

**ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2017**

**AT ASHFORD HILL VILLAGE HALL**

**Present**

Mr J Woodford (Chairman), Mrs C Hellings (Vice Chairman), Mr S Hiscock, Mrs H Taylor, Mrs R Wilson, Mr G Stewart, Mr R Tucker and the Clerk, Mr S Marshall.

Councillor Rhatigan and members of the public were also present.

**1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Cllr Sherlock.

**2. Declaration of interest**

None were declared.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 13 March 2017 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

Whilst the repair to the A339 road surface had been completed, it was still creating a noise to local residents when hgv vehicles passed over the road surface.

Cllr Stewart reported on works started to repair the layby in Thornford Road which would include improved drainage and grass seeding of the area. \*Cllr Stewart also raised the issue of a road repair requiring attention where vehicles access the recreation ground in Headley. Later in the meeting this minimal repair was authorised by the Council to proceed before the Village Fete.

Cllr Tucker had contacted the manufacturers of the SLRs who had confirmed that they cannot retrospectively fit solar panels. Another supplier who had been contacted was investigating the options and \*Cllr Tucker would report back to the next meeting.

\*Cllr Hiscock had discovered that there was a live water supply at the changing rooms on Headley recreation ground and would be investigating the cost of a meter installation and standing order charges for both water and electricity.

## 5. **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Parish Council approved the initiative of the compilation of a Neighbourhood Plan and the Chairman would be looking at bringing all interested parties together in order to create a Committee to start the process which would require a local referendum to ascertain the extent of local residents' support of such an initiative.

## 6. **Highways**

The Chairman reported that two drains between Chapel Lane in Ashford Hill were blocked and Cllr Stewart confirmed that contractors were clearing the drains.

Cllr Hellings expressed concern over the local roads congestion created by the recent closure of the M4 motorway. \*The Clerk would enquire with the local police authority and Highways England to see if anything could be done to alleviate the problem when the motorway is closed again in the future.

Cllr Wilson expressed concern over the school buses using the C111 after the permitted travelling times. \*The Clerk would make enquires with the local authorities.

Following extensive discussion, it was concluded that whilst the Highways department were working on installing a turning space for vehicles at Headley ford, there would be a period of time when the ford's gates would be locked in the open position.

## 7. **Planning Applications**

The planning application for an amendment to the existing permission for Rexford House in Plastow Green would be objected to by the Parish Council, based on the over development of the site which would exceed the original dwelling's footprint contrary to a condition of the original planning permission being granted.

The planning permission for land at Eastcott, Newbury Road, Headley, to develop 3 no. dwellings would be objected to by the Parish Council based on the overdevelopment of the site and the problem with vehicular access onto and off the Newbury Road.

## 8. **Reports**

### **Borough Councillor**

Cllr Rhatigan had nothing further to report.

### **Chairman**

Chairman's verbatim report:

"The play park is well on the way to be completed in the next week or two, all the major play equipment has been installed and ground works for the preparation of the new flooring is being made. The official opening date will be the 24<sup>th</sup> April around 3:30pm.

It will be opened by Katie and Marie the two local mothers involved in the fundraising and planning of the park. I invite the Cllrs of both villages to attend to support this ceremony.

Those who live close to the field in Ashford Hill at the junction of the C111 and B3051 will notice that preparations appear to be underway for the development to start. I have asked B&D planning what their position is about the Grampian Condition, they will contact us after Easter with their decision I'm sure our Borough Councillors will be following these events closely. One topic I also looked to clarify if the scheme contained provision for street lighting and have been assured there are none and it would require further planning approval. Also Village Design Statement clearly states we are not interested in street light unless it is absolutely essential for safety, assuming the VDS has any impact in planning matters.

Since last meeting where Heather announced her retirement from the Parish Council at the end April's meeting, myself and my fellow Cllrs would like to thank her for her many years of service to the Parish and we do hope she enjoys her extra free time. We have been approached by other interested parties to join the Ashford Hill Cllrs. We will hold a short interview with interested candidates between now a late May with the view to appoint a new Cllr at the June meeting.

There will not be Parish Council meeting in July as the Clerk has other commitments so our next meeting will be in September 11<sup>th</sup> 2017 at Headley Village Hall."

### **Parish Councillors**

Cllr Wilson raised the issue of the request from the Borough Council to propose a name for the road in which the Persimmon Homes development would be built. Discussion ensued with regard to a suitable name that would reflect the rural location of the development. The Clerk reminded Councillors that the deadline for a response back to the Borough Council was Friday 5 May 2017.

Cllr Hiscock sought permission for the use of Headley recreation ground to stage a memorial football match in memory of his father, Barrie Hiscock, on the 20 May 2017. Permission was granted by the Chairman.

Cllr Tucker reported bushes overgrown at a footpath onto Headley recreation ground, which \*Cllr Hiscock had agreed, post the meeting, to have cut back.

Cllr Stewart requested permission for the Village Fete to be held on the Headley recreation ground on Saturday 3 June 2017. Permission was granted by the Chairman.

Cllr Hiscock reported two missing 'sharks teeth' on the rail fencing on Ashford Hill recreation ground. The Chairman agreed that this could be looked at once the playground project had been completed.

Cllr Hiscock reported to the meeting the work undertaken to date on the recreation grounds.

Cllr Hellings had obtained a quotation as requested for tree surgeon work to be completed by a local contractor on Headley recreation ground. The proposal to undertake the work was proposed by Cllr Hellings and seconded by Cllr Wilson, with all Councillors in favour of the proposal. The Clerk was requested to instruct the contractor to proceed with the work.

*Post meeting note: Cllrs Tucker and Hiscock confirmed to the Clerk that some tree works had been undertaken since the site visit by the contractor. The Clerk has contacted the contractor concerned and asked for the quotation to be reviewed in light of some work having already been completed when the Clerk would be in a position to instruct the remaining work to be carried out.*

9. **Recess**

Cllr Rhatigan raised his concern over the amount of dog fouling on the Ashford Hill recreation ground. \*Cllr Rhatigan suggested that the Borough Council produce leaflets for distribution to dog walkers pointing out the dangers of allowing their dogs to foul the recreation ground. This offer was gratefully accepted by the Chairman on behalf of the Parish Council.

10. **Financial Statement**

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £1406.22 in credit.

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £8603.64.

11. **Accounts for approval and payment**

HALC – Annual membership fee - £366.00

Kingsclere Medical Practice – Charitable donation in memory of Barrie Hiscock - £35.00

St Michael's Hospice – Charitable donation on memory of Barrie Hiscock - £35.00

Parochial Church Council – Charitable donation in memory of Barrie Hiscock - £35.00

12. **Correspondence received**

There had been no correspondence that warranted Councillors' attention.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.18.pm.