

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 21 July 2008

Councillors: Marion Turner (Chairman), Andy England (Vice Chairman), Peggy Leon, Christopher Prentice, Steve Treadwell.

Apologies Bill Spence , Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor), 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 12 May 2008 were read, amended, agreed and signed.

Matters arising

Ashbury website

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

Churchyard

Vale Game will visit once again in the autumn to quote for the control of the rabbit population in the churchyards – it is felt that the winter months are a more effective time to undertake such control measures. BS

The revised specification will be issued to tendering contractors in the autumn, for the 2009 season. AE

War memorial

A quote of £646.25 (inc VAT) was received from Reeves Memorial Co, Oxford for the complete renovation of the war memorial. It was agreed the Clerk should obtain a revised quotation to include only the repainting of the lettering – to reduce the cost. JRG

A grant will be applied for at the time of commitment.

It was also suggested by one councillor that this could be a matter for a public fundraising event.

Repainting village seats

No quotation has been received from Mr Bob Tilling for a quote for the repair (and possible renovation, including sandblasting) of the five benches in the village. As such, the clerk will look to obtain quotations from an alternative handyman. JRG

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. *Outstanding from May meeting.* AFOC

Dog fouling

It was agreed to continue placing appropriate notices in and around the village to discourage dog fouling on footpaths. MT

Planning issues

allowed

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

Outstanding:

Mr & Mrs Simmons	The Vicarage, Ashbury	<i>Removal of two garages and erection of two extensions</i>
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Correspondence

It was agreed to allow for the transfer of the Portman Building Society account to a Nationwide BusinessAccount, in line with the recent business merger of the two companies. The clerk will manage the transfer accordingly.

JRG

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk had presented an update on the council's financial position as at 21 July and this was duly approved by the council.

Removal of public phone boxes in Ashbury and Kingstone Winslow

It was agreed not to challenge the planned removal of the BT phoneboxes as none of them seemed to add to the local character of the parish.

Village Hall Update

A commemorative plaque for Alan Blow, in recognition of his services to the village hall is now ready and will be presented at the next meeting of the Village Hall Committee (16 September 2008).

PL

It was noted that James Rogereo is now the Financial Officer of the Village Hall Committee.

Any other business

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

CP

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

MT

Marion Turner is managing the tree maintenance/pruning along Millers Lane and will report back as appropriate.

MT

Andy England will contact the school to discuss if there are any options which can suitably address the difficulties caused by parking along the B4000 and Chapel Lane during school drop-off times.

AE

Steve Treadwell advised of a possible oil co-operative, to reduce the cost of heating oil purchases. More information will appear in September on the website and in the local newsletter.

ST/MT

Comments from the public

Steve Treadwell agreed to arrange a kick-off meeting for a local wildlife group, following a suggestion for such a group from a member of the public. This would be focussed on the protection and encouragement of natural wildlife in the immediate surrounding area. ST

The clerk will remind the Highways Department of the need to clear and empty gullies on a regular basis, it was suggested those in and around Ashbury had not been emptied for sometime. JRG

The clerk will also seek to get Millers Lane widened, by having the undergrowth cut back properly. JRG

Dates of next meetings

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 8 September 2008 at 7.00pm.

It was agreed to move the November meeting from 3 November to 24 November. The clerk will publish the new dates as appropriate. JRG

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.40pm