

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 13th JANUARY 2020

AT ASHFORD HILL VILLAGE HALL

Present

Mr J Woodford (Chairman), Mrs K Cochrane, Mrs L Grist, Mrs K Saunders, Mr G Stewart, and Mr P Wyatt.

Cllr Rhatigan and Cllr Mellor and a number of members of the public were also present.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

2. Declaration of interest

None declared.

3. Minutes of previous meeting for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th December 2019 were approved.

4. Matters arising

Cllr Stewart confirmed that he and Cllr Hiscock will undertake due diligence in relation to the history and ownership of the land used as a layby in Thornford Road.

Cllr Wyatt confirmed that he had reported the fallen tree on the A339 (amongst other issues).

Cllr Stewart confirmed that there was still time available for work to be carried out by the Length man's scheme and that this will be used for the additional hedge cutting requested by the Chairman.

Quotes have been received for repairing the playground fencing at Headley and need to be considered.

5. Highways

Cllr Stewart noted that Thornford Road between the SID position and East View Cottages has dropped away so significantly that two cars can no longer pass. He will report this to Highways.

The Chairman advised that he had reported the large pothole near The Pineapple. He also noted that water from Fair Oak drive has been pouring onto the B3051 (presumably due to a blockage under the drive) and requested that the Clerk write to the residents.

6. Planning Applications

Land at Newbury Road, Headley – no objection.

7. Neighbourhood Plan

No formal update from the Steering group but the Chairman advised that the group would be meeting on Monday 20 January to review the draft plan which would then be submitted to external consultants for their review and comment following which the plan will be amended and provided for public review.

8. Reports

County Councillor

Cllr Mellor informed the meeting that the county library services are currently under public consultation with the options being considered either a reduction in opening hours or library closures or a combination of the two. Members of the public are urged to comment during this consultation phase.

Cllr Mellor informed the meeting that from April 2020 it is likely that Hampshire residents living more than ten miles from a Hampshire Waste Recycling Centre (tip) will no longer be able to apply for a permit for an alternative facility, e.g. Newtown Road site in West Berkshire.

Cllr Mellor noted that he had received a complaint from an Ashford Hill resident regarding the smell of sewage coming from the new development. No one present at the meeting was able to confirm this occurrence.

Cllr Mellor advised that once the planning application process has been completed for the second field in Ashford Hill, the County Council will commence work to improve the safety and reduce the speed of the C111 by the church in Ashford Hill through improved visibility, markings on the road and increasing the hours of operation of the flashing lights by the school.

Cllr Mellor acknowledged the flooding problems on the A339 at the junction with Thornford Road but advised that there are no simple solutions due to the camber of the road at this particular point.

Cllr Mellor also noted that fly tipping in the County has fallen by 25% in the last year and adult social care and children's services are operating exceptionally well.

Borough Councillors

Cllr Rhatigan informed the meeting that whilst the County Council are unlikely to be in a position to provide permits for the Newtown Road Waste Recycling Centre (tip) he is in discussions with West Berkshire Council and is hopeful of reaching an agreement.

Cllr Rhatigan noted that he expects that the new car park in Ashford Hill opposite the school will be finished within the next fourteen days. He also commented that he is aware that the required planting in the new development has not yet been completed.

Cllr Rhatigan advised that the planning application for the second field in Ashford Hill is on-going as an extension had been granted and he further confirmed that whilst the highways objection has now fallen away there are still significant objections and the application will go to an open meeting.

Cllr Rhatigan also reiterated previous points including:

- noting that under the local plan the borough has made provision for traveller sites (golf club site, Manydown, Hampton Fields) which should protect Headley.
- Noting that CPSO numbers have increased by 22% and should result in increased visibility locally.

Chairman

The Chairman's verbatim report;

“Climate Emergency actions in your community

Over the Christmas period we received an email from Lucy Martins, Climate Change Officer, Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council. She was asking Parishes in the Borough for their recommendations as to how they could improve or offer support on this subject. The Borough is also looking to host a meeting in April to bring together Parishes so that they can exchange ideas or share schemes they can action on for such initiatives. Suggest this a subject we could discuss at future Parish Council meetings.

Appeal following series of criminal damage incidents involving ball bearings

Hampshire Constabulary are appealing for witnesses and information after a series of incidents in which ball bearing pellets have been used to cause damage to windows and cars across rural Basingstoke.

Neighbourhood Inspector Hannah Luchesa said: “We are carrying out a number of enquiries in relation to these incidents but we would appeal to anyone who has seen anything suspicious or who knows who is responsible for these reckless acts, to get in touch.”

If you can help, please get in touch by calling 101 and quoting reference 44190400887.

Alternatively, you can call Crime stoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111.

SID sign in Ashford Hill

Could I have approval to proceed with the repair of the SID.

Goal post holes Ashford Hill

Works have been completed, a big thanks to Cheam's team for this.

Village tidy ups in 2020

As you know we ask Cllrs and the residents to join us on our annual village tidy ups. These take place in Headley from Common Road up to the Ashford Hill Church and in Ashford Hill from the Ship to the La Cabanna. Date for this very worthwhile activity is Sunday 8th March, for a 9:30am start, to help avoid the traffic. If you are keen to make our villages look nice please join us on this very rewarding activity!!"

Parish Councillors

Cllr Saunders requested, on behalf of Ashford Hill Primary School, support from the Parish Council in improving the surface of the footpath down the side of the school. It was noted that this is a "designated footpath" and assistance should be should from the Council Highways department.

Cllr Stewart queried whether the recreation ground in Headley could be used for car parking for a private function. It was agreed that such a request would be considered.

Cllr Wyatt noted that he has reported, and continues to report, every pothole, fallen tree and other issue on the A339.

Cllr Cochrane advised that fibre Broadband will be laid in Old Lane and Chapel Lane in Ashford Hill week commencing 20 January 2020. There may be disruption to traffic and horses during this period.

9. Recess

A number of issues of concern were discussed with the Chairman including the state of the A339 through Headley. It was also noted that the Headley Community Action Group is up and running.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.32pm.