

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 11th SEPTEMBER 2023

Present

Mr J Woodford (Chair), Mrs K Saunders (Vice Chair), Mr S Hoskins, Mr P Clark, Mr S Dunn, Mr J Sunley and the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

Cllr Mellor, Cllr Rhatigan and Cllr Morrow were also present together with members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Parker and Cllr Bound.

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 June 2023 were approved.

4. Matters arising

Matters arising were dealt with under the individual Parish Councillors' reports.

5. Highways

The Chair reported again on his specific concern of the green waste fly tipping in the layby nearest to Ashford Hill House and in general the problem with fly tipping as a result of a local facility not being available.

The Chair further commented on the fact that road signs installed as a result of the recent diesel spillage were still in situ.

Cllr Hoskins had reported significant potholes associated with a road drain on the Ashford Hill Road, located at a dangerous bend of the road near to Goose Hill.

6. **Planning Applications**

23/01328/PIP – Land at Hillcroft, Newbury Road, Headley

- Permission in Principle for the erection of a minimum of 1 no. detached dwelling house and a maximum of 2 no. dwelling houses – *Objection raised*

23/01472/HSE – Laurazan, Ashford Hill Road, Headley

- Erection of a two-storey front extension with new roof and associated alterations – *No objection*

23/01037/PIP – Plum Tree Farm, Galley Lane, Headley

- Permission in Principle for a residential development for a minimum of 2 no. dwellings and a maximum of 3 no. dwellings – *No objection*

23/01627/HSE & 01628/LBC – 1 Tanhouse Cottages, Ashford Hill Road, Headley

- Erection of a pitched roof dormer to front elevation – *No objections*

23/01629/LDEO – Headley Common Farm, Common Road, Headley

- Certificate of lawfulness to confirm works relating to permission granted under 20/0118/HSE have lawfully commenced – *No objection*

22/03361/FUL – Dairy House Farm, Little Knowl Hill, Ashford Hill

- Removal of existing barn and erection of detached dwelling – *No objection*

23/01574/HSE – Knightsfield, 9 Knightsbridge Drive, Headley

- Conversion of existing studio to create granny annexe – *No objection*

23/01766/ROC – Land adjacent to A339, Newbury Road, Headley

- Variation of conditions 1 and 6 of 17/00043/FUL – *No objection*

23/01801/ROC – Wheelers Land, Little Knowl Hill, Ashford Hill

- Variation of condition 1 of planning application 22/02041/FUL – alter position of manege – *No objection*

23/02038/VLA – Catts Farm, Newbury Road, Headley

- Discharge S52 agreements relating to previous planning permissions
23/01932/FUL – *No objection*

23/01932/FUL - BPS Leisure Ltd, Ashford Hill Road, Headley

- Demolition of office, showroom and stores to allow construction of single storey building for same commercial use – *No objection*

7. **Reserves Policy**

The draft Reserves Policy recently sent to Councillors was proposed to be adopted by the Council by Cllr Saunders, seconded by Cllr Sunley and approved to be adopted by all those Councillors present.

8. **Reports**

County Councillor

Cllr Mellor reported that only one school in the county had reported the presence of RAAC type cement. A review of waste recycling centres and the percentages of household waste that is currently recycled, would be undertaken but Cllr Mellor reiterated that there was not a new recycling centre “on the horizon”. The County’s planned bus services were in place and there is now no longer the prospect of a community service in the villages of Ashford Hill and Headley. The County Council is consulting with its electorate as to the services it most values in order to identify where savings on the cost of services could be made. Cllr Mellor informed the meeting that funding from the County Councillor grant scheme was still available. The vast majority of parents had been able to secure the first choice of secondary school for their children. Cllr Mellor had noticed the minutes reflecting issues with bikers and horse riders using footpaths and informed the meeting that the County Council had ‘Walkers only’ signage freely available.

Borough Councillors reports

Cllr Bound’s and Cllr Morrow’s reports had been previously received. Cllr Rhatigan provided the meeting with an update on the various issues relating to several developments in the villages.

Chair of the Parish Council

After 8 years of serving as Chair of the Parish Council, Cllr Woodford had decided to resign as Chair earlier than previously indicated and would be relinquishing the role at the end of the December 2023 meeting of the Parish Council.

Parish Councillors

Cllr Saunders reported on the positive feedback from residents concerning the improved access along certain footpaths.

Cllr Dunn had received one quotation for the repairs to the 84 metres of fencing around the playground in Headley and would be obtaining an alternative quote to ensure the value for money criterion was being achieved. *

An issue reported regarding the emptying of bins on Headley recreation ground would be addressed with the Litter Warden by the Clerk. *

Cllr Dunn requested ideas from Councillor as to what type of work and their locations, that the services of the Lengthman's Scheme could undertake. * Cllr Hoskins had previously raised the clearance of the pavement in Thornford Road in Headley and recently added the clearance of 'Pam's Bridge' in Ashford Hill, which Natural England had been asked to look at.

Cllr Dunn reported that the Westcotec equipment demonstration date continued to be sought. *

Cllr Clark would be representing the Parish Council at planning appeal hearings in October 2023.

Cllr Sunley updated the meeting regarding matters arising from the previous meeting's minutes and confirmed that the logistics of the installation of the new Ashford Hill recreation ground goal posts were in hand.

Cllr Hoskins reported on a number of issues still outstanding that needed to be resolved with Kingsclere Mens' Football Club.

Cllr Hoskins reported on the increased membership of the team of volunteers who undertake the maintenance of footpaths and areas of the recreation grounds. Training for the new volunteers would be required as well as the need for new equipment, the funding of which would be sought from the County Council. In conjunction with the Countryside North Access Team, the volunteers had been working on footpath 710 from Brook Farm/Old Lane to Woodhouse Lane, which was virtually impassable due to flooding and had a broken stile. Various works had also been completed and were planned within the SSSI areas to improve access for walkers.

9. **Recess**

The role of the Parish Council in influencing the decisions surrounding large scale developments in the villages was discussed with members of the public and Parish Councillors through the Chair.

10. **Financial statement**

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £10,228.88.

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £25,233.16.

11. **Accounts for approval & payment**

Mr J Kirkby – Litter Warden’s salary Oct - Dec 2023 - £503.73

Mr P Kemp – Litter Warden’s salary Oct - Dec 2023 - £738.14

Bramley Business Services – PAYE administration - £90.00

HMRC – Tax & NICs Oct - Dec 2023 - £463.52

Scofell Commercial Landscapes – Goalmouth renovations Ashford Hill recreation ground - £493.73

BDBC – Play area inspections - £1030.00

KT Design – Website design final payment & quarterly website management fee – £1065.00

C A Miles - Headley Pavilion cleaning & supplies - £41.00

Mr S Hoskins – Toilet cistern lever - £15.00

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 9.06pm.