

# ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

*Date:* Monday 7 January 2008

*Councillors:* Steve Treadwell (Chairman), Marion Turner (Vice Chairman), Andy England, Peggy Leon, Bill Spence. Yvonne Constance (District Councillor)

*Apologies* Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor), Christopher Prentice

*Clerk* James Greenham

*Circulation:* As above plus minute book and village website

### **Minutes of the last meeting**

Minutes of the last meeting held on 29 October 2007 were read, agreed and signed.

### **Matters arising**

#### Ashbury website

There are some technical issues arising concerning the establishment of the new website. It is hoped to be resolved by Steve Treadwell shortly. ST  
Steve Treadwell also agreed to draft a procedural document, outlining the editorial scope and style of the website and detailing responsibility for maintenance and editing etc. ST  
All draft text is complete but the front page needs to be confirmed. ST

#### Churchyard grass cutting specification

Andy England presented a draft specification for the grass cutting in the old churchyard. This was adopted by the parish council and will be kept on file for future reference.

In addition, Andy England will liaise with the PCC before sending through the specification in its final format to the contractor. AE

A working party will be convened on Saturday 16 February (10.00am) to help in clearing the old churchyard of overgrown shrubs and weeds etc. Andy England agreed to publish advisory notices in the village and Marion Turner agreed to place a note in the church newsletter. AE/MT

#### War memorial

The clerk confirmed that the parish council is responsible by default for the maintenance of the war memorial.

It was agreed to review the quotation for repairs and maintenance when available, and then to investigate the option of seeking a 50% subsidy/grant which may be available from the War Memorial Trust. The clerk will report at the next meeting. JRG

It was agreed by all that 1 December would be a sensible date to ensure all poppies have been removed from around the memorial, in line with previous practice.

#### Repainting village seats

Mr Bob Tilling will contact Steve Treadwell directly with a quotation for the repainting of five seats in and around the village. This will be reviewed at the next meeting.

## Planning issues

### *allowed*

Dr Elizabeth Sinclair	Lower Mill, Kingstone Winslow	<i>Various internal alterations Erection of timber framed conservatory</i>
Mr & Mrs Stretch	Friars Cottage, Ashbury	<i>Change of use and internal alterations - amendment</i>
Dr Elizabeth Sinclair	Lower Mill, Kingstone Winslow	<i>Demolish and replace extension et al</i>
Crownhold Ltd	Peartree Cottage, Berrycroft	<i>New dwelling (renewal of planning consent)</i>
Tom Spence	Land adjacent to Tilling, Berrycroft	<i>Conversion of garage into living accommodation</i>
Tom Spence	The Sheiling, Berrycroft, Ashbury	

### *Refused:*

Tom Spence	Land adjacent to Tilling, Berrycroft	<i>New dwelling</i>
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### *Outstanding:*

Mr & Mrs Prentice	Ashbury Manor, Ashbury	<i>Change of use and works for caretaker's accomm</i>
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## Correspondence

Items of interest were circulated for information.

The annual audit for financial year 2006-2007 has been approved by BDO Stoy Hayward. The accounts were adopted by the Parish Council, having been proposed by the chairman and seconded by the vice-chairman.

The parish council agreed to give consideration to the fidelity guarantee required, at the next meeting in March 2008. all

## Financial update for the parish council

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position. This was agreed and signed by the chairman and vice-chairman.

## 2008-2009 parish precept

The parish council agreed to levy an increase of 4% to the annual precept. This will now be £3,245 for the year April 2008 to March 2009. The clerk will advise accordingly. JRG

## Any other business

### Highways matters:

The clerk will contact Oxfordshire Highways concerning the damaged sign at the crossroads. It either needs to be removed or repaired. JRG

Likewise, various potholes and poor road surfaces will be reported for repair asap by the clerk. JRG

The clerk will also request to Oxfordshire Highways that the 30mph speed limited sign at the bottom of Drews Hill could be moved from its current location further down the hill, to a location past the bend for Kingstone Winslow. JRG

The parish council will draft a letter of support to Mr and Mrs Schiff, who manage the Post Office. This is with the national post office review in mind – should the Ashbury Post Office be considered for closure, the Parish Council will do all it can to support and persuade for the post office to remain open. JRG/ST

**Comments from the public**

There was some discussion concerning the recent overflowing of drains from the Rose and Crown pub. This has happened four times last year but now seems to be resolved satisfactorily.

It was agreed Steve Treadwell will draft a letter to the agency responsible for the effected repair to confirm this failure should not recur. ST

The clerk will contact the Vale of White Horse District Council concerning the lack of a recycling collection from each house in Church Lane (currently all houses take the collection to the bottom of Church Lane). It is hoped the lorry can collect from each kerbside. JRG

**Dates of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 3 March 2008 at 7.00pm.

There being no further bus iness, the meeting closed at 8.25 pm