

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14th FEBRUARY 2022

Present

Mr J Woodford (Chairman), Mr S Dunn, Mr S Hoskins, Mr A Saunders and the Clerk.

Cllr Rhatigan and members of the public were also present.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs K Saunders and Stewart.

2. Declaration of interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of previous meeting for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th January 2022 were approved.

4. Matters arising

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

5. 'Headley Pavilion' Project

In the absence of the Chair of the subcommittee, Cllr Graham Stewart, Cllr Hoskins presented the meeting with a progress report regarding the work that the members of the subcommittee had undertaken into the feasibility of a new sports/social facility for Headley recreation ground to replace the existing changing rooms. Cllr Hoskins reported on the refined quotation from Cubitts Cabin & Modular Buildings Limited after a competitive tendering process for a modular unit facility. The refined quotation was achieved after a site visit with the supplying contractor and the enabling contractor who would be delivering and installing the modular units. The prices of the current quotation were only guaranteed for a short period of time before a significant increase in the prices would have to be incurred.

Cllr Hoskins had prepared and presented several Cost Estimates to the subcommittee to build a budget for the predicted purchase, enabling, installation and fit out costs of the new facility to ensure that the facility was affordable within the current level of fund raising that had been achieved.

The Chairman added that the Clerk would be writing a business plan to support the purpose, purchase and cost analysis as well as the ongoing cost to sustain the facility in the future. This document would be able to demonstrate the appropriate level of due diligence undertaken by the subcommittee in committing to such levels of expenditure as well as ongoing costs of the facility in the future.

The Chairman asked for a proposer and a seconder for the 'Headley Pavilion' project to proceed along the lines of the Cost Estimate proposals. The project was proposed by Cllr Hoskins and seconded by Cllr Dunn. All Councillors were in favour of the project proceeding by a show of hands.

The adoption of the proposal would allow the Parish Council to settle a 50% deposit invoice from the supplying contractor.

The Clerk informed the meeting of a letter he had received to Parish Councillors from Sir Timothy Sainsbury and Lady Sainsbury on behalf of The Headley Trust to express their wish to contribute the sum of £60,000 towards the cost of the 'Headley Pavilion'. The Clerk would respond with a letter from the Parish Council to express its appreciation of the financial contribution from the trustees of the Headley Trust.

6. **Highways**

Cllr A Saunders reported on the puddles of water on the highway near to Sascron.

7. **Planning Applications**

21/03253/FUL – The Glade, Common Road, Headley – ***No objection***

- Erection of 2 no. detached dwellings with associated parking & amenity space

21/03716/HSE – Folly Farmhouse, Thornford Road, Headley – ***No objection***

- Erection of a single storey rear and side extension with porch

21/03812/HSE – Upper K'bridge Farm Cottage, Newbury Road, Headley – ***No objection***

- Erection of a side extension to existing garage/studio

22/00033/OUT – Land to the south of Neats House, Common Road, Headley – ***Objection***

- Outline planning application for the erection of one detached dwelling

22/00091/HSE – Ulandi, Union Lane, Plastow Green, Headley – ***No objection***

- Addition of a single storey glass roof to rear elevation

21/03731/OUT – White Cottage, Ram Alley, Ashford Hill – *No objection*

- Outline application for the erection of one dwelling

21/03798/FUL – Land northwest of Ram Alley, Ashford Hill – *No objection*

- Repositioning of riding arena approved under 19/01740/FUL
- Erection of a barn (18.18m x 9.09m) – part retrospective

8. **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Chairman reported that the Neighbourhood Plan had been completed and was ready for submission to the Parish Council. There was a clear need not to further delay the adoption of the plan by the Parish Council and therefore the Chairman proposed to call an Extraordinary Meeting of the Parish Council in order to discuss the plan and to appoint an external examiner who would review the plan in readiness for inspection of the plan by the Borough Council. The Extraordinary Meeting was provisionally agreed to be held on Wednesday 23 February 2022 at 7pm via Teams.

