

# ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

*Date:* Monday 1 March 2010

*Councillors:* Marion Turner (Chairman), Andy England (Vice Chairman), Peggy Leon, Christopher Prentice, Bill Spence, Steve Treadwell, 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 18 January 2010 were read, amended, agreed and signed.

### **Matters arising**

#### School flashing sign

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 reported it would cost approximately £130 per metre for a bounded material footpath to be installed by County Highways – this would cost £114,000 for the estimated half mile route and considered to be too expensive.

Countryside Services could upgrade the existing lower footpath and charge the parish for the installation of new structures (gates etc) for approximately £150 per structure. If the path is to be upgraded, landowner's permission is required and a contractor would be required to quote directly and approval would be based on an existing need, as opposed to a wish.

It was agreed Steve Treadwell would contact residents in Idstone to establish if there is a need, and report back at the next meeting.

ST

#### Speeding vehicles along Idstone Road

Andy England confirmed that the 30mph repeater sign has now been moved near to the telegraph pole outside Ivy House. Items still outstanding but in hand with County Highways include:

1. Agree to 30mph limit signs to be painted on the road surface near the repeater sign. The background colour was agreed to be red.
2. Undertake a traffic survey outside Ivy House for information gathering purposes.
3. Obtain any other evidence of traffic speeds from previous surveys.

It was also agreed that Marion Turner would discuss with Lee Turner concerns about the narrow width of the road outside College Farm Close.

MT

#### Rose and Crown drains

Yvonne Constance reported that due to a planned change of personnel at the District Council, it would be advisable to contact the District Food Safety Officer with regard to continued blockages. Members of the public are also encouraged to report this problem, which seems to be on-going, regular and causing a nuisance.

#### Adoption of phone boxes

The parish council has signed the adoption contract with BT plc and the clerk will return this for formal adoption.

JRG

A letter from the school was received and noted that some of the children would like to be involved in creating some ideas for future use. Andy England agreed to liaise directly with the school to advise them of more details and requirements.

AE

It was agreed to have a shortlist of usage ideas at the May meeting, to allow for a final decision and implementation.

### **Planning issues**

#### *Approved*

Mr & Mrs Prentice	Ashbury Manor, Ashbury	<i>Re-instatement of gable windows</i>
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#### *Outstanding*

Mr & Mrs Prentice	Ashbury Manor, Ashbury	<i>Demolition of building, repair to cowshed</i>
Mr & Mrs Byrne	Millers Thatch, Kingstone Winslow	<i>Substantial alterations and new building</i>
Mr Ray Gigg	The Old Forge, High Street, Ashbury	<i>Removal of window and replace with patio doors</i>

There was some public discussion of the application from Mr and Mrs Byrne, concerning the disturbance to neighbouring properties during and after the building works. It was agreed that Yvonne Constance should take these issues up with the Planning Department and advise accordingly.

It should be noted the applicant and complainants were present and were involved in some of the detailed and reasonable discussions.

The clerk will contact the developers at Idstone Road, to request contractor's vehicles do not block the footpath.

JRG

Marion Turner will ask Lee Turner to confirm the road access arrangements planned for the development, particularly with concern for plots 3 and 4.

MT

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

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 1 March 2010 and this was duly signed by the Chairman. There remains a projected net surplus of approx £588.00 for the financial year.

### **Correspondence**

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

### **Village school update**

There are 19 applications for the 2010 intake (of which there are approximately 15 places).

There have been some dramatic improvements in the writing and reading results for years 2-6, which is to be commended.

Lesley Dentry will be leaving at the end of term, to be replaced by a temp during the summer term and ultimately a full time replacement from September onwards.

### **Highways matters**

#### **Waste collection procedures from October 2010**

Marion Turner advised all present of the new waste collection procedures to be implemented by the District Council from October onwards. Currently, the District and Parish councils are working together to establish which residents or dwellings will require additional help or procedures for handling the new recycling requirements.

The District Council will be issuing further details and guidance in the summer.

MT will enquire what should happen to any public rubbish bins and how the waste should be recycled.

MT

**Grass cutting for 2010**

Andy England will obtain a quotation from the current contactor (Mark Denee) for 2010 and advise the council accordingly. The council must then approve the annual expenditure but it is likely the same contractor will be used as last year.

AE

**Village Hall Update**

Peggy Leon advised of various improvements planned for the village hall including the ladies cloakroom, kitchen area and disabled access.

Events planned include the Oxford Players and a possible summer event subject to venue availability.

**Any other business**

No other business was raised by the councillors

**Comments from the public**

Marion Turner will publish another notice in the newsletter concerning the excessive amount of dog mess on the footpaths in and around the village.

MT

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.35pm

**Dates of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 10 May 2010 which will also be the date of the Annual General Meeting.