

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th MAY 2024

Present

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

Cllr Mellor was also present together with members of the public.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Woodford, Cllr Bound, Cllr Morrow and Cllr Conquest.

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 8th April 2024 were approved and signed by the Chair.

4. Matters arising & Outstanding Action Points

- Potential allotments site in Ashford Hill.

May Update: Cllr Clark is still progressing the matter.

- Use of new APNR equipment

May Update: The Clerk had placed the order for the ANPR equipment with an early/mid-May delivery.

- Insurance cover for ROW Wardens

May Update: The Clerk confirmed that the volunteer Wardens were covered by the Parish Council's insurance policy for both public liabilities cover as well as personal injury cover. In conjunction with the adopted 'Volunteers policy', the Clerk would be devising a series of individual risk assessments covering the normal types of tasks undertaken by the RoW volunteers which would be used in conjunction with written procedures through the 'Co-ordinator' of the scheme for which Cllr Parker had previously volunteered to undertake with the Clerk.

- 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.

May Update: The best options for this work were still under discussion.

- The Clerk had requested the grounds contractor to clear tree branches and detritus that had been left after tree cutting on the junction of the A339 and the C111.

May Update: Work was scheduled to be undertaken on Friday 17 May 2024

5. **Presentation by Basingstoke Rural Neighbourhood Policing Team**

An informative presentation was made by PS Martyn Evans and PC Simon Denton regarding aspects of rural crime together with the need to report suspicious individuals and vehicles in order to collate information which may prove to be useful in solving future crimes. The Officers provided contact details of how best to contact the police authority together with information regarding ‘Hampshire Alert’; the details of which would be available via the Parish Council’s website and a future edition of the Parish Magazine.

6. **Highways**

Via a question from Cllr Sunley, Cllr Mellor explained that asphaltting had taken place on stretches of the B5031 through Ashford Hill in order to extend the lifespan of the road surface in those specific areas of the highway.

7. **Planning Applications**

24/00707/FUL – Land at rear of Robins Grove, Newbury Road, Headley

- Erection of one dwelling house and associated access - ***Objection***

24/00519/HSE – Hill View, Chapel Lane, Ashford Hill

- Partial replacement of boundary wall and associated enlargement of existing vehicular access to former chapel - ***Objection***
- Completion of demolition & replacement of chapel by a 2-storey garage/studio

23/02548/FUL – La Capanna (The Pineapple), Little Knowl Hill, Brimpton Common

- Change of use to car sales with retention of living accommodation on first floor – ***Objection reiterated***

8. **Reports**

County Councillor

Cllr Mellor reported on the ongoing deliberations by the County Council on future budget savings following the public consultation period to which the Parish Council had contributed its comments. Cllr Mellor explained that a large percentage of the County Council's budget was taken up by the costs of statutory obligations that it had to undertake which included social care.

Chair of the Parish Council's report

The Chair reported on the questionnaires that had been sent to specific residents regarding the preferred location of the proposed multi use games area on Headley recreation ground. The Council's preferred location would be the central position that had been proposed and this location would be confirmed in the planning application. The Chair reported that a dialogue had been opened with a local Parish Council who had installed a similar facility.

The Chair asked the Clerk to contact the Universal Services Directorate of the County Council to enquire as to whether they can resolve the flooding onto the A339 from Thornford Road in Headley. *

The Chair confirmed that there would not be a village picnic in Headley this year.

Parish Councillors' reports

Cllr Sunley would provide an article about the recently installed defibrillator at the Ashford Hill Village Hall for the website and the Parish Magazine.

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk had previously briefed Councillors on the receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy funding that had been received in 2023/24 and so far within the current financial year.

9. **Recess**

Mr Ken Rhatigan expressed his concern about the threats to Headley if 42 homes in Galley Lane were to be proposed as a housing development, which would extend the 'Settlement boundary' of the village. Mr Rhatigan further explained that as had been seen from the recent and successful planning appeals in Ashford Hill, it is only possible to resist large scale development if you can point to an acceptance that a village has taken a proportionate level of development. This is why Mr Rhatigan was requesting that the Parish Council review their objection to the 14 homes for the site adjacent to the Old Sawmill in Headley. The application site would deliver 6 social rented homes, the best and most affordable form of social housing. It would also mean that delivery will be more than BDBC's wish for 40% of 'Social Homes'.

They will meet the Neighbourhood Plan ideal of a ‘Mix of homes’ that meet Parish needs. It would also deliver excellent quality homes which can be witnessed by the homes already built in the new Meadow Way on the Old Sawmill site. Mr Rhatigan emphasised the need to resist builders and developers building less than 10 homes to avoid their ‘Social Homes Responsibilities’ such as the application for The Cedars.

Mr Alan Baikie added to the discussion by pointing out that the improved bus service through Headley would be another reason for the Parish Council to change its objection to support the Old Sawmill development which will make the development much more sustainable as the service now provides a late and Sunday service.

10. **Financial statement**

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £3863.22

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £49,462.27

11. **Accounts for approval & payment**

Gallagher Insurance – Annual insurance premium - £1610.49

Bramley Business Services Ltd – Annual internal audit - £390.00

Ashford Hill Cricket Club – Grant towards cost of roll-on pitch covers - £200.00

BDBC – Playground inspections 2024/25 - £1060.90

Scofell – Grounds maintenance - £1399.84 & £150.00

Mr J Woodford – Postage for return of goal post caps - £9.79

Mr S Hoskins – First Aid training for RoW Wardens - £216.00

Mr G Allwright – Planning application fee for MUGA - £359.00

Mr P Williams - Electrical installation of defib. at Village Hall - £365.39

Grave Concerns – Ashford Hill war memorial - clean & repair - £450.00

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.54pm.