

# ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

*Date:* Monday 9 March 2009

*Councillors:* Marion Turner (Chairman), Peggy Leon, Steve Treadwell, Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor)

*Apologies* Andy England (Vice Chairman), Christopher Prentice, Bill Spence, 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 January 2009 were read, amended, agreed and signed.

### **Matters arising**

#### 30 mph speed limit request in Idstone

Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor had spoken with Mr Lee Turner of the Highways dept who advised it was unlikely the speed limit would be extended – due to the low number of accidents recorded in Idstone (one minor accident in five years) and the low number of houses. However he did advise he was prepared to attend a site inspection and as such Marion Turner agreed to contact to make an arrangement. MT

#### Grass cutting tendering

Andy England has received several quotations for the provision of churchyard grass cutting services. He would like to discuss the matter with the PCC before reaching a final (and imminent) decision for an appointment. AE

The clerk agreed to circulate historic cutting costs to all council members, for comparison purposes. JRG

It was hoped that a churchyard clearing party could be formed sometime in April, in time for the spring growth. This would also include clearing of the churchyard footpath (between the new and old churchyards). AE

#### Village co-ordinator for police liaison

It was advised that Mr Roger Simons had agreed to become the single point of contact within the village for police liaison matters. It is expected he will be attending future council meetings to inform of developments.

### **Planning issues**

*allowed*

Ian Webster	Box Cottage, Ashbury	<i>Front porch and rear extension</i>
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*Outstanding:*

Mrs & Mrs Prentice	Ashbury Manor	<i>Repairs to barn</i>
Village Hall Committee	Ashbury Village Hall	<i>Replacement window frames</i>

### **Financial update for the parish council**

The clerk had presented an update on the council's financial position as at 9 March 2009 and this was duly approved by the council.

### **Village school update**

Mr Stuart Smith advised that parents have now been asked to park in the Rose and Crown car park as well as the Free Church, in order to reduce congestion at key times during the day. This seemed to be working reasonably well.

There are some places available for Pre-School for September although these are filling up. It is expected that about 75 children will be attending the school in September 2009 and all agreed this was a healthy sign.

Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor agreed to contact the Highways department, to request a flashing school sign (similar to one in operation in Bishopstone) is installed outside the school in an appropriate position. (*Outstanding from January meeting*) AFO'C

### **Local flood groups and flood prevention planning**

There was no response from members of the public living in Kingstone Winslow to become involved in forming a local flood prevention group, in spite of invitations.

It is likely that Mr Gordon Hunt from the District Council will attend a site visit to assess the need to improve drainage at the bottom of Chapel Lane. This visit will be after April 2009. Marion Turner will co-ordinate if necessary. MT

### **Recent snow experience**

Steve Treadwell commented that following experience learned during the recent snowfalls that the B4057 priority gritting should be altered to the B4000 during very heavy snowfall. Additionally, further snow plough clearances should continue after the snowfall, to ensure all roads become clear and that very local conditions should be monitored to ensure any localised snowfall is managed appropriately.

The clerk agreed to draft and send a letter outlining the above points to the Highways department. JRG

The clerk will obtain a new salt bin for the provision and use in Church Lane. JRG  
The clerk will also obtain quotes for two further bins, but approval will be given before these would be purchased. There was some doubt as to what the salt can be used for – pavements or only roads? JRG

Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor agreed to report back with feedback from a County level. AFO'C

### **Village Hall Update**

Refurbishment continues within the hall itself and several events are planned. There will be an Easter Tea Party for senior citizens, a Christmas Bingo and a Music Hall Evening in August.

The Valentine's Dance raised £704.00

### **Any other business**

Yvonne Constance agreed to contact the Health and Safety department at the District Council to contact the brewery owners of the Rose and Crown, with specific reference to the overflowing/blocked drain. (*Outstanding from January meeting*) YC

Steve Treadwell will organise a clearance working party at the village pond, sometime in late March. ST

The Clerk will contact the Compton Beauchamp Estate once again concerning the overgrown trees on Kingstone Winslow Lane. It is requested these are either cut down or cut back to allow for better light to the adjacent houses.

It was agreed that the Chairman would contact Christopher Prentice to establish his future availability to attend council meetings, considering his working overseas requirements. It was noted that although this did not necessarily present a problem for the Council, it was important that the point should be considered, in case of external enquiry (either from the parish or any auditing public body). MT

Marion Turner agreed to distribute a note to residents in Pound Piece, requesting considerate parking and for better use of the garages area to be made, instead of on-street parking, which is now causing congestion for larger vehicles. MT

### **Comments from the public**

It was requested that the broken manhole cover at the junction of the B4000 and Pound Piece can be repaired by the relevant authority. Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor agreed to progress the matter with Highways Department. AFO'C  
In the meantime, Marion Turner will contact the resident, who has made the complaint, to advise the matter is being addressed. MT

It was requested that Bill Spence contact Vale Game once again with a view to addressing the problem of rabbits in the churchyard. BS

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

### **Dates of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 11 May 2009 at 7.00pm. This will also be the date of the Annual General Meeting.