

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 3rd APRIL 2023

Present

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

Councillors Mellor and Rhatigan and members of the public were also present.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllr Morrow, Cllr Sunley and Cllr Parker.

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr Dunn declared an interest in KT Design.

3. Minutes of previous meeting for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13th March 2023 were approved.

4. Matters arising

Cllr Sunley was in the process of organising the installation of the new goal posts for Ashford Hill recreation ground with the contractor, with a provisional date of the 10th May 2023. *

Cllr Sunley was still to contact Jiminy Cricket Pre School to discuss their storage requirements. *

Cllr Sunley was still to request a quote for a tree to be felled on Ashford Hill recreation ground. *

Cllr Dunn reported that the cost of the ANPRC equipment was £3845 + VAT.

It had been identified that B&D Borough Council owned the strip of land in Ashford Hill that Cllr Clark had identified as a potential site for allotments. It was agreed that identifying a similar piece of land in Headley for the same purpose would be a good idea. Cllr Clark would be liaising with a Mark Smallfield from the Borough Council regarding the proposal to utilise the land identified in Ashford for allotments for residents. *

5. Highways

The Chair reported a drain at the top of Ashford Hill that was still leaking across the carriageway; report no.21655008, Status 23/03/2023 16:11 Work Passed to Contractor.

A discussion ensued regarding the number of significant potholes that were developing on the Ashford Hill Road towards Headley, which had been made worse by the recent rainfall and which were considered as dangerous to users of the highways. The Chair encouraged Councillors to report the potholes on the HCC website as the works that received more individual loggings of the road problems received faster attention.

6. Planning Applications

There had been no new planning applications received but notifications of several appeals that had been sent to the Secretary of State.

7. Reports

County Councillor's report

Cllr Mellor had previously provided a verbal report at the Annual Parish Meeting on the achievements of the County Council in the previous year but was conscious of the period of 'purdah' that County Councillors were currently in.

Borough Councillor's report

Cllr Rhatigan had previously provided a verbal report at the Annual Parish Meeting on the achievements and ongoing issues covered by the previous year.

Chair of the Parish Council

The Chair's verbatim report;

“Villages tidy up

Must say on my return home on the 30th March Ashford Hill looked very clean!! I'd like to thank Cllrs and residents for their time cleaning up these areas of our villages.

Parish Web site

Katie Dunn, has been awarded the contract to developing a new look and style for our Parish Web site.

King's Coronation

Planned Picnic in the Park being held in both villages, as published in the Parish Magazine, on the Sunday 7th May. It will be bring your own.

Dog mess on the Ashford Recreational grounds

Last week I picked up two very large dog messes on the Ashford recreational grounds, one within the Cricket outfield near the cub house and the other was near the training nets. As a dog owner **YOU MUST CLEAR UP YOUR DOGS' MESS**, it is an offence not to do so and if nothing else it is disgusting that you would not! If a member of public should witness an owner not clearing up please take a photo and send them to the Clerk. We will investigate and will prosecute if it is determined who the owner is, the fine is up to £1000. The Parish Council has ZERO tolerance for this antisocial behaviour.”

Parish Councillors

Councillors discussed the success of the annual litter pick and the merits of having it on a Sunday next year when the roads would be quieter. It was also discussed as to the need for a more regular series of litter picks given the volume of discarded litter as well as the prospect of varying the routes taken to include different and more roads in the villages.

Cllr Dunn suggested that the picnic bench to be installed near to the Community Shop in Headley be secured to the ground. It was further agreed that the new Headley Pavilion picnic benches located on the terrace of the pavilion should remain in that location.

Cllr Hoskins updated the meeting on discussions with Kingsclere Men's Football Club and the use of the recreation ground in Headley. FA funding was being sought for the partial cost of new goal posts and an agreement with Cheam School to pay 25% of the cost had been reached. Furthermore, Cheam School had agreed to undertake an initial white line marking of the pitch provided the Parish Council arranged for the removal of the existing posts and the repair to worn goal mouths. Cllr Hoskins had obtained a quote for the removal of the old goal posts and the installation of sockets for the new posts. Scofell had been requested to supply a quote for the repair to worn goal mouths as well as to provide recommendations for the treatment of the new pitch.

Cllr Hoskins requested the endorsement from the Parish Council to proceed with an agreement with the said Football Club and Cllr Woodford proposed the resolution which was seconded by Cllr Clark. The Clerk requested that once the hire charge had been agreed that the amount was added to the written agreement and then a final draft of the agreement was sent to all Councillors to ensure their full agreement with the final details of it.

Cllr Hoskins further reported that assistance had been provided to HCC's Community Rangers to replace an old ditch crossing on footpath 701B. The crossing on footpath 702 from Upper Mill Green to Folly Farm was yet to be undertaken.

Written reports had been received from Cllr Sunley and Cllr Parker.

8. Recess

It was suggested by Mr Patrick Taylor that the Parish Council undertook an extensive programme of spring bulb planting throughout the villages to improve the aesthetics of the villages and to assist residents in taking pride in their villages.

9. Financial statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £10,784.62.

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £24,244.37.

10. Accounts for approval & payment

KT Design – Rebuild and redesign of the Parish Council's website - £1480

The Chair declared the meeting closed at 8.56pm.