

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th MARCH 2024

Present

Mr S Hoskins (Chair), Mr S Dunn, Mrs K Parker, Mr J Sunley, Mr J Woodford and the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

Cllr Bound and Cllr Morrow were also present together with members of the public.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Rhatigan, Cllr Saunders and Cllr Clark.

2. **Declaration of interest**

There were no declarations of interest.

3. **Minutes of previous meeting for approval**

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th February 2024 were approved and signed by the Chair. A minor amendment from Cllr Morrow was recognised and the minutes adjusted accordingly.

4. **Matters arising & Outstanding Action Points**

- Cllr Clark had previously reported that a meeting was scheduled later in the month with Cllr Rhatigan and Mark Smallfield from BDBC to discuss the potential of a site for allotments.

March Update: A meeting to discuss a potential allotment had been arranged with Cllr Morrow for Wednesday 13 March 2024. Cllr Sunley would inform Cllr Clark accordingly.

- Cllr Sunley confirmed that the outstanding issue relating to the new goal posts and nets for Ashford Hill recreation ground and the relocation would be dealt with before the next meeting.

March Update: The Chair and Cllr Sunley were to meet with Scofell management on Friday 15 March 2024 to discuss outstanding issues relating to the goal posts and nets.

The Clerk had secured ‘match funding’ from the Department of Health and for the sum of £750 a new defibrillator and heated cabinet could be purchased and located externally at Ashford Hill Village Hall. The purchase was proposed by Cllr Hoskins and seconded by Cllr Parker. Cllr Sunley would inform the primary school as to the change in the plan to relocate the school’s defibrillator and that the school would in future be responsible for the purchase of new pads. *

- Cllr Sunley agreed to look at the broken wooden bollard at the Ashford Hill recreation ground car park.

March Update: Cllr Sunley had contacted Mr A Miles in order to obtain quotes for the replacement and repair of bollards.

- Cllr Bound kindly agreed to add more information to the County Council’s website regarding the problem of detritus on pavements on the A339 in Headley on the pavements between Headley Tyres and the county border at Knightsbridge.

March Update: The Highways portal showed that the work required had been registered and would be undertaken within 2 months. The Chair believed that work had begun on the clearing of pavements but was concerned about tree cutting that had taken place on the A339 and the cuttings that had not been removed.

- Cllr Woodford to resurrect CSW membership and liaise with the local police authority.

March Update: Cllr Woodford informed the meeting that 10 forms had been completed (5 from Headley volunteers and 5 from Ashford Hill) and forwarded to the police authority. Cllr Sunley’s form and the form from the new Co-ordinator, Stacey Power, were to be sent to the police authority separately. A training session had been arranged for the volunteers for Monday 18 March 2024.

The Clerk would now place the order for the ANPR equipment. *

- Cllr Mellor had provided the Chair with additional information regarding a potential pavement, and it was agreed that the Chair would contact residents who would be affected by such a proposal to receive their opinions.

March update: The Chair reported that several residents had been consulted and it was felt that the installation of a curb on the Kingsclere side of Thornford Road in Headley would be beneficial, and this suggestion had been communicated to Cllr Mellor for comment.

The Chair confirmed that due to health and safety concerns the annual litter pick for both villages and their adjacent roads would no longer be organised by the Parish Council and as in previous years would be organised separately by residents. Mr Alan Baikie had kindly organised the litter pick for Headley for Sunday 17 March 2024 and suggested that there should be at least two litter picks per year in order to manage the problem of littering. The Chair suggested that Ashford Hill residents who had previously participated in the annual litter pick may be interested in organising a litter pick themselves.

5. **Highways**

Cllr Parker commented on her observation that there were a significant number of hgv's using the villages' roads with discussion ensuing as to how the problem could be addressed.

Cllr Woodford confirmed that Cllr Rhatigan was dealing with the inferior road repairs undertaken by the housing development contractor in Ashford Hill on the B3051.

The ongoing flooding of the B3051 highway near to Cary Lodge Farm / Fair Oak Farm / Sascron in the direction of Ashford Hill village had been dealt with and what appeared a satisfactory repair to the road surface in the vicinity had also been completed. The Clerk confirmed that a letter received by the Parish Council from the owner of Cary Lodge Farm which explained the history of the reoccurring problem of flooding and more importantly the cause of the reoccurring flooding had been sent to the County Council's Universal Services Directorate, who had in turn confirmed to the Clerk that the information contained within the letter as to the suggested cause of the reoccurring flooding was being discussed by highways' management.

