

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th November 2024 @ 7pm at Ash Pavillion, Ash Parish.

Present: Councillors Steve Davey, Chairman, Caz Halfhide, Vice Chairman, Zac England, Tim Groves, Antoinette Groves, Lesley Andrew, Alan Britten. Clerk Z Bougourd.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES.

Apologies were noted from Councillor E Pearlstone.

◆ Somerset Councillors – report dated 8th October to note. This report was noted. The report for November had been sent after the meeting papers had been issued and therefore could not be included for comment during the meeting. A request for earlier submission for future reports was noted. Clerk will circulate November report to Councillors. Councillor J Bailey noted that within the November report the following matters were of note.

- Somerset Council and Lendology can help homeowners keep the heat in. Somerset homeowners are encouraged to take steps towards more energy-efficient homes and lower energy bills with a Somerset Council-backed Lendology loan.
- Winter Coat Exchange expands across Somerset: Somerset Council is pleased to expand its coat exchange to 12 of Somerset's libraries.
- A repair revolution: Long live our stuff!. To find out more information about Somerset's repair network, including an interactive map showing all the active groups, visit: www.somerset.gov.uk/somerset-repair-groups/

It was also noted that vehicles passing and accessing the School may not be keeping to the speed limit. It was also noted that there appeared to be lights on at weekends when the school was not open. Cllr T Groves will contact the school for clarification.

Cllr Bailey also noted that the redundancy policy currently being implemented through Somerset Council has intended consequences – reduced costs – but staff reductions also negatively impact services.

Cllr T Groves noted that businesses in and around Ash appeared enthusiastic regarding posting notices advertising their business but may be somewhat tardy with their removal.

Roadworks signs appeared to be relevant and appropriate with timings and information.

Tenders are being sought to deal with the overhanging trees in Millennium Wood.

◆ Outside bodies/groups. There were no representatives present.

24/129 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given.

No apologies were received.

24/130 Declarations of interests. There were no declarations of interest noted.

24/131 To APPROVE and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 7th October 2024. There was a minor addition, noting the location of the Service to the Community awards event, minutes were approved and signed. The clerk noted that the draft minutes on the website should be replaced with the approved minutes. Clerk will redact the signature, retain the date, and send the revised copy to Cllr A Groves.

Clerk to the Council: Zannette Bougourd. Tel: 01935571050
Email: clerk@ashpcsomerset.com

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24/132 Matters to report from a previous meeting.

- **Dog control in Millennium Wood (MW):** It was noted that the manager of MW considered that a new notice noting the following should be sufficient to remind dog owners and walker of their responsibilities:

1. Our dog-walking code of conduct

- Ensure your dog is trained in basic recall. If not, please keep them on a lead at all times.
- If your dog is off the lead, please keep them in sight and under control.
- Be respectful of other wood users, including other dogs. If the dog approaching is on a lead, put yours on a lead too. Ask people for their consent before allowing your dog to approach them.
- Stick to paths when walking your dog to protect precious ground flora and tree roots.
- Clear up after your dog and put waste in the bin provided.
- If the weather's warm, please provide your dog with water

After some discussion, noting that it is difficult to gauge actual "bad behaviour" with out of control dogs and even setting up a dedicated email address may not elicit a definite response, it was agreed that Cllr A Britten will obtain quotes for new signage, including a "No Dogs" sign at the play ground area.

- Planters adjacent to Ash Pavillion: The PC thanked Cllr England for his donation of a planter, however it was noted that irrigation of plants within stone planters could be challenging at times. It was suggested that the planters be lined with impermeable lining or painted with "pond paint".

24/133 Planning decisions report. There were no planning decisions to report.

24/134 Planning applications: Ref: 24/02222/FUL

Proposal: Demolition of farm buildings, erection of 5 dwellings and construction of farm tracks

Location: Land And Buildings South of Foldhill Lane Foldhill Lane Martock Ash TA12 6PQ. It was noted that this development included derelict properties and was considered to be in keeping with the location and an improvement to the site. Clerk to send response to Planning Department.

24/135 Finance – To APPROVE the regular payment schedule as detailed below, regular payments to be reviewed at the AGM or when the payment amount changes, whichever is sooner. The regular payments were approved, however Cllr A Groves will query the waste charge within the lengthsman invoice.

24/136 Finance: To discuss the payment requests as detailed below & minute decisions. The payments were approved.

24/137 To approve the Bank reconciliations to date. The bank reconciliations were approved and signed.

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24/138 Finance – to approve the Bank Statements September – October 2024. The bank statements were approved and signed.

24/139 Policies – to review the 2024 NALC Financial Regulations. Cllrs had reviewed the 2024 regulations, Cllr A Groves queried the restriction for Cllrs using personal debit/credit cards. It was agreed that this rule could be waived should an urgent payment be required. The Regulations were approved. Clerk to finalise draft and arrange upload to website.

