

**ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2019**

**AT ASHFORD HILL VILLAGE HALL**

**Present**

Mr J Woodford (Chairman), Mr S Hiscock (Vice Chairman), Mrs K Saunders, Mr G Stewart, Mr R Tucker, Mrs R Wilson and the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

Cllrs Mellor, Rhatigan and Sherlock and a significant number of members of the public were also present.

**1. Apologies**

No apologies had been received.

**2. Declaration of interest**

Cllr Hiscock declared an interest in the maintenance of the recreation grounds.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Highways**

Blocked culverts were reported on the A339 which the Clerk would report to the Highways department.

Cllr Hiscock again expressed his concern regarding the practice of some house owners to install boulders and posts on the verge of their properties abutting the highway. Not only did the land in question belong to the County Council but the practice was causing vehicular damage as passing cars were restricted in the width of the highway when passing each other.

The Chairman reported again the fact that abandoned 'No Entry' signs in Ashford Hill had still not been collected by the Highways department and asked the Clerk to request Cllr Mellor's involvement in order to resolve the issue. The Chairman reported on the BT/Openreach works along Ashford Hill Road outside of Benham Lane toward Old Lane. Since Openreach carried out and completed these works several weeks ago the condition of the finished repairs in some places is unacceptable; in two locations on the pavement they have used inferior tarmac which could be a trip hazard to young children using this route to walk to the pre-school and to avoid a particular wall, the pipe work was installed on the opposite side of the road next to Blazes recent drainage works including white lining. Due to the Openreach work, new solid white lining is missing in parts and has been poorly repaired. The Clerk was asked to investigate the matter in an attempt to have the inadequate work remedied.

## **6. Planning Applications**

The planning application relating to land at Knightsbridge Drive in Headley for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes would be strongly objected to by the Parish Council based on a contravention of a distinct number of planning criteria.

## **7. Neighbourhood Plan**

Councillors had been previously sent a copy of the draft terms of reference compiled by Mrs Hellings for the purposes of the work to be undertaken by the 'Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee'. The Clerk confirmed that the terms did not expose the Parish Council to any constitutional or financial risk and recommended their adoption by Councillors. The adoption of the terms of reference for the Committee was proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by Cllr Wilson with all other Councillors in favour.

## **8. Recess**

There was strong and sound objection expressed by local residents over the proposed development of land off the A339 near to Knightsbridge Drive in Headley for the stationing of caravans for residential purposes. Cllr Rhatighan confirmed his strong objection to such a proposal and had expressed his strong objections to the Borough Council's Planning Officer who was reviewing the application. The Councillor's objection would be based on a number of contraventions of the Borough council's own Local Plan together with the fact that the Borough Council had made alternative sites available to the travelling community. Cllr Rhatighan confirmed that whilst there was a strong case in order to object to the planning application, there was likely to be an appeal made to the regional planning inspectorate if the Borough Council rejected the planning application.

## **9. Reports**

### **Borough Councillor's report**

Cllr Rhatighan reported that the water quality test results were still awaited from the new housing development at Ashford Hill. The Councillor also reported on the ongoing discussions with regard to the most appropriate 'screening' for the new housing development.

The Councillor reported that the planning application for 15 Hollycroft in Ashford Hill could not be supported by him and would therefore be rejected by the Planning department. Cllr Rhatighan would be visiting Ridings in the foreseeable future to discuss the issue of the use of HGVs from the property.

### **Chairman's verbatim report**

“Vehicles speed along the B3051 & C111 past the school

I have been stopped a few times during the month by concerned residents about the speed to traffic through Ashford Hill and along the C111. Last month I meet Ashford Hill's Head Teacher and the PTA Chair about the Community Speed Watch scheme. Relating to speed I will be looking for the Parish Councillors to support me on the request to undertake the traffic survey as indicated during past Parish Council meetings. This will give us a base-line to understand the situation and understand if any traffic calming would be effective by recommendation from HCC Highways. Community Speed Watch is something which did have a positive impact, however without volunteers to support it, it has not been possible to run sessions. Speaking with the school I described the process on how to apply to become a volunteer.

