Time:** 7.30 pm

Place: Ashmansworth Village Hall

Present: Cllr Alan Cox (Chairman) Cllr Andrew Bays

Councillors: Cllr Kieron Black Cllr Sally Burch
Cllr Angela Harris

In

Attendance: Sadie Owen (Clerk)

Apologies: Cllr Graham Falconer (Borough) Cllr Tom Thacker (County)
PCSO Damon Hope

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes of the meetings held on 18th January were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record. They were duly signed by Cllr Cox.

3. Matters Arising

The Clerk confirmed that the council's Local Plan Consultation comments had been duly logged with BDBC.

4. Planning

a) Update on previous applications

No outstanding applications.

b) Further applications received

No new applications.

It was however noted that HALC had sent through a briefing note relating to the Housing and Planning Bill currently passing through Parliament, and the ensuing changes that this will have to planning. HALC had noted that this was an important consultation for local councils with the 'Technical Consultation on Implementation of Planning Changes' closing on 15 April 2016.

5. Council Business

a) Clerk's Report – the Clerk reported that she had attended a Clerk's update by HALC the previous week. The main topics covered were in relation to forthcoming audits and grant funding opportunities for local project funding.

Clerk

The Clerk further added that s137 expenditure limit for 2016/17 had been increased by 0.8% per elector from £7.36 to £7.42.

- b) Recreation ground grass cutting tender – the Clerk reported that the tender process had now been completed and that a contract had been sent and signed by the newly appointed contractors, A D Clark Grounds Maintenance Ltd.

Cllr Black commented that the grass had been cut that day and Cllr Burch commented that it appeared to be a good cut.

Cllr Cox reported that there had been some recent issues in relation to deer getting caught in the football net. It had been suggested that the net be rolled up and down according to use. Cllr Cox commented that he had discussed the matter with Vic Gethin who had agreed to take responsibility for the net.

- c) Crux Easton phone box - the Clerk reported that the phone box was due to be painted within the forthcoming couple of weeks. Cllr Harris requested that the Clerk let her know if she was informed of a specific date by the contractors.

Clerk

- d) Lengthsman update - the Clerk reported that work requests had been sent to the Lengthsman, but that there had been no further update, other than that he had requested Cllr Black's contact details in order to discuss the approach road to the recreation ground.

Clerk

Cllr Black commented that he had not received any contact to date. Clerk to chase the Lengthsman to ascertain when he would be undertaking the works.

- e) Footpaths group – Cllr Cox commented on an email that had been received from a member of the HCC North Area access team for the countryside service requesting representative from local volunteer groups with the aim of maintaining and improving rights of way.

Cllr Cox

He commented that he had sent an email to the village but had received only one response from Mr John Hastings-Bass. Cllr Burch also suggested that Mr David Boyles may be an interested candidate to contact. Cllr Cox agreed to approach him.

6. Local Roads

- a) Potholes/Road Repairs – Cllr Cox commented that last summer he had reported a particularly bad pothole near Keeper's Cottage. It has worsened so he agreed to chase HCC.

Cllr Cox

There were no new issues to report.

7. Telephones/Broadband

Cllr Bays reported that he was still in discussions with representatives from Gigabeam, who were awaiting to establish a valid halfway point between Ashmansworth and Winchester for a relay. He commented that the system had recently gone live and so resources were a little stretched at the moment.

Cllr Bays

Cllr Bays did not feel that planning would be an issue in relation to installation of the aerials, but added that as Gigabeam were offering an emerging technology solution via a relatively small company, there was not going to be an immediate result.

8. Village Hall refurbishments

Cllr Cox reported that works had commenced on the Village Hall refurbishments with the store room foundations completed.

9. Neighbourhood Watch

The Clerk had received the following update from PCSO Damon Hope:

Speeding Issues:

PCSO Hope has continued to make a presence in the village known to drivers (parking on the road from Facombe and also on the edge of the village on the road leading down to the Yew tree). He was pleased to report that for the most part traffic had been very good and he has not had to stop anyone in the last few weeks. PCSO Hope commented that he would be interested to hear the Parish Council's view on this.

Neighbourhood Watch:

Whilst on patrol in the village he has spoken to a few people who haven't expressed any concerns but PCSO Hope commented that his door is always open to anyone that needs help or advice.

Police Presence:

PCSO Hope reported that when on shift he always managed to get out to the village at least once. After doing speed enforcement he patrols the village on foot usually parking in the Village Hall car park. PCSO Hope commented that he would like to encourage people to stop him in the street if they have any problems or just want to chat. He also wanted to re-assure the parish that on a late duty he generally patrolled by torchlight, probably not uncommon in poorly lit rural areas, but just to let people know that he wasn't "casing" potential targets to burgle!

Cllr Cox proposed that PCSO be thanked for his continuing efforts. Cllr Harris queried whether his regular beat covered Crux Easton, as there were some ongoing speeding issues related to the area. Clerk to discuss with PCSO Hope.

Clerk

10. Queen's birthday celebrations

Cllr Cox reported that there had been a meeting the previous evening to discuss ideas to celebrate the Queen's 90th birthday. It had been agreed that there would be a party on 11th June at the recreation ground with a BBQ, children's entertainment and a band.

The council agreed in principle to sponsor the children's event.

10. BDAPTC/HALC

There were no issues to report. A scheduled BDAPTC meeting had been cancelled.

11. Financial Matters

- a) Payments Approval – the Clerk presented the financial statement (appendix A). The payments were unanimously agreed. Clerk to process. **Clerk**
- b) 2016/17 Risk Assessment – the council had reviewed the risk assessment document. Cllr Cox proposed and Cllr Burch seconded approval and acceptance of the risk assessment.
- c) Change of bank – the Clerk reported that she had received the documents back from the bank as Cllr Black needed to complete certain sections. The documents were duly passed to Cllr Black. **Cllr Black**
- d) Further donations – Cllr Cox suggested that as there were some surplus funds in the bank account it would be worth contemplating making some additional donations to local organisations/projects.

The council agreed to donate £200 towards renovations of the Crux Easton phone box, and a further £100 to assist with the village hall refurbishments.

- e) HMRC bill – the Clerk reported that she had received a bill from HMRC for approximately £200, but that she believed that this had been sent in error and was in the process of rectifying. **Clerk**

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting will be the APM/AGM. It was suggested that the clerk invite Cllr Thacker, Cllr Falconer, PCSO Hope, Reverend Christine Dale and Jane Meredith. **Clerk**

The meeting closed at 8.50pm The next meeting will be the APM on 11th May at 7.30pm.

APPENDIX A

Financial statement : Ashmansworth Parish Council

Meeting date : 22/03/2016

Balances:

Statement No: 372 (28/02/2016) Balance	Balance after reconciliation - 22/03/16
£2,410.61	2,014.22

Payments since last meeting date :

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
100617	A A Wolfenden	Grass cutting - June	144.00
100618	A A Wolfenden	Grass cutting - Sept	96.00
100619	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary - Dec/Jan	222.64
TOTAL			462.64

New Items for payment

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
100620	Ashmansworth Village Hall	Hall hire 2015/16	161.00
100621	Mrs S Owen	Clerk Salary - Feb/Mar	222.64
100621	Mrs S Owen	Clerk expenses	12.75
TOTAL			396.39

Receipts since last meeting date :

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
TOTAL			0.00

Payments not yet presented

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			0.00