

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 18 January 2010

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

Apologies 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 9 November 2009 were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising

School flashing sign

Marion Turner reported back on a site visit in October 2009 with Lee Turner (Highways), Chris Hulme (Thames Valle Police) and Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor. Lee Turner agreed to resite the uphill 30mph speed limit sign and paint a 'slow' sign on the road near the school. However he was not of the opinion a flashing school sign could be installed due to cost considerations, logistical considerations (it would have to be solar powered) and that it would likely be obscured by parked cars.

Lee Turner was also of the opinion that a 20mph speed limit is no longer the preferred option of local authorities to the implementation and monitoring challenges.

It was agreed MT will revert to Lee Turner and advise the council is unhappy with the decision and it should be reviewed.

MT

Idstone/Ashbury footpath

The clerk will arrange for a site visit to obtain a realistic quotation to establish a footpath between Idstone and Ashbury, for information. If it were to proceed, the main funding would be from the *Places for People* scheme.

JRG

Speeding vehicles along Idstone Road

Andy England provided feedback from a recent site visit in January 2010 Lee Turner (Highways), Marion Turner and the clerk concerning the excessive speed of vehicles along Idstone Road. It was agreed to the following:

1. Agree to the installation of white gates at the entrance to the village along Idstone Road and the downhill stretch of Ashbury Hill.
2. Move the 30mph repeater sign to near the telegraph pole outside Ivy House 9th (the owner has verbally agreed to this).
3. Agree to 30mph limit signs to be painted on the road surface near the repeater sign. The background colour was agreed to be red.
4. Undertake a traffic survey outside Ivy House for information gathering purposes.
5. Obtain any other evidence of traffic speeds from previous surveys.

Andy England will liaise with Highways in due course.

AE

New salt bins

The clerk continues to chase the Highways section for the installation of two new bins which were ordered in October and paid for in December 2009.

JRG

Rose and Crown drains

Yvonne Constance will continue to contact the Health and Safety department as the problem of blocked drains at the Rose and Crown is on-going and presents a safety hazard.

YC

Planning issues

outstanding

Mr & Mrs Prentice

Ashbury Manor, Ashbury

Re-instatement of gable windows

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 19 January 2010 and this was duly signed by the Chairman. There is currently a projected net surplus of approx £588.00 for the financial year.

It was agreed to pay approx £130 for the annual cost of the web hosting of the Ashbury website. The clerk will issue cheques in due course.

JRG

It was agreed to fund the purchase of a locally supplied salt spreader for next winter. The cost is expected to be in the region of £300.00. The logistics and other arrangements will be agreed in due course.

The parish precept for 2010-2011 will be increased to £3,500, representing an increase of approx 2.5%. The clerk will advise the local council.

JRG

Correspondence

Nominations for 'Unsung Heroes of the Vale' are called for, no later than 28 January

all

MT will include in the next edition of the newsletter a request for ideas on uses for the three BT phone boxes which will be adopted by the council on behalf of the village.

MT

Further information on the planned implementation of a new waste collection policy will be available in due course from the local council. The clerk will circulate when this is available.

JRG

Village school update

There are 19 applications for the 2010 intake (of which there are approximately 10 places).

The School Action Plan has been well received by inspectors and continues to be implemented.

It was noted that four staff walked from Shrivensham on the recent snow days and should be congratulated for their efforts.

There is to be a forthcoming Poetry Day at school, further details will be advised in due course.

Highways matters

It was agreed everyone should continue to report potholes to the local Highways Dept, even though there is a national problem. The more reports there are, the more likely these will be addressed sooner.

All

MT reported on the drain situation on Asbury Hill and Chapel Lane. There are concerns as to outflows and the different diameters of pipes. It was noted that Thames Water will

do all it can to improve this situation as and when possible, but they are now aware of the details.

Following the recent snowfalls, it was agreed the clerk will contact the Highways Department to question why the B4507 is a Priority One route in Oxfordshire (and not the B4000) but the B4000 is a Priority One route in Berkshire and Wiltshire. JRG

Village Hall Update

There has been no meeting since 5 October 2009 so no further update. A meeting is planned for 21 January 2010.

Any other business

No other business was raised by the councillors

Comments from the public

It was agreed to issue polite notices and place these on the windscreens of vehicles parked unnecessarily on pavements in the village. MT will organise. MT

It was noted there is to be a churchyard clearing party on 13 March and a general village litter blitz on 27 March 2010. Further details to be advised.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 1 March 2010.