

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

### **MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10th OCTOBER 2016 AT ASHFORD HILL VILLAGE HALL**

#### **Present**

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

Councillors Chapman and Sherlock and members of the public were also present.

#### **1. Apologies**

Apologies had been received from Councillor Hellings.

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

None were declared.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on Monday 12th September 2016 were approved and signed as a true record by the Chairman.

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

Cllr Tucker informed the meeting that the local Litter Warden was supportive of volunteers undertaking the additional litter picking work.

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

Cllr Wilson reported that not a lot of progress had been made and a meeting was planned for Tuesday 11 October.

#### **6. Highways**

Cllr Woodford reported that it had been reported to him that there were cracks appearing in the Baughurst brook bridge on the Ashford Hill Road in Ashford Hill. The Clerk would report the matter to the Highways department.

The SID outside Hollycroft was only working intermittently and only being activated when vehicles were very close to it.

Police had recently been carrying out speed checks in Headley and Ashford Hill.

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A letter had been received from a local resident who lives at Little Knowl Hill in Ashford Hill expressing their concern regarding the speed of drivers using the Ashford Hill Road and the number of vehicular accidents that had recently occurred. The Chairman would be replying to the resident's letter and would be expressing the Parish Council's sympathy with the situation but emphasising that the Parish Council had very little control over attempts to improve the situation and that involving the police authority and the County Council was the correct way forward in order to improve the situation.

Cllr Tucker reported a sinking roadside drain on the A339 in Headley.

#### **7. Planning Applications**

There had been no planning applications for consideration.

#### **8. Reports**

County Councillor

Cllr Chapman reported that there was a lack of further information regarding the subject of devolution. Negotiations were on going with regard to access to the recycling centre through a system of permits. The County Council's Social Services were facing severe financial cuts for the next 3 years whilst it was hoped that the same services would remain available.

Cllr Chapman reported on his involvement in a number of recent royal family visits to the county and several interesting visits he had made in his capacity as Chairman of Hampshire County Council.

#### Borough Councillor

Cllr Sherlock provided Cllr Tucker with a Borough Council contact to discuss issues related to the consultation process regarding the Community Infrastructure Levy.

Cllr Sherlock reported that a response from the Environment Agency regarding the potential treatment of waste materials from the proposed new housing development in Ashford Hill was awaited.

#### Chairman

The Chairman had received criticism regarding the absence of Parish Council minutes from the Parish Magazine and had explained to the parishioner that the publication deadlines were not under the control of the Parish Council and the Parish Council website would not be replacing the magazine.

The second litter pick within the villages was to be held on Sunday 16 October.

The Macmillan Cancer Support coffee morning held at the Community Shop had raised £340.

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#### Parish Councillors

Councillors discussed the local arrangements for the additional litter pick scheduled for Sunday 16th October.

The Clerk confirmed that he had reported to Sovereign Housing their obligation to maintain the hedging at the Hollybush development.

Cllr Tucker asked if any Councillor had given permission for the Headley recreation ground to be accessed by a tree-felling contractor. Councillors had not given such permission and Cllr Tucker agreed to further investigate how this was allowed.

Discussion ensued with regard to the proposed project to lay 'grasscrete' on the Thornford Road layby near to the community shop in order to facilitate and improve parking for customers using the shop. The project would allow an area of 60sqm to provide parking for 4/5 cars with an area of brambles to be cleared in order to allow ease of opening of car passenger doors. The 'grasscrete' will have top soil and grass seed added which will allow grass to disguise the presence of the materials which will provide the hard standing. The Chairman requested that Cllr Stewart confirm that the 'grass mats' detailed in the quotation were in fact the 'grasscrete' material that had been previously discussed. It was suggested that Harrow residents might use the new parking and if so parking permits may have to be introduced. The contractor's specification and costings were discussed amongst Councillors with Cllr Stewart confirming that Mr Roger Miles had kindly offered to undertake the project at cost and which amounted to a net figure of £2950. The cost of the project would be met from the Enborne Valley trust account, which would

leave a small residual amount. The project was proposed by Cllr Stewart to proceed and seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously agreed by all Councillors present.

#### Clerk to the Council

The Clerk had received correspondence from Kingsclere Charities requesting the Parish Council to confirm the appointments of Mrs Penny Stewart and Mr Dave Chamings as its Trustees to serve for another four-year term. Councillors were unanimous in their support for both individuals to continue to serve as trustees for the Parish Council.

The Clerk reported that the Audit Commission had certificated the Parish Council's annual return, which would be acknowledged by the Parish Council.

The Clerk had received a letter from the Planning department of the Borough Council regarding 'Neighbourhood Planning' policy. The policy relating to such planning had been satisfied as far as the 35 dwellings that had been granted planning permission within the period 2011-2016 within and adjacent to the Ashford Hill settlement policy boundary.

#### 9. Recess

Discussion ensued with regard to potential sites within the parish that might be considered for housing development in order to meet required quotas for new housing.

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#### 10. Quarterly Accounts – April-September 2016

The Clerk had presented an account of income and expenditure for the two financial quarters versus the year's budget. Income was on target and expenditure was well controlled without any of the contingency having to be expended during the first quarter.

The Clerk reported that he would be transferring £4325 of funds received from the Greenham Common Trust to the S106 account, which had a residual sum contained within it, in order to separate the income from the current account, that had been received on behalf of the Ashford Hill playground regeneration project. This would allow the Parish Council's level of income to be more reflective of its actual level.

#### 11. Financial Statement

The Lloyds TSB current account of the Parish Council stood at £3034.30 in credit.

The Lloyds TSB deposit account of the Parish Council stood at £18,984.05.

#### 12. Accounts for approval and payment

There were no payments for approval and payment.

#### 13. Correspondence received

There had been no correspondence received that warranted Councillors' attention.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 8.34pm.