The Chairman commended members of the Neighbourhood Plan's Steering Group, chaired by Mrs Caroline Hellings, for the immense amount of work that had been achieved through many hours of endeavour. The Chairman expressed his appreciation for the work that would prove to be so useful and effective for future generations to be able to control the development of their communities so more effectively.

9. **Reports**

Borough Councillor

Cllr Rhatigan reported that he had stepped down from the position of Leader of the Borough Council due to family commitments but continues to serve as a Borough Councillor for the ward until the next election.

Cllr Rhatigan reported that he was currently working through the objections and approvals of planning applications with the Senior Planning Officer and would inform the Clerk with the outcomes of that work. The basis of any decision making would be that there should be no housing development on greenfield sites.

There would be funding available from April 2022 for events being held to celebrate her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee.

The Chairman's verbatim report:

“The Queen's Jubilee celebrations

The Parish Council has no plans for the event, we do know that Headley is arranging a Village Picnic, please contact Graham & Penny Stewart for details. In Ashford Hill both Old Lane and Hollycroft are holding their own private street party events. It was discussed over email that the Parish Council may wish to buy commemorative mugs for the children, but this have not been approved.

Village Tidy Ups – 2022

Suggested date is for 20th March or 3rd May, this year we want to avoid Mothering Sunday!

It was subsequently agreed that the annual litter pick would take place on Sunday 20 March 2022 at 0930.

Extraordinary meeting

As the Neighbourhood plan is now completed and ready for submission it needs to be presented to the Parish Council for approval. As we do not wish to incur any further delays an extraordinary meeting is proposed for Wednesday 23rd February over Teams at 7:30pm. This is to vote on the plan and appoint an independent Examiner (Janet Cheesley, CHEC Planning Ltd) to review it before submission to BDBC and then the referendum vote. I would like to once again commend the group involved in putting this document together, there has been a significant amount of effort put in by this small but dedicated group, and I hope the Parish appreciates the enormous efforts and time this group has spent producing such an important document for us and generations to come.”

Parish Councillors

Cllr Dunn welcomed suggestions as to how to engage with families with young children as to the arrangements and ideas for a ‘street party’ for mark the Platinum Jubilee.

Cllr Hoskins reported on the training that the RoW volunteers had undertaken in order to be able to operate the newly purchased brush cutter.

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk had received an email from the Friends of Haughurst Copse to express their appreciation to the Parish Council for their grant towards the cost of work to be undertaken.

10. Recess

Mr Patrick Taylor, Editor of the Parish Magazine, suggested that an event to mark Her Majesty The Queen's Platinum Jubilee be held in Ashford Hill during the June Bank Holiday. The Parochial Church Council had kindly agreed to the event being held in St Paul's Church and its grounds.

All residents of Ashford Hill and Headley would be invited to the event which it was hoped would act as an opportunity to bring all sections of the community together.

Mr Taylor was keen not to hold the event when there may be other competing events happening in Headley and that it was important to ensure a co-ordinated approach to the organisation of all the events during the Bank Holiday period. Other initiatives were being considered by the Parochial Church Council to create a better cohesion between the residents of both villages.

Cllr Rhatigan volunteered to co-ordinate the arrangements required for such an event at St Paul's Church.

The Chairman was very supportive of such an initiative and was pleased to know that events were planned in both Headley and Ashford Hill. The Chairman had been very disappointed at the total lack of interest in the recently advertised position of a co-opted Parish Councillor which demonstrated the lack of involvement by residents in matters that have a direct impact on the villages where they live.

11. Financial Statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £2,534.622

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £41,776.32

12. Accounts approval & payment

Mr S Hoskins – Reimbursement of room hire cost for PC Christmas event venue - £18.00

Mr P Hemmings – RoW Volunteer's PPE - £30.32

PKF Littlejohn LLP – Annual external audit fee – second cheque presentation - £360.00

Mr P Kemp – Headley Litter Warden – February & March 2022 - £450.68

Cubitts Cabins & Modular Bldgs Ltd – 50% deposit for Headley Pavilion cabin - £41,377.20

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.26 pm.