6. **Planning Applications**

24/00345/FUL – Catts Farm, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of dwelling with access, parking & associated works – alteration to approved application 21/03573/FUL – *No objection*

24/00358/FUL – Catts Farm, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of 4 no. dwellings with access, parking & associated works - alteration to approved application 20/03597/FUL – *No objection*

24/00491/FUL – Land to the north of Catts Farm, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of 4 no. dwellings with access, parking & associated works – *Reiterated objection*

24/00502/RET – Cheam School, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of Common Room & external adventure play area – *No objection*

7. **Reports**

Chair of the Parish Council's report

The Chair reported that the new path to the Headley Pavilion had been completed and additional parking spaces would be considered in the future.

The Chair had installed insulation on the Pavilion's shutters to prevent the reoccurrence of birds nesting in them.

The Chair informed the meeting that there would be a presentation at the AGM on Monday 13 May 2024 by the Basingstoke Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team when the new neighbourhood officer PC Simon Denton would be in attendance.

Following a question by the Chair, the Clerk confirmed to the meeting that despite invitations having been sent to 10 local organisations and clubs, very little interest had been expressed about making a presentation to the Parish Council at its Annual Parish Meeting in April.

Parish Councillors' reports

Cllr Woodford had previously reported on the installation of appropriate signage to deter cyclists at the entrance to the Ashford Hill recreation ground and at the entrance to Butler's wood. Cllr Woodford was exasperated to have recently discovered that the signage at Butler's wood had been vandalised. Discussion ensued amongst the Councillors as to how best to communicate to cyclists where they could cycle without causing damage.

Cllr Parker had previously reported on the training that had been completed by the RoW volunteers but expressed concern regarding the amount of administrative based bureaucracy required by HCC including the requirement for all volunteers to be first aid trained as well as the need to have insurance policy cover in place. The Chair and Cllr Parker had recently met with Council representatives to discuss these issues and consideration was being given to managing the RoW volunteers independently via the Parish Council and the Clerk was investigating the potential of this arrangement with the Parish Council's insurers. *

Cllr Parker, in her capacity as a Headley resident, sought and was granted permission from the Parish Council to use the Headley recreation ground on Saturday 29 June 2024 for a family orientated picnic.

Cllr Dunn further reported on the questionnaires that had been received relating to the idea of installing a 'multi use games area' on Headley recreation ground and which were seeking the opinions of residents for such a facility on the recreation ground.

Cllr Dunn agreed to obtain quotes regarding the cost of securing the entrance to the new Headley Pavilion path to prevent damage to the path by vehicles. *

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk had previously circulated a draft policy regarding grants and donations by the Parish Council. Together with the amendment proposed by Cllr Woodford, the policy was proposed by Cllr Woodford and seconded by Cllr Sunley.

The Clerk would be circulating quotes pertaining to the cleaning and repair of the war memorials in Headley and Ashford Hill.

8. Recess

Mr Alan Baikie congratulated the Parish Council on proactively installing an excellent new path to the Headley Pavilion and suggested consideration be paid to clearing the seasonal leaves from the path otherwise a considerable build-up of mulch on the path would occur.

Mr David Cahill from RioFitness attended the meeting to introduce himself to Councillors.

9. Financial statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £6,155.79

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £27,892.97

10. Accounts for approval & payment

March 2024

K T Design – Website management fee – March - May 2024 - £390.00The Windsor

Forest Colleges Group – First Aid training courses - £270.00

Ashford Hill & Headley Garden Club – Grant - £200.00Scofell – Tree surgery Ashford

Hill recreation ground / Playground algae treatments - £300.00 / £240.00

Headley Village Hall – Room hires - £75.00

Ashford Hill with Headley PCC – Grant towards cost of ‘coronation event’ - £250.00A

Miles – Parking & pathway for Headley Pavilion - £2435.66

London Hearts – Purchase of defibrillator & cabinet - £750.00

April 2024

Mr S Marshall – Clerk’s salary & Expenses – April - June 2024 - £5707.86

Mr J Kirkby – Litter Warden’s salary – April - June 2024 - £548.70

Mr P Kemp – Litter Warden’s salary – April - June 2024 - £807.33

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.33pm.