

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 9 January 2012

Councillors: Andy England (Chairman), Marion Turner (Vice Chairman), Eliza Lewis, Barbara Rayner, Bill Spence, Yvonne Constance (District Councillor)

Clerk James Greenham

Apologies Steve Treadwell, Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor)

Circulation: As above plus minute book and village website

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 7 November 2011 were read, amended, approved and signed.

Matters arising

BT phoneboxes

AE will report at the next meeting on how the BT phoneboxes can be used for the community. In the meantime he will ensure they are free of rubbish etc. *Outstanding since July meeting.*

AE

Post office relocation

It was noted there is to be a delay for the siting of the outreach Post Office at the Rose and Crown pub due to electrical certification issues. The matter is being addressed by Arkells. This will be followed up by Steve Treadwell in time for the next meeting in March.

Spending returns by parish councillors

The clerk requested that each of the parish councillors submits an election spending return (by law) to VWHDC. Forms were included in the nomination packs and are available from the Electoral Commission website. Each form must be sent to marcia.beviere@southandvale.gov.uk as soon as possible.

all

Planning issues

Permitted

National Trust
Ashbury Village Hall
Committee

Ashdown House
Village hall

Repairs and alterations to existing buildings
Internal alterations to store and WC facilities

Refused, pending appeal

Mr M MacGillivray

The Croft, Ashbury

Proposed loft conversion

There are no applications pending.

Local Community Plan

A response is expected from the District Council to the comments submitted on the draft Interim Housing Supply Plan, by 5 March 2012. Yvonne Constance will follow up and advise.

YC

YC also stated she did not believe further housing will be needed in Ashbury up to 2026 if the 19 houses as proposed are built.

With direct regard to the development suggested by Vortal Properties, it was noted the parish council is in discussions with the developer and land owner concerning the provision of village amenities with the development. These might include a village green/children's playground and/or a shop premises (on a long lease). The discussions

do not imply agreement to the development but represent a wish to ensure a desirable outcome for the village.

It was noted the district council should ensure any section 106 payments related to this development are directed entirely to the benefit of the village and controlled by the parish council.

It was noted a local working party will be established to ensure relevant and affected views are communicated to the developer appropriately. Marion Turner will co-ordinate this. MT

It was also noted that up to 40% of housing development has to be classified as 'affordable' (ie for rent or shared ownership) - but not social housing. Yvonne Constance advised that the policy for exceptional treatment of affordable housing will be allowed under the considerations in the draft IHSP (ie there is local control of who can be offered local affordable housing).

Andy England and Marion Turner will be progressing the separate development and drafting of a Local Community Plan and will contact ORCC for further input and support. AE/MT

Financial update for the parish council

It was agreed that there will be no rise in the annual precept for 2012-2013 and it will remain at £3,500.00. The clerk will advise VWHDC by 13 January 2012. This was proposed by Andy England and seconded by Marion Turner. JRG

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 9 January 2012. The estimated annual surplus is £444.05.

Correspondence

It was agreed the parish will purchase a copy of 52 Things to do Far from the Madding Beaches, which has three photos included of events/activities/locations in Ashbury, submitted by Ray Gigg. JRG

Village school update

Isobel Weller (governor) agreed to find out what plans the school may have to celebrate the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee in June. IW

It was noted that the school would like to thank the wider community for the support provided during the recent Christmas celebrations.

Highways matters

Following a request from a member of the public, Bill Spence agreed to investigate if Ashbury Farms Ltd would be happy to register with Highways as a local snow-clearing contractor. BS will advise at the next meeting. BS

The clerk will investigate the scheduling of the road sweeping planned for the village during 2012. JRG

Village Hall Update

No update available

Any other business

Marion Turner agreed to distribute a note requesting residents in Pound Piece to park with consideration at the end of the cul-de-sac, to allow for vehicle turning etc. This followed a request prior to the meeting from a member of public. MT

It was suggested the village might consider some monument or memorial to celebrate the forthcoming Diamond Jubilee. The parish council agreed in principle to support the

Jubilee Event, which is being organised by a separate village organisation (possibly through insurance).

A vote of thanks was made for Roger Simons for his organisation of the Stations of the Nativity, which was deemed a great success and very popular with all ages.

It was agreed that the parish council would organise and pay for a commemorative wreath to be laid each year at the war memorial on Remembrance Sunday.

The clerk will contact Royal Mail to confirm the numbering of properties in the High Street, following a request by a member of the public.

JRG

Comments from the public

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 5 March 2012.