Hampshire Community Broadband

I attended a meeting in Ashford Hill village hall to listen to how FTTP might be able to brought to the out laying areas of Ashford Hill, Plastow Green and Headley. The team is keen to hear from anyone who might be interested in this service, including local business looking for faster BB. They are able to secure grants for businesses or local schools in receiving this service. If interested, please look at their web site <https://www.hampshirebroadband.co.uk/> This is a local team so they are more than happy to speak to you or meet with you to discuss your needs further. They are currently seeking wayleave permissions from the local land owners to bring the service across in to Ashford Hill.

Bin at the top of Ashford Hill

This bin for some reason has been stolen or removed? We have requested a replacement; I have noticed litter is being left in the layby so I may take yet another bin bag to collect this. This was carried out a few weeks ago as well as it outside of our official litter collection area.

Small extension to the cricket club pavilion

The cricket club has asked to expand their facilities to accommodate some additional storage areas. Plans I have with me tonight for your review and comments.

La Capanna

The new Italian restaurant is now open in Ashford Hill! Though the name change from the Pineapple was a surprise to all, the new name means The Hut!!!

Councillor Rossy Wilson

Finally, I would like to personally thank Rossy Wilson for her immense services to the community, she joined the Parish Council in 2001 and served as Vice Chairman on a number of occasions. She has been instrumental in the Village Design Statement as well as the Community Plan. Her support towards the Parish Council and to me has been immeasurable and I do hope she keeps in touch with us. And we would like present her with these garden plants as a sign of our appreciation.

May 2019 meeting

The next meeting to be held on the 13th May in Headley village hall starting at 7:30pm.”

### **Parish Councillors**

Cllr Wilson requested to Cllr Rhatighan that the existing hedge within the perimeter of the new housing development at Ashford Hill be allowed to grow taller to allow for more screening of the development from neighbouring properties.

Cllr Tucker passed to the Clerk the Southern Water invoice for the changing room facility on the Headley recreation ground as the Parish Council had previously agreed to take over the cost of the service. Cllr Tucker suggested that the Borough Council undertook air quality testing on the A339 to determine the actual air pollution levels from the high volume use of the highway.

Cllr Saunders enquired as to the timeline for the completed repair works on the Headley recreation ground. Cllr Hiscock confirmed that the work was still ongoing given the need for the ground to receive specialist equipment treatment.

Cllr Stewart proposed, subsequently seconded by Cllr Wilson, that the Council expend ca.£150 on the planting required for a flower bed near to Thornford Road. The question of installing picnic tables on the recreation ground would be discussed at a future Parish Council meeting. Cllr Stewart suggested that the Parish Council make a donation to the running costs of the Parish Magazine given the space that is used in the magazine to reproduce the minutes of the Parish Council. The Clerk confirmed that an additional £1000 had been added to the current budget to assist in the running costs of the Headley Village Hall and if agreed that some of this additional budgeted expenditure could be used to help with the printing costs of the magazine. Cllr Stewart requested that the Council write to the owners of 2 Tan House Cottages to request that the tree trunks that were alleged to have been removed from the grounds of the said property and deposited in an adjacent ditch be removed from the ditch in order to avoid any potential flooding of the ditch into the local vicinity.

### **Clerk to the Council**

There were no further matters to be raised by the Clerk other than those already covered in Councillors' reports.

#### **10. Financial Statement**

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £948.42.

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £19,099.01.

#### **11. Accounts for approval and payment**

Mr S Marshall – Clerk's payments & expenses April to June 2019 - £4533.15

Mr C Butler – Litter Warden's payments April to June 2019 - £565.44

Mr J Kirkby – Litter Warden's payments April to June 2019 - £449.91

Bramley Business Services Ltd – PAYE administration - £100.00

Fawns Recreational Services Ltd – Retention of original invoice value - £668.59

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.25 pm.