

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ

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Minutes of a Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on Monday 4 April 2022 at 19:30hrs

Present – Councillors (Cllrs)

Steve Davey (Chair), Caz Halfhide, Nick Bluck, Henry Guy, Jonathan Mock, Antoinette Groves.

In attendance:

J Ferguson – Clerk, Neil Bloomfield - County Cllr & 6 members of the public.

County & District Councillors Reports.

Cllr Bloomfield gave a brief report observing the pre-election period.

Public Open Session

Members present wished to pass on thanks to the Millennium Wood Group and all contributors to the new accessibility gate into the wood. Also thanks to the Church bell ringers who were excellent. There was a request for County Highways to repaint the white line opposite Stone Farm on the corner of Burrough Street. Cllr Bloomfield said he would try to arrange for the work to be done.

19:45 – Meeting opened

22/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given

Apologies were accepted from Cllr Coombes & Cllr Clarke (District).

22/02 Declarations of interests

None.

22/03 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.

22/04 Matters to report from the previous meeting

Cllr Davey reported that he had instructed Battens to progress the Cemetery Access Lease. Cllrs reported ongoing problems with parking in the Village Car Park & Cllr Davey offered to speak to the head teacher again. The Chair & Clerk had submitted three grant applications for village projects. Quotes were needed to complete the applications but the grant paperwork needed to be provided to SSDC by the 31st March. A public meeting for Martock & Ash SEND Academy had been arranged.

22/05 Clerks Report & Correspondence – To approve additional hours and 1/3 costs for clerks CiLCA qualification.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve an increase of 2hrs/week and 1/3 apportionment of the costs of gaining the CiLCA.

22/06 Clerks Report & Correspondence

The following items were reported:

- Community Grant Application for Ash Village Hall Car Park improvements. Noted.
- Email from Cllr Bloomfield regarding the closed footpath bridge over the River Yeo. Noted.
- Increase in Parish Ranger Scheme fee. Noted.
- Email from Somerset Archives regarding Jubilee Parish Portraits. Noted.
- Request for donation from a resident running the London Marathon for Crohn's & Colitis UK. £50 Unanimously agreed to be donated.
- Fireline quotation for remedial works on fire safety equipment at the Pavilion. Accepted.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

22/07 Planning Decisions Report. 22/00187/HOU – 25 Back Street, Ash. Removal of conservatory & garage. Construction of extension & integral garage. Approved. Noted.

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22/08 Planning Applications. 22/00530/FUL – Barn at Tailles Farm, Durnfield. Demolish an existing barn & erection of 4 bedroom detached dwelling.

RESOLVED: It was agreed to provide comments in OBJECTION of the application as follows: Ash PC unanimously OBJECT to the application. The previous Section Q application states that this site is not suitable for housing development, it was only allowed because it satisfied the section Q requirements. However, this application is not on the same footprint, being larger, higher & the design not in keeping with the existing surroundings & buildings.

22/09 Finance - To report the following payments:

Clerk's gross salary and expenses	£793.90
Water2business – Churchyard	£84.74
Fireline Ltd – Fire safety inspection	£58.50
Mudford Parish Council - CiLCA registration fee (1/3rd cost)	£136.66
SSDC – Ranger (Feb)	£186.48
SSDC – Annual ground maintenance contract 21-22	£2612.28

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed that all payments be made.

22/10 Finance – To approve the 2021-22 National Pay Award (backdated to 1st April 2021)

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the 2021-22 National Pay increase, backdated to 1/4/21.

22/11 Finance – approve the clerks contractual 1 point salary increase

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the clerks contractual 1 point salary increase.

22/12 Finance – To approve the EoY cashbook & bank reconciliation

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the EoY cashbook & bank reconciliation.

22/13 Finance – To approve the Financial Risk Assessment

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the Financial Risk Assessment.

22/14 Finance – To approve the purchase of Jubilee mugs

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the purchase of 144 mugs at a cost of £388.26.

22/15 Parish Matters – To discuss the condition of the concrete slabs beneath the Burrough Street bench

It was agreed to consider replacing the slabs with a concrete base next time that there was work of this nature being carried out by the PC.

22/16 Pavilion, Recreation Area and Playground – General Report

Cllr Davey explained that he believed it was correct to allow the newly elected PC to decide the fate of the Pavilion building and progress the insurance settlement. Everyone agreed this was a sensible approach. Cllr Guy had arranged for the new swing seats to be purchased. The clerk agreed to purchase a new combination lock for the barriers at the Pavilion entrance and 2 new padlocks for the noticeboards.

22/17 Date of next meeting – 9th May 2022

21:30 - Meeting closed