

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 29 October 2007

Councillors: Steve Treadwell (Chairman), Marion Turner (Vice Chairman), Andy England, Peggy Leon, Christopher Prentice, Bill Spence.
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 10 September 2007 were read, agreed and signed.

Matters arising

30mph speed limit through Idstone

The proposal as drafted by Steve Treadwell has now been submitted for consideration by Oxfordshire County Council. ST

Ashbury website

This is due to be completed and operational within the first week of November. ST

Churchyard grass cutting specification

It was agreed the following specification would be implemented by the current contractor, Mark Denee:

1. Commence cutting in April rather than May of each year.
2. Undertake a 'short' cut twice a month during the growing season, around the front of the church.
3. Undertake a 'full' cut once a month throughout the old churchyard.
4. Mow two walking paths through the churchyard, taking care to avoid wild flowers.

Andy England agreed to document a full specification and this will be held on record for future reference. AE

It was also agreed that Andy England would instigate a working party during November to undertake suitable winter maintenance – such as cutting back ivy, overgrown weeds etc. AE

Highways matters

The clerk reported on the various outstanding Highways matters, such as the resurfacing of Berrycroft and Church Lane and reinstating pavements etc. These requests are regularly proposed to Oxfordshire Highways (OH), however with limited funds, OH is unable to implement any other than those of immediate urgency.

On-going subsidy of current bus service

The clerk reported that the No 47 and 47A bus services will continue to be subsidised by Oxfordshire County Council until Swindon Borough Council reviews the service in 2008.

The No X47 bus service now operates through a different transport provider and also has a new low-floor bus.

War memorial

The clerk will obtain a quotation for the relettering and general improvement to the war memorial, by a stonemason associated with the War Memorial Stone Masons Association.

JRG

In addition, it was agreed the council should establish who owns the memorial and therefore who is responsible for its cleaning and maintenance.

JRG

Planning issues

Allowed:

| | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Mr & Mrs Taylor | Lower Mill House, Kingstone Winslow | New porch and hall entrance |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|

Outstanding:

| | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Gordon Reade | Land adjacent to Westlands, Ashbury | New field entrance |
| Dr Elizabeth Sinclair | Lower Mill, Kingstone Winslow | Various internal alterations |
| Mr & Mrs Stretch | Friars Cottage, Ashbury | Erection of timber framed conservatory |
| Dr Elizabeth Sinclair | Lower Mill, Kingstone Winslow | Change of use and internal alterations - amendment |
| Crownhold Ltd | Peartree Cottage, Berrycroft | Demolish and replace extension et al |
| Tom Spence | Land adjacent to Tilling, Berrycroft | New dwelling |
| Tom Spence | Land adjacent to Tilling, Berrycroft | New dwelling (renewal of planning consent) |

Additionally it was suggested the clerk contacts the local planning office, requesting that elevation plans are submitted with all new build applications, to assist in assessing the impact on the visual environment.

JRG

Correspondence

Items of interest were circulated for information.

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.

Any other business

Continued dog mess – complaints

Marion Turner agreed to draft and publicise suitable notices encouraging dog owners to clear up during walks in and around the village.

MT

It was agreed that if dog mess continues to be a problem, consideration be given to other methods of control.

Village shop update

It was advised the Parish Council will take no further official involvement in the developments or otherwise of a new village shop.

Comments from the public

Overhanging branches

The clerk will request Oxfordshire Highways to ensure overhanging branches along Millers Lane are removed.

JRG

Repainting village seats

The clerk will obtain a quotation from Mr Bob Tilling for the repainting of five seats in and around the village.

JRG

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 7 January 2007 at 7.00pm .

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.20 pm