

**ASHFORD HILL with HEADLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 8<sup>th</sup> MAY 2017**

**AT HEADLEY VILLAGE HALL**

**Present**

Mr J Woodford (Chairman), Mrs C Hellings (Vice Chairman), Mr S Hiscock, Mr G Stewart, 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 Cllrs Mellor and Wilson.

**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 10 April 2017 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

**4. Matters arising**

Cllr Tucker reported that the original SID supplier had suggested fitting the equipment to the mains electrical supply. Another company had proposed to attend site but estimated the retrospective fitting of solar panels to cost several thousands of pounds. The batteries had a life expectancy of 3-4 years and each charge lasted 4-5 days dependent upon the number of activations.

Cllr Hiscock reported that the utility companies would be sending the Clerk information regarding the Headley changing rooms.

The Clerk was awaiting further details of the bus company from Cllr Wilson\* in order to attempt to address the illegal use of the C111 outside of the school journey times.

The Chairman asked the Clerk\* to pursue Cllr Rhatigan regarding the dog fouling leaflets discussed at last month's meeting.

## **5. Neighbourhood Plan**

There was nothing to report regarding the progression of the Neighbourhood Plan. The Chairman would like to take the opportunity of the 'closed' Parish Council meeting in July to further discuss the progression of the Neighbourhood Plan.

## **6. Highways**

The Chairman reported that as a result of the increased number of minor accidents within the National Speed limit between the end of the 30mph limit in Ashford Hill and the start of the 40mph limit, in the direction of Tadley, he strongly requested that highways reduce the limit and extend the 30 mph back down the Ashford Hill hill. This would result in less cars and lorries having minor incidents on the bend of Ashford Hill and help reduce the deaths of deers crossing. The Clerk\* would report the suggestion to the County's highways department. The Chairman further reported on a recent road traffic incident involving the death of a deer from the herd that regularly crosses over the main road at the top of the hill in Ashford Hill. The Chairman requested the Clerk\* to suggest the installation of appropriate road signage to remind car drivers of the presence of deer in the locality.

Cllr Hellings reported on the misuse of the footpath behind Headley Tyres where it is alleged that dog walkers are leaving their bags of dog excrement within the vicinity of the footpath. The confrontation between walkers and residents within the vicinity of the footpath had necessitated the Police Authority attending site. The Chairman suggested the installation of dog fouling bins for dog walkers to deposit the bags and insisted that any footpath access needed to be maintained despite local resident opposition who always had the recourse to apply for the diversion of any footpath.

Cllr Hiscock had dealt with inconsiderate parking by residents in Thornford Road who were now parking in driveways in order to avoid the unnecessary congestion.

Cllr Tucker reported the need for the pavement kerbing to be repaired on the Thornford Road, before Swaites Meadow. The Clerk\* would report the matter.

Cllr Stewart confirmed that the Parish Council was again eligible for the Lengthman's Scheme grant for the new financial year.

The Chairman further reported that residents near to the Public House previously known as The Pineapple would be making a case for the stretch of the B3051 within this area to be reduced to 30 mph speed limit because of the inherent dangers of this stretch of the road.

## **7. Planning Applications**

The Parish Council would not be objecting to any Planning Permission application received.

## 8. Reports

### Borough Councillor

Cllr Sherlock had nothing of significance to report to the meeting.

### Chairman

#### Chairman's verbatim report:

“The Play Park is now complete and officially opened 24th April by two of the mums and myself. Our Borough Councillor Ken and many of the Parish Councillors attended this event along with the NWN who covered it in last week's paper. The Park has gone down a storm with local families and residents. We will now be looking at projects within the rest of the Parish. No Smoking signage has been provided by B&D for both parks. {Sign shown at PC meeting} We must now look to tackle the Changing Rooms of the Headley recreational grounds. B&D have indicated there is funding for such a project, we now need to get costing and design. Could I ask the support of the Headley Councillors on this? Pollution in Baughurst brook; residents along the brook have asked if I can make the community aware of a Pollution Hotline if anyone detects pollution in the brooks or other waterways. This number will be published in the Parish Magazine and is on our web site. There will be a Parish Council meeting in June, and I would ask that all Cllrs are available for the July date where we can have a strategy meeting about projects and the Neighbourhood Plan.”

Cllr Stewart stressed the importance of consulting with local residents over any proposal to develop the existing changing rooms building on Headley recreation ground.

Cllr Tucker\* agreed to consult with Mervyn Martin regarding a cost to replace missing 'sharks teeth' on the fencing at the recreation ground in Ashford Hill.

It was further reported the concerns regarding the crumbling brick work on the foundations of Pam's Bridge in Ashford Hill. The Clerk confirmed that the matter had previously been reported to the Road Engineers department within Hampshire County Council. The Clerk\* would report the matter again.

Cllr Hiscock reported concerns with two local footpaths; 744 (Blissetts Farm & Fuces Farm) where loose dogs were disturbing livestock. Cllr Hiscock suggested an article in the magazine explaining the rules of the countryside to residents who may not be familiar with them. Cllr Hiscock\* would consult with a local Farm Manager, Simon Hill to discuss a possible article; 742 (Tanhouse Cottages) where repairs to a crossing bridge had still not been undertaken. The Clerk\* would report the two paths in question.

Cllr Hiscock further reported the need to improve pedestrian access along the pavement on the Newbury Road from the Four Kingdoms attraction to the Old Forge. The Clerk\* would report the matter.

Cllr Hiscock further reported the need for additional top soil to be added near to the fencing of the new Ashford Hill playground for ease of grass cutting. The Chairman\* would request this to be undertaken by the contractor.

**9. Recess**

General discussion ensued with regard to the general conditions of footpaths within the parish boundaries.

**10. Financial Statement**

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £2349.25 in credit.

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £20,554.95.

The Lloyds TSB deposit account for the Ashford Hill Playground project stands at £92,478.48.

**11. Accounts for approval and payment**

Fawns Recreational Services – Ashford Hill playground project - £92,016.98

Headley Village Hall – Room hire - £20.00

Community Shop – Room hire - £12.00

HMRC – PAYE & tax contributions – April-June 2017 - £1508.07

Mr S Hiscock – Recreational Grounds maintenance – 1 of 3 annual payments - £1973.00

**12. Correspondence received**

There had been no correspondence that warranted Councillors' attention.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.23pm.