

## **ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 20th JUNE 2016 AT ASHFORD HILL VILLAGE HALL**

#### **Present**

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

Councillor Sherlock and members of the public were also present.

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillors Chapman and Rhatigan.

#### **2. Declaration of interest**

None were declared.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9th May 2016 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

#### **4. Matters arising**

The Clerk had received confirmation from Sascron management that the source of water reported to accumulate on the highway near to the Sascron operation was not emanating from the company's operation.

#### **5. Neighbourhood Plan**

A detailed conversation ensued amongst Councillors regarding the content of the meeting at the Borough Council offices to discuss the way forward in the compilation process of a Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. The work and commitment required to successfully complete such a plan was extensive. Whilst the Parish Council could involve a Parish Councillor as its representative on a steering committee to compile such a plan, it was a steering committee that needed to comprise of local residents. Cllr Wilson agreed to contact prospective Parish Councillor candidates who had previously expressed an interest in being part of the work required to devise a Neighbourhood Plan.

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#### **6. Highways**

The following issues were requested to be reported to the Highways department;  
The Ashford Hill Road towards Headley had two drains where the tarmac had fallen away; one at the entrance to Cedars and one at the entrance to Evergreen.

The Chairman's report requested further investigation into the potential of a pedestrian crossing on the A339 near to the bus stop from Basingstoke to Newbury, near to the C111.

Sascron had apologised for the use of a transporter vehicle using the Ashford Hill Road.

Cllr Austin reported on another incident involving a driver and their attempted crossing of the ford at Headley.

Cllr Austin reported on the receipt of the replacement Speed Indicator Device and that training sessions would be provided. A co-ordinator of the Speed Watch initiative was also required.

7. Planning Applications

The planning applications received by the Parish Council received no objections to planning being granted.

8. Annual Financial Return 2015/2016

The Clerk had previously presented councillors with the 'Annual Governance Statement', which was a new requirement of the Annual Financial Return. The statement had been presented in conjunction with the 'Consolidated Account of Receipts & Payments for the year ended 31 March 2016'. The wording of the statement was discussed and the inclusive wording "We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief." was assurance enough for the Councillors to adopt the contents of the statement. The Governance Statement and Consolidated Account were proposed by Cllr Taylor and seconded by Cllr Hellings.

9. Reports

Borough Councillor

Cllr Sherlock reiterated the importance of the Parish Council engaging in the process of creating a relevant Neighbourhood Plan, which would be useful in terms of dealing with issues relation to plans regarding the devolution of authority to Parish Councils.

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Chairman

Chairman's verbatim report:

Highways

"Dangerous crossing point from bus shelter on A339 to opposite side of the road, near C111 entrance. Even though the traffic speed is 40mph it is sometimes very difficult for slower pedestrians to cross the road safely. Could we enquire from HCC highways if they could consider creating a pedestrian Zebra crossing?"

Repair to road surface outside The Ship has been done. Though there are lots of other pot holes along the B3051 including the poorly repaired one just past AH village hall which has opened up again. New SID is with Jeff MacDonald, he is hoping to run some sessions soon, however they will be moving out of the village soon so is looking for a new Speed-Watch Coordinator. If you are concerned about speeding here is an opportunity for you to make a real difference! Please see web site. <http://sid4ashfordhill.wix.com/communityspeedwatch>"

Report

"As previously mentioned the parish council web site is now live and can be viewed at [www.ashfordhillwithheadleypc.org](http://www.ashfordhillwithheadleypc.org). The PC magazine in September's edition we hope to broaden awareness by it's announcement in it, I would encourage all Cllrs to spread the word please ! On Saturday the 4th June the village fete was held at St. Pauls Church, the weather was surprisingly kind to us but the last minute venue accommodated all the stall holder's needs. Everyone appeared to enjoy themselves and I hope the organisers raised a good amount of funds for the two churches. The Parish Council members attending a meeting at Basingstoke and Deane about the process of understanding a Neighbourhood Plan. This meeting was to educate the Cllrs on the process; reference other plans in the Borough and debt how a plan might be undertaken. The process could take up to 4 yrs before the borough might adopt it. Cllrs are still considering

the process and will to inform the Parish in due cause. Anyone who is interested in get involved please contact the Clerk (details can be found on our web site). A letter was received regarding the consideration of installing grasscrete pavers to extend the possible parking along from the village shop. I have discussed these concerns with the individual and hope to meet and review the situation further. We have a parking problem along that stretch of road which was recognised, so hope we can mediate a solution soon. On the 25th June (this Saturday) an all-day event is being held at the St Pauls Church called "That's Entertainment", I know a lot of preparation and work for this event has been undertaken so hope there is a good level of attendance from both villages (even if it clashes with Glastonbury!!) Development in Ashford Hill; we have learned that the developers have applied for a legal change to the approved develop to remove the affordable housing from the scheme. We understand their request is to use the increased profit from the sales of these houses to installed a mains drainage solution for the Ashford Hill. Recreation play area within AH; The regeneration project has been awarded a match fund grant of up to £30,000 from Greenham trust, this is terrific news but does mean fund raising is required. They have published a location to raise money so if people are willing to donate, or run a fund raising event anything collected will go toward this it will help the grant!!! <https://www.findmeagrant.org/nhants/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=bed34f3d-fbae-4b97-9d5c-d8e99a01bb46>."