24/140 Parish Matters– Repairs to carpark entrance. A report and quote for repairs to the carpark were tabled. After discussion it was agreed to instruct Cllr Z England to place four strategic Hamstone boulders at a cost of £250.00. Proposed Cllr Z Halfhide, seconded Cllr A Groves. The carpark will be monitored and updates provided to future meetings. It was noted that there is a future cost to resurface/repair the carpark. It may be appropriate to ask the School for contributions, the cost will need to be budgeted over 10years as a capital project.

24/141 Parish Matters – Playground inspection - The Play Inspection Co. It was agreed to accept the quote and schedule the playground inspection for 2025.

24/142 Parish Council Matters – Domain name, website revisions, hosting, emails & uploading of PC documentation. The Clerk had provided a combined set of papers for the meeting, which were posted on the website, allowing anyone to access the calling papers and also the supporting documents. Feedback from Cllrs and members of the public was positive. Cllr A Groves reminded Cllrs to review other PC websites and bring to the next meeting any suggestions to update the current Ash PC website.

24/143 Parish Matters – To note report: Climate Adaptation Plans for your community - Somerset Wildlife Trust. Noted

24/144 Parish Matters – To note Fire & Rescue precept notice. Noted.

24/145 Parish Matters – To note Somerset Day notice. Noted.

24/146 – Parish Matters - To note Flood Warden Newsletter October 2024. Noted.

24/147 – Parish Matters – To note SC report dated 8th October 2024. Noted.

24/148 – Parish Matters – To note Yeovil Prime Foundation notice. Noted.

24/149: Matters for urgent consideration: It was noted that Cllr A Groves had received emails regarding the appearance and maintenance of the graveyard. The PC considered that the graveyard was appropriately maintained, especially with consideration to changing weather patterns. Cllr Davey will reply to the complainant.

The meeting closed @ 20.50hrs

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Schedule of Regular Monthly Payments, for report only.

Monthly	S Davey	Virtual Landline	£6.50	SO Report
Monthly	R A Evis	Ground Maintenance Sept	£458.33	SO Report
Monthly	KL Bungay	Pavilion cleaning	£102.00	SO Report
Monthly	RA Evis	Lengthsman September 24	£235.00	TBA

Signed: Date:

Payment requests as at 04th November 2024

04/11/2024	C Halfhide	Postage/consecration	£3.80	
TBA	The Play Inspection Co	Playground equipment inspection	£126.00 inclusive of VAT	
TBA	A Groves	Defibrillator pads	£112.80	

Signed:.....Date:

Payments authorised/DD between 07/10/24 – 04/11/24

23/10/24	Fireline	Fire equipment & certification	£102.84	
09/10/24	Parish Online		£45.00	
28/10/24	British Gas	Utility	£52.22	

Signed: Date:

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Ash PC November 2024 Bank recs for signature						
Date	Type	Payee	Description	Money rec'd	Payments	Balance
28/10/2024	OB					5037.5
01/11/2024	SO	S DAVEY			6.5	5031
01/11/2024	SO	RA EVIS			458.33	4572.67
01/11/2024	SO	K BUNGAY			102	4470.67
01/11/2024	DD	BT GROUP			34.46	4436.21
04/11/2024	DEP	M Trusson		70		4506.21
04/11/2024	DEP	500060		30		4536.21
04/11/2024	DEP	Stones monument		100		4636.21
05/11/2024	FPO	Play inspection			126	4510.21
05/11/2024	FPO	C Halfhide	Postage		3.8	4506.41
05/11/2024	FPO	A Groves			112.8	4393.61
08/11/2024	DEP	A Wakely		285		4678.61
08/11/2024	FPO	Evis RA			305	4373.61
11/11/2024	FPO	HMRC	Sept/Oct		138	4235.61
13/11/2024	DEP	M Trusson		10		4245.61
19/11/2024	DEP	500062		25		4270.61
19/11/2024	DEP	500061		90		4360.61
25/11/2024	DEP	M Trusson		10		4370.61
				620	1286.89	
Opening Balance						
NOVEMBER	5037.5					
INCOME	620					
EXPENDITURE	1286.89					
BALANCE C/F	4370.61					
SIGNED						
NAME						
DATE						

