

ASHWICK PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD IN OAKHILL VILLAGE HALL
ON 14TH MARCH 2018 AT 7.30PM

Present D Barlow (DB, Chair), P Briscoe (PB), P Dennis (PD), S Emery (SE), M Baverstock (MB), D Gilson (DG), C Sully (CS), D Thorley (DT) and B Wells (BW).

In Attendance S Vaillant (Clerk), R Carter (District Councillor; in part).

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

58/18 Apologies were received from R Battagel (RB) and E Lewis (EL).

Action

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST & DISPENSATIONS

59/18 No request for dispensation were made.
D Barlow and M Baverstock declared an interest in the proposed residential scheme on land at end of Chapelfield.

AGREEMENT OF MINUTES OF MEETING HELD

60/18 The minutes of the meeting held on 14th February 2018 were agreed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting held, with the following amendment:
• Item 41/18; Clerk did not send response to Johnston & Johnston as, after checking, it was confirmed that the council could not vote on an item that was not on the agenda. Clerk contacted Johnston & Johnston to advise that response would be delayed; and the item was added to today's meeting agenda.

MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES (where not dealt with later)

61/18 Raised garden bed in High Street & Registration of playing field with Fields in Trust – Clerk has contacted Bartlett Gooding & Weelen to start proceedings. Ongoing.

SV

62/18 (303/17) Overhanging vegetation, Bath Road – Clerk has written to residents. Clerk to send another letter if it has not been actioned.

SV

63/18 (289/17) Training for defibrillator – Ongoing.

DB

64/18 (46/18) Somerset Libraries Consultation – Clerk responded. Action complete.

65/18 (53/18) Letter to the Village Hall Committee was handed at the meeting to pass on. Action complete. D Thorley advised the Committee had received two quotations to remedy the heating situation not only in the small meeting room but to the whole building.

66/18 (55/18) PCSO – Clerk has written to the PCSO again to invite her to attend meetings. No response has been received. Clerk to have a look on the PCSO website to check contact information is up to date.

SV

67/18 (56/18) Sarah has liaised with the school who agreed to organize a meeting after Easter to talk to parents about starting a walking bus as spring and summer are upon us.

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

68/18 R Carter (District Cllr) reported as follows:
• High Street retail – A lot of shops are closing due to online shopping. However, business startups are blooming.
• Budget is on track despite the numerous cut backs and without reducing services in the local area.
• Council is looking at vulnerable people and rough living.
• Real problem with workforce across the county.

Rachel left the meeting.

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GROUNDS MAINTENANCE CONTRACT 2018

69/18 It was agreed that Primrose's work was very good. PB proposed to renew the contract for the 2018 season (BW seconded, unanimously agreed).

CONSULTATION ON PROPOSALS TO TACKLE CRIME AND POOR PERFORMANCE IN THE WASTE SECTOR & INTRODUCE A NEW FIXED PENALTY FOR THE WASTE DUTY OF CARE

70/18 Chair read part of the consultation document, which is extensive and not particularly relevant to Parish Councils. The parish council supports the initiative in general but agreed not to respond.

REVISED SIDS PROGRAM

71/18 PB proposed to request two SIDs per term subject to the program allowing it, giving a total of six SIDs per year at £600 (DT seconded, unanimously agreed).

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING & PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

72/18 Clerk offered to contact the ambulance service to organize defibrillator training during the public session.

SV

PLANNING

73/18 Updates on previous applications:-
2017/2868/OTS; Outline Application (all matters reserved) for the erection of a two storey dwelling house and associated vehicle parking; The Conifers, Little London, Oakhill – No decision.

2018/0216/TPO – Proposed works to trees in a TPO area: Felling of 4 Ash trees; Coombe End, Binegar Lane, Gurney Slade – No decision.

74/18 Application 2018/0329/PTO; Works to a PTO tree, M1153 Ash Tree removal of low limb growing over the garage; The Old Coach House, Bath Road, Oakhill – It was agreed to leave the decision to the TPO officer.

75/18 Application 2018/0279/VRC; Application to vary condition 3 occupation restriction of Planning approval 2017/2866/FUL to a standard agricultural restriction; Badgers Cross Farm, Zion Hill to Underhill – Peter Dennis proposed, Martin B seconded to support. It was unanimously agreed to support.

76/18 *MB explained his interest in item 77/18 below and left the room for the duration of the discussion and vote.*

77/18 Proposed residential scheme on land at end of Chapelfield – It was unanimously agreed to respond to the developer opposing the proposed development (BW proposed, PD seconded, 6 votes for, 1 abstention from DB) for the following reasons:

- The proposed development is outside the village development limit.
- The land is totally unsuitable for dwellings until something is done about the sewage system, and the infrastructure around the site.
- Congestion on the High Street; will the road support a new development and an additional 50 or so cars.
- It was felt that the presentation contained errors and inaccuracies and it is not in line with Part I & Part II of Mendip Development Plan: the village has already met its quota of development until 2024.

MB rejoined the meeting.

FINANCE

78/18 Financial Statement – Financial statement to 13th March 2018 was agreed.

SV

79/18 Review of Financial Regulations & Standing Orders – Clerk to review and circulate for agreement at next month meetings.

SV

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80/18 Review of Risk Assessment and Asset Register – Both documents were reviewed and agreed; Clerk to print copies for signing at the next meeting.

SV

The following was noted and to be added to next month's agenda:

SV

- Bench at 5-ways needs repairing.
- Purchase of larger or additional dog bin at the Pound.

81/18 The following invoices were agreed and cheques signed:-

	£
823 S Vaillant; Clerk's Net Salary & Expenses	271.02
824 HMRC	60.40

MATTERS OF REPORT

82/18 Highways:

- SE reported seeing people investigating the area around Sun Cottage and marking the road.
- BW reported that the condition of Pound Lane was very bad.

83/18 Footpaths – Nothing to report. It was noted that the door by the garage was still on site but not preventing access.

84/18 Village Hall – Meeting was held on 19th February; DT updated on the following:

- Playground fence
- Memorial bench
- New notice board at the entrance to the car park.
- Review of village hall events coming up
- Heating; quotations are being sought
- Seating; plastic seats are uncomfortable in the village hall; looking at replacing

Next meeting on 18th April 2018, AGM on 18th June.

85/18 Speedwatch/PCSO/SALC/School – Nothing further to report.

86/18 PD offered his apologies for next month.

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

87/18 The next Parish Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 11th April 2018, 7.30pm.