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Added note post meeting:-

"Dog fouling within recreational areas of both villages is once again becoming a serious problem, our contractor who cuts the grass is disgusted as his clothing is often splattered with dog poop. This is quite unacceptable condition to work in and I am sure everyone would agree. Please if any resident spots a person who is obviously showing no intention to collect their dog's mess to get their name and we will take immediate action. The fine can be as much as £1000.00."

#### Ashford Hill Playground Regeneration Project

"Dear Villagers As you may, or may not, be aware a small group of volunteers are fundraising in order to update the playground equipment situated at the cricket ground. This playground is used daily by the school, preschool and locals and is in desperate need of updating. We would like to make the area more inclusive for all children, of all abilities and needs.. Our village lacks a real centre and the playground has become the natural gathering place for many families and not only provides a place for the children but also a place to develop support networks within the village for parents. We have been granted some funds from the council but as I'm sure you can imagine the cost of these projects is huge! This week we have also been awarded funds from Greenham Common Trust, however this is a match-funding grant. They will only match fund donations we receive going forward, they are not matching the grant we already have. They will match all funds up to £30,000 that are donated through the find me a grant website, which is amazing but it means we need to raise as much as we can. I'm sure all of you at some point have made use of the park, or will at some point in the future.... Any help you're able to offer, no matter how big or small would be hugely appreciated. The fundraising website can be found

here <https://www.findmeagrant.org/nhants/payment/paymentform.aspx?appid=bed34f3d-fbae-4b97-9d5c-d8e99a01bb46> Please also forward this email to any relevant parties. Many thanks.

Ashford Hill Playground Regeneration Team"

Parish Councillors

The contentious issue regarding the Darling Buds of May external signage was confirmed as a matter primarily being dealt with Ecchinswell Parish Council. Cllr Tucker commented on the suggestion that the Headley recreation ground should be cross cut to reduce the amount of cut grass left on the ground. The Chairman would consult with the contractor. Cllr Stewart commented on the fact that the absence of verge cutting was leading to very tall grass obscuring

the sight lines of many drivers and requested the matter be reported to the Highways department as a matter of urgency. Cllr Stewart commented on the proposal to install grasscrete on Thornford Road to facilitate car parking. It was reported that the majority of residents appeared content with the proposal. Cllr Taylor had reported to the landowner of the Holt bridleway that the required access width was a minimum of 2.5metres and should be enlarged accordingly.

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#### Clerk

The Clerk reported that the Chairman had granted permission for the use of Ashford Hill recreation ground to be used for a children's birthday party on Sunday 17 July 2016

The Clerk briefed Councillors regarding the changes to S106 funding and the need to apply in advance for planned funding of new open space projects. Funding could no longer be allocated to refurbishing existing open space facilities.

#### 10. Recess

Previous Chairman of the Parish Council, Mr Barrie Hiscock, spoke regarding the plans to develop a proposal to build new sports changing rooms on Headley recreation ground. Difficulties were being encountered as far as the need and cost of further exploratory work to the ground. Cllr Tucker would be reporting back to the Parish Council on future developments of the project.

#### 11. Financial Statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £2118.45 in credit. The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £15,582.02.

#### 12. Accounts for approval and payment

Mr C Butler – Litter Warden's salary – July – September 2016 - £424.20  
Mr J Kirkby – Litter Warden's salary – July-September 2016 - £403.63  
Mr S Marshall – Clerk's salary & expenses – July – September 2016 - £2664.63  
BBS Ltd – Payroll administration & Internal Audit fee - £212.50  
Mr J Woodford – Parish Council website – Hosting & Domain name - £182.86  
HMRC – PAYE & Tax contributions – April-June 2016 - £1381.26

#### 13. Correspondence received

There had been no correspondence received that warranted Councillors' attention. The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.44pm.

#### ACTIONS

1. Cllr Wilson – Neighbourhood Plan minute
2. Clerk – Highways issues to report and investigate
3. Chairman – Consult with grounds maintenance contractor ref; cross cutting

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