25 Nov 24	TRUSSON M&A PAVILION 1 SESSION 511560107241321101 404768 10 23NOV24 14:40	FPI	10.00	4,370.61
19 Nov 24	500061	DEP	90.00	4,360.61
19 Nov 24	500062	DEP	25.00	4,270.61
13 Nov 24	TRUSSON M&A PAVILION 351187131012311101 404768 10 13NOV24 21:01	FPI	10.00	4,245.61
11 Nov 24	HMRC - ACCOUNTS OF 200000001450490009 475PL003129692507 083210 10 09NOV24 14:15	FPO	138.00	4,235.61
08 Nov 24	EVIS RA 600000001453674861 ASHPC 602437 10 08NOV24 13:14	FPO	305.00	4,373.61
08 Nov 24	WAKELY & SONS LTD A J WAKELY SONS	BGC	285.00	4,678.61
05 Nov 24	D & A GROVES 600000001452076228 ASH PARISH COUNCIL 201174 10 05NOV24 17:15	FPO	112.80	4,393.61
05 Nov 24	THE BELL INN 200000001448307906 ASH PARISH COUNCIL 301816 10 05NOV24 17:15	FPO	3.80	4,506.41
05 Nov 24	THE PLAY INSPECTIO 600000001452076206 ASH PC 66418 209696 10 05NOV24 17:15	FPO	126.00	4,510.21
05 Nov 24	500060	DEP	30.00	4,636.21
04 Nov 24	STONE'S THE MONUME STONE'S, WHITTING 500000001451575885 309956 10 04NOV24 11:02	FPI	100.00	4,606.21
04 Nov 24	TRUSSON M&A PAVILION 7 SESSION 167851814401401101 404768 10 04NOV24 10:44	FPI	70.00	4,506.21
04 Nov 24	MR S C DAVEY	SO	6.50	4,436.21
01 Nov 24	BT GROUP PLC GP01224237- 000004	DD	34.46	4,442.71

01 Nov 24	K L BUNGAY	SO	102.00	4,477.17
01 Nov 24	EVIS RA	SO	458.33	4,579.17
28 Oct 24	BRITISH GAS BGL0316879- 0303200	DD	52.22	5,037.50

			Expenditure to date	Exp to Y/E	Expenditure total to Y/E	Exp against budget	2025/6 Budget	
Memorial Inspection		£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	
Ranger		£4,000.00	£1,186.05	£940.00	£2,126.05	£1,873.95	£4,000.00	
General maintenance - Grass & Grounds		£5,500.00	£3,666.84	£1,833.32	£5,500.16	-£0.16	£6,000.00	
General Maintenance - Trees		£2,000.00	£660.00	£0.00	£660.00	£1,340.00	£1,000.00	
Contingency 10% of overall budget						£0.00	£4,500.00	
Biodiversity/new trees		£1,500.00	£0.00			£1,500.00	£1,000.00	
Play area inspections & maintenance		£750.00	£126.00		£126.00	£624.00	£500.00	
fencing and play area repairs/maintenance		£500.00	£0.00			£500.00	£500.00	
Pavilion maintenance(inc. servicing & cleaning)		£1,600.00	£1,277.02	£912.00	£2,189.02	-£589.02	£2,250.00	
Parish utilities (Electric, water, WiFi)		£2,500.00	£1,162.76	£581.38	£1,744.14	£755.86	£2,250.00	
Pavilion car park and accessway maintenance		£500.00	£0.00	£0.00		£500.00	£500.00	
Defibrillator maintenance		£200.00	£94.00	£0.00		£106.00	£200.00	
TOTAL		£20,050.00					£23,700.00	
OFFICE & ADMIN								
clerks salary	Gross salary inc. pay scale increase as from April 2024(pro rat	£11,700.00	£2,660.56	£1,495.78	£4,156.34	£7,543.66	£6,000.00	
audit fees	Internal & external	£500.00	£465.00	£0.00	£465.00	£35.00	£500.00	
insurance		£3,000.00	£2,983.71	£0.00	£2,983.71	£16.29	£3,000.00	
Subs (Parish online, NALC& SALC,ICO)	SALC	£300.00	£253.26	£0.00	£253.26	£46.74	£300.00	
Street planting/MW grant/Coronation - S137 Grants		£2,500.00	£4,600.00	£0.00	£4,600.00	-£2,100.00	£5,000.00	
Election		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	
General admin		£2,400.00	£467.45	£334.00	£801.45	£1,598.55	£2,000.00	
Communication costs		£1,800.00	£0.00			£1,800.00	£750.00	
Training (Councillors & Clerk)		£500.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00	
Legal costs		£1,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,000.00	£500.00	
TOTAL		£23,700.00					£18,550.00	£42,250.00
PROJECTS (*ring fenced)								
*Defibrillator - replacement unit & parts fund	£100 To Reserves	£0.00						
*pavilion refurbishment		£0.00						
*churchyard walls & gate maintenance		£1,000.00						
*laptop replacement fund	£150 To Reserves	£150.00						
Village Car Parks	£3060 to Reserves	£0.00						
Noticeboard (REMOVE)	£722 to Reserves	£0.00						
*Bus stop shelter	£0 To Reserves	£0.00						
*play area equipment replacement	£100 to Reserves	£0.00						
Cemetery extension	£0 To Reserves	£0.00						
Speedwatch (NEW)		£4,000.00						
TOTAL		£5,150.00						
TOTAL		£48,900.00						

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