

**Meeting of Ashbury Parish Council  
Ashbury Village Hall  
Monday 8th January 2018 at 7.30pm  
Minutes**

**Presentation on the North Wessex Downs Story by Ted Hiscocks – The Council thanks Ted for his wonderful presentation**

Present: Cllrs K Watkins (Chairman), L Halford (Vice), C Davies, R Fergusson, P Dubois  
C Arnold (Clerk)

County Cllr Y Constance

Public (6 members)

**ITEM**

**68 To receive apologies for absence**

District Cllr E Ware and S Howell, Cllr B Spence

**69 To receive any declarations of Personal, or Personal and prejudicial interest in respect of items on the agenda for this meeting**

NONE

**70 To take reports from District and County Councillors**

County Cllr YC reports from the county the budget setting is now in progress with permission to increase precept by 1% with the hope that this will be directed to roads. New focus on thriving communities. Report available on request.

District Cllrs EW and SH Report available on request.

**71 To approve the minutes of the ordinary meeting held on 13.11.17**

**Proposed: Cllr KW**

**Seconded: Cllr PD**

**Agreed: All**

**72 To take questions and comments from Councillors**

- Planting and flower beds volunteer work party required in the spring
- Deep clean road specific cleans will be done on later in the year, Biffa to contact clerk
- Phil in contact with previous clerk regarding storage of documents – Cllr LH has potential space in the shop, to add to next agenda for agreement.
- Cllr KW to investigate ramp entry into Pound Piece and clerk to contact highways
- Clerk to contact Highways regarding a safety mirror at entry to Kingston Winslow off B4000 to reduce risk when turning in.
- Cllr KW and Cllr PD state No licence required for Weed killer (off the shelf) required, however member of the public concern that you do require a licence. Cllr KW to contact Barry Barwell to quote this work.
- Cllr KW to approach head teacher regarding defibrillator training for the village. This could correspond with the first aid training held by the village hall.

CA KW  
CA

KW

KW

**73 Update on Planning Issues**

**a. P17/V3391/HH - 3 College Farm Lane Ashbury SWINDON SN6 8JX. Side extension.**

Councillors to reply to Cllr CD using documentation provided by Cllr CD. Clerk post response online by 25.01.2018

CA

**74 Update on Neighbourhood Plan**

Cllr CD reports. Report in Appendix 1.

VAT now returned, clerk to put in cheque.

Clerk to update on Financial Plan to include VAT return

Green Space Designation discussed. No objections to Wixes Piece Open Space and Kingston Winslow Green having that designation.

CA

CA

**75 To discuss and Agree Budget**

Cllr KW to chase contractor re quotes for grass cutting.

Clerk to update amounts on budget and circulate to all councillors

KW

CA

**76 To Agree Precept Request**

Council agree to 20% increase. Clerk to plan and send to all councillors

**77 To Agree to new councillor email addresses**

Cllr PD to upload all information. Cllr KW to alter text on council webpage. Clerk to upload all information to dropbox for Cllr PD to upload.

PD

CA

All councillors to now use councillor email addresses, Cllr KW to send instructions to all

councillors on how to access and set up emails and send test email to clerk.

KW  
ALL

**78 To discuss Traveller on the ridgeway**

No problems reported from Ashbury community or local farmers. The Traveller is reported to be on public land. Clerk to contact OALC to ask what right the traveller has and Cllr KW to contact Bishopstone to ask what the initial steps are to remove the traveller. Clerk to add to next agenda to decide how the council wish to proceed.

CA  
KW

**79 To Agree to grit bin purchase for Wixes Piece area, cost £250.**

Clerk to investigate location and who made the request

CA

**80 Update on Wixes Piece Open Space Access**

Cllr CD reports we have documents on land registry available. It will be £600 fee to resolve where the fault lies, Cllr CD proposes budgeting £1000 for solicitor fees to investigate the issue  
**Proposed:** Cllr CD **Seconded:** Cllr RF **Agreed:** All

**81 Finances to Note**

Name	Date	Total Gross	Detail
Claire Arnold	15.12.17	£330.00	Clerk Quarterly Pay (inc. tax rebate)
DCK Accounting	15.12.17	£42.00	Payroll Quarter 3.
Play Safety	07.12.17	£79.80	RoSPA Report on PlayArea
OALC	07.11.17	£66.54	OALC membership Fee
Village Hall	13.11.17	£48.00	Village Hall Hire for PC meetings

**82 Agenda Diary**

**Registration of Members' Interests – no changes**

**83 File Storage – Complete on USB**

**84 Correspondents**

**A. Road Closure -**

LOCATION: Kingstone Winslow, near Telephone Box Cottage

REASON: To facilitate a new water connection

DURATION: Starting on 23 January 2018

The anticipated completion date is 26 January 2018

(Traffic Regulation Notices cover a maximum of 5 consecutive days.)

ACCESS: limited access will be maintained for emergency service vehicles and for frontages within the closed section of road, subject to the progress of the works

SUGGESTED ALTERNATIVE ROUTE: Via Station Road, Walnut Trees Hill and vice versa. Clerk to let Biffa know.

CA

**B. Ashbury War Memorial – Cllr RF will update Clerk on any further news**

**85 To take questions and comments from members of the public**

Member of the public makes comment on the shop use. Cllr KW explains it is not a parish council ran business and therefore will not be discussed at meeting. However Cllr RF would like to state that the council fully supports the shop and if there is any way we can further support the shop they are open to suggestions

Cllr KW met with Go Active to discuss gentle exercise for the older population in Ashbury. Tai Chi was suggested, and the council will advertise for classes to start in Feb 2018. The Village Committee will run the event.

**86 Any other Business**

Meeting closed 21:26

Claire Arnold

Clerk to Ashbury Parish Council 08/02/18

Next Meeting: Monday 12th February 19:30hrs, Ashbury Village Hall.

## **REPORT TO THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**to be held on 8<sup>th</sup> January, 2018**

### **PLAN PROGRESS:**

Despite the proximity of the Christmas break, the 'working' draft of the Plan document was issued by our consultants Bluestone Planning [BSP] in the third week of December, very much to schedule. Although only intended for internal distribution within the Steering Group [SG], a copy is attached herewith for the councillors' benefit.

A significant amount of refining will now be necessary to ensure that the Plan is fully compliant but as the core data already exists it is hoped that the completed Plan can still be published in early spring. The one potential obstacle remains the matter of funding, the adequacy of which is, as previously reported, dependent on whether the Parish Council is successful in recovering the VAT element of our spend as they are eligible to do – see below

### **PLAN EXPENDITURE & VAT:**

Claire Arnold as Responsible Finance Officer [RFO] for the Plan together with Councillor DuBois have applied to recover the VAT element of our spend but at the time of writing we have not had confirmation that the circa £2k outstanding has been received. As forecast at the last Parish meeting this situation is now critical to the success of the Plan.

### **PLAN FUNDING:**

In an endeavour to mitigate the impact of the VAT situation, the SG successfully applied for the £1,500 of Locality funding not released at the time of our initial application. Claire has since confirmed receipt of same and it is this funding that has enabled the Plan to progress over the last month or so to the point where the working draft has now been published..

### **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:**

Following the previously reported successful public meeting, the SG also attended the School Christmas Fayre & Church Christmas Bazaar to further promote the Plan policies. This provided more positive feedback on same, and significant interest was shown in the Character Assessments conducted by individual SG-members.

With this in mind, should any resident wish to see/comment on the assessment written on the area in which they live, they are invited to contact any member of the SG in order that a copy can be provided.

**Cliff Davies**

2<sup>nd</sup> January, 2018