

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 12 May 2008

Councillors: Marion Turner (Chairman), Andy England (Vice Chairman), Peggy Leon, Christopher Prentice, Bill Spence, Steve Treadwell. Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor)

Apologies Yvonne Constance (District Councillor)

Clerk James Greenham

Circulation: As above plus minute book and village website

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 3 March 2008 were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising

Ashbury website

Marion Turner will send to Steve Treadwell an electronic copy of the parish newsletter for inclusion in the website. MT

The cost for providing website-promoting signs below the village name signs is approximately £60 per sign. It was agreed to consider this for approval later in the year, when other financial commitments are known and agreed.

Churchyard grass cutting

Andy England confirmed that Mark Denee is appointed as the contractor and the costs for 2008 have been agreed (approximately £135 per cut).

Bill Spence will contact Vale Game for advice on dealing with the rabbit population currently causing damage within the churchyard. The council does not wish for a health and safety situation to arise through unstable headstones. BS

War memorial

The clerk will seek advice concerning the repairing/renovating of the lead lettering on the war memorial. It is planned this will be in time for the 2008 Remembrance service. JRG

Repainting village seats

Steve Treadwell will contact Mr Bob Tilling for a quote for the repair (and possible renovation, including sandblasting) of the five benches in the village. ST

Highways matters:

Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor will pursue the matter of providing a 30mph speed limit thought Idstone and will report back at the next meeting. AFOC

Planning issues

allowed

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

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

Mr W Leppard	Alyn House, Idstone Rd	<i>Oak framed porch and log store Oak framed four bay garage with loft</i>
Mr C Back	Billys Cottage	<i>4 stables and ménage</i>
Miss T Besley	Rectory Farm Cottages	

There followed a presentation by Anna Kennedy of Oxfordshire Rural Community Council on the subject of affordable housing provision. Due consideration will be given to the matter by the parish council at the next meeting.

all

Correspondence

There has been advice from BT that they wish to remove the public phone boxes in Ashbury, Idstone and Kingstone Winslow, due to underuse.

The parish council will submit their opinion on the removal, to the VWHDC no later than 12 June 2008. Views will be sought from members of the public via the website, the parish newsletter and notices in the phone boxes. Marion Turner agreed to forward all views to the clerk before 12 June.

MT

A redrafted policy on Bus Service Subsidy by Oxfordshire County Council will be reviewed by Bill Spence and comments provided to the clerk no later than 5 June 2008. BS

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk had presented an annual update on the council's financial position at the AGM.

Village Hall Update

The clerk will draft (and circulate for approval) suitable wording for a commemorative plaque for Alan Blow, in recognition of his services to the village hall. The cost for an A5 sized plaque is in the region of £135.00, which was agreed to be acceptable.

JRG

Marion Turner will give consideration to the drafting of a Village Plan, to assist in the grant application by the Village Hall. MT will report back at the next meeting.

MT

Any other business

It was agreed to send a cheque for £50 to Mrs Loney for the provision of bedding plants on the war memorial green.

JRG

Christopher Prentice agreed to make contact with the Penser Estate office requesting an improvement in the mill pond above Kingstone Winslow.

CP

Marion Turner will convene a separate meeting to address planning concerns in the event of a flu pandemic.

MT

Comments from the public

Fundraising at the recent May Fayre look to have been more than £4,000. A vote of thanks to Roger Simons and Steve Treadwell were expressed for their organisation, and a vote of thanks to Mr and Mrs Prentice for the venue was also agreed.

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 21 July 2008 at 7.00pm.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15pm