

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

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

Tel: 07783 475200

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

Present – Councillors (Cllrs)

Steve Davey (Chair), Lesley Andrew, Antoinette Groves, Henry Guy, Lily Humby

In attendance:

J Ferguson – Parish clerk and 5 members of the public.

County & District Councillors Reports.

All Cllr reports had been circulated via email prior to the meeting. The clerk presented a status report from Cllr Bloomfield on two proposed developments in the parish.

Public Open Session

There was some discussion relating to the request from the PTA to hold a fundraising event in the Millennium Wood. A representative from the PTA was present and responded to all questions and concerns.

19:45 – Meeting opened

22/61 Apologies for absence

Apologies had been received from Cllr Halfhide, Cllr T Groves, County Cllr Bailey, County Cllr Pearlstone, District Cllr Clarke and District Cllr Bloomfield. All apologies were accepted.

22/62 Declarations of interests

No declarations of interest received.

22/63 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the Council Meeting held on Monday 6th June 2022 were approved and signed as a correct record.

22/64 Matter to report from a previous meeting

None.

22/65 Planning decisions report

None.

22/66 Planning applications

None.

22/67 Finance – To approve the following payments:

Clerk's gross salary and expenses	£955.93
SALC – councillor & planning training	£50.00
Ash village hall – hire fee	£20.00
The Bell Inn – reimburse champagne (report)	£84.00
A Groves – reimburse Pavilion Jubilee planting & locks	£208.45
HAGS – Play equipment & installation	£35693.67
Battens – Cemetery access track lease	£1849.20
T Groves – reimburse telephone box handle	£37.63

RESOLVED: To approve all payments totalling £38,898.88.

ACTION: Cllrs Davey and A Groves

22/68 Finance – To consider a grant request from Ash Warriors U11's Football Club

RESOLVED: Not to grant a payment to Ash Warriors U11's Football Club.

Chairman

Date

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22/69 Parish Council Matters – To allocate councillor roles and responsibilities (to include new roles)

It was agreed to create a new role of 'Events Co-ordinator' and Cllrs Guy and Humby to take on the role.

22/70 Parish Council Matters – To adopt a Bullying/Harassment Policy

Cllr Groves pointed out that the policy circulated by Cllr Davey made reference to a grievance procedure that needed to be agreed at a future meeting.

RESOLVED: To adopt the Bullying/Harassment Policy presented by Cllr Davey.

22/71 Parish Council Matters – To adopt a Freedom of Information (FoI) Policy

RESOLVED: To adopt the Freedom of Information Policy presented by Cllr Davey.

22/72 Parish Council Matters – To agree permission to use the Millennium Wood (MW) for a PTA fundraising event

The PTA had provided a MW Festival event site map, management plan, risk assessment & insurance policy documentation. A member of the MWMG was intending on being present at the event also. The PTA agreed to take measures to prevent inconsiderate parking on the grass verges outside the car park.

RESOLVED: To allow Ash Primary School PTA to hold an event in the Millennium Wood on Saturday 16th July 2022.

22/73 Parish Council Matters – To report on Parish Ground Maintenance Issues

Cllrs T & A Groves had met with representatives from SSDC grass cutting teams to discuss deficiencies with the work currently being carried out in the Parish. The meeting had resulted in the contractors revisiting the areas identified to rectify the untidy state that the areas had been left in & providing assurances that the work would be completed satisfactorily in the future. It was agreed to report any future issues to Cllr Groves in the first instance.

22/74 Parish Matters – To consider Parish Biodiversity

Cllr Andrew agreed to invite Martock & Ash Nature Group to a future PC meeting with the intention of setting up a working group to include any Ash parishioners who would like to be involved.

ACTION: Cllr Andrew

22/75 Pavilion, Recreation Area and Playground – Play area equipment installation report

Cllr Guy reported that the new play equipment was now installed and open to the public. The clerk had received the works completion inspection report from HAGS, with no issues identified. Cllr Guy was thanked for all his efforts from the starting point of equipment selection to the successful 'Opening Event'.

22/76 Pavilion, Recreation Area and Playground – Pavilion Insurance Claim Report

It was agreed that a meeting of the appointed Pavilion Committee would be arranged before the next PC meeting to agree a way ahead with the insurance claim. They agreed to report back at a future meeting.

ACTION: Pavilion Committee

22/77 Cemetery – To report on the use of the cemetery tap

Cllr Davey presented a legal document which stated that users of the land surrounding the cemetery were permitted to use the water supply. It was agreed that the PC should retain a copy of the document for future reference.

ACTION: Cllr Davey and Parish Clerk

22/78 Cemetery – To report on the cemetery access lease

Cllr Davey reported that he had received and would circulate the 1st draft of the cemetery access lease back from the solicitors. The PC agreed that it should be presented to the landowners for their approval before being brought back to the PC for final signatures.

ACTION: Cllr Davey

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22/79 Cemetery – To report on the consecration process for the cemetery extension

Cllr Davey reported on behalf of Cllr Halfhide that the consecration process required planning permission and it was unclear if the 'new' area had permission. It was agreed that an application for planning permission should be made, if needed, due to the urgency of the situation (the current cemetery was almost full). There was also a charge from the Bishop's office for consecration, currently unknown.

ACTION: Cllrs T Groves & Halfhide

22/80 Clerks report & correspondence

The following items of correspondence were reported:

- Response from SCC Highways regarding Witcombe Lane corner
- SALC Civility & Respect Project
- South Somerset Get Connected publication
- Confidential items

22/81 Items for the next agenda

Nothing identified at this time.

22/82 Date of next meeting – 5th September 2022

21:40 - Meeting closed