

ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 14th MAY 2018

AT HEADLEY VILLAGE HALL

Present

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

Cllr Mellor and members of the public were also present.

1. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Tucker, Lideatt, Sherlock and Rhatigan

2. Declaration of interest

Cllr Hiscock declared an interest in the maintenance of the recreation grounds as the Council's nominated contractor.

3. Minutes of previous meeting for approval

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 9 April 2018 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4. Matters arising

Cllr Hiscock reported on the ongoing highway flooding issue near to the Sascron site and informed the meeting that the landowner would review the flooding problem post the harvest period.

5. Neighbourhood Plan

No further update other than to reiterate that Cllr Tucker would be the representative of the Parish Council on the steering group for the Neighbourhood Plan and would report back to meetings on the progress being made.

6. Highways

Cllr Stewart reported that tree stumps had been dumped in ditches ascending Huntsmoor Hill which would cause problems with the watercourse. Cllr Hiscock would make enquires with the Estate Manager.*

Cllr Hiscock reported on the dangerous condition of the highway at the bottom of St Peter's Close which would potentially cause a serious accident for cyclists or motor cyclists. The Chairman suggested that Cllr Hiscock bring the matter to Cllr Mellor's attention in order to undertake the work by the County Council as a matter of priority.*

Cllr Wilson reported that the footpath near to the housing development in Ashford Hill was flooded and accessing the path was difficult.

Discussion ensued with regard to ownership of land on the edge of the Headley recreation ground where cars were being parked.

The Chairman still wanted to arrange a meeting with the Highways department to identify where in Ashford Hill there was a problem with surface water running off the road surfaces. The run aways for surface water near to the new housing development in Ashford Hill had been cleared of detritus in order to minimise the road surface flooding in the area.

7. Planning Applications

The Parish Council would not be objecting to any of the recently received planning applications.

8. Reports

County Councillor

Cllr Mellor explained the programme of works planned to deal with the number of potholes on the A339. In excess of 4000 additional potholes were repaired in the county last month when compared to the same month last year. The adverse weather conditions had made the situation worse. Cllr Mellor reported on the County's working group reviewing the 'Community Speedwatch' initiative. There are fewer CSW teams in the area and the problem of enforcement still continues. The scope of extending the CSW to include 40 mph limits is being considered but not at the expense of the 30 mph limits already covered by the scheme. Cllr Mellor further reported that there would be an expectation of the property developer in Ram Alley to upgrade the existing access track due to the increased use of the existing track.

Chairman's verbatim report

Highways "I cleared out the kerb side drains by Pam's Bridge – either side (with rods, a bucket and small trowel). I'm hoping this will help keep them clear for Summer now. Even more water running off the land at Sascron on the LHS, as well as their water storage tanks at the front of the site. This is having a detrimental impact on the road surface as it is deteriorating it. Water still running off the Charles Church development which is eroding the pavement. Speaking with the Planning enforcement officer B&D, Mark Fletcher, said they see these issues are the matter for the EA and Hampshire Highways. I have asked HCC Highways to visit the village to walk these areas and a couple of other locations of concern. So far I have had no formal replies only an acknowledgement of the email. Car parked on the area next to the Bus shelter with a cover on it – does this land belong to the Parish Council and should this car be parked there.

Charles Church no longer offer the Affordable or Social housing

This matter has been taken up by me during a discussion with Gregg Chapman – Planning officer at B&D. He will enquire during a review meeting with Sovereign Housing who will manage these properties as the delivery of these. He was not aware of these changes to the site.

Clarification of improvement of Ashford Hill Play Ground

A questionnaire was taken at the play park and parents of the Primary School and Pre-school where all very complementary of the final scheme. During the time I spent collecting these, several parents enquired about the state of grounds of the recreational area and how the muddy area was very problematic. I was also asked if the Parish might put in a path from the car park to the school. As we know this not feasible but it did raise the question about the Car Park area opposite of the school. I notice a Sales Office had been installed in the location of the Car Park, this prompted me to contact Cllr Rhatigan (21st April). Can we have your opinion on this please Cllr Rhatigan?

Recreational Ground Ashford Hill

Cllr Hiscock, Cllr Lideatt and myself reviewed the repair work carried out by Total-Play Ltd. The works were far below the standard which the Parish Council will expect, we understand the Cricket Club is not carrying out these repairs but they should have overseen the works. I have expressed that the repairs fall far below those expected when speaking to the Cricket Club Captain, the club has a retainer of £900 which they are looking to secure for the repairs. Since my call the Cricket Captain the contractors have requested a site visit to inspect. This is to be held on the 25th May. Due to work commitments I'm unable to attend. My fellow councillors have offered to attend in my absence. I would look to get the ground to be returned to the same conditions prior to work commencing.

Fibre Optic in the village – Preparation for Ultra-Fast Broadband

During the past month there have been two major installations within Ashford Hill. The most disruptive is by Vodafone and as far as I know offering nothing beneficial to the village as it concerns Fibre Cables for Vodafone and this not for consumer use. This the white pipework from Brimpton Common through to Kingsclere junction at the A339. Other works within subterranean ducting and pavement boxes of BT's is their initial first Fibre fit. I have uploaded some images of these works on the Parish Web site. The blue pavement and roadside markings indicate the work packages they installed. BT Openreach installers need to bring in the main fibre and the distribution technology [Aggregation Node, Primary Splitter Node and Secondary Splitter Node]. So late summer or early Autumn this service might be available to the village.

June 2018 meeting

The next PC meeting, 11th June in Ashford Hill village hall at the usual time of 7:30pm”.

The Jiminy Cricket Play Group had sought permission from the Parish Council to erect an extension to the existing picket fence around the outside area used by the group. The Parish Council had no objection to such a proposal.

Due to travel and work commitments for the Chairman and the Clerk it was agreed by Councillors not to have a meeting in the months of July and August 2018.

Parish Councillors

Cllr Stewart reported that there would be 15 hours of work undertaken next month by the Lengthman's Scheme.

The funding for the Play Park project on Headley recreation ground was being progressed with a Local Infrastructure Fund application due in June. Cllr Stewart asked the Parish Council to give consideration for a financial donation to the project.

Cllr Stewart reported on a site meeting with the Highways department to discuss a variety of road safety signage that had been agreed to be installed on Thornford Road.

Clerk to the Council

The Clerk had no issues to report that had not already been covered by Parish Councillors' report.

9. Recess

Several issues of concern were discussed with members of the public and the Chairman.

10. Financial Statement

There were no bank statements available at the time of the meeting.

11. Accounts for approval and payment

No payments were due for approval and payment at the meeting.

12. Correspondence received

No other correspondence had been received which warranted Councillors' attention.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.23 pm.