

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 5 March 2012

Councillors: Andy England (Chairman), Marion Turner (Vice Chairman), Eliza Lewis, Barbara Rayner, Bill Spence, Steve Treadwell, Anda Fitzgerald O'Connor (County Councillor)

Clerk James Greenham

Apologies Yvonne Constance (District Councillor)

Circulation: As above plus minute book and village website

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 9 January 2012 were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising

BT phoneboxes

AE will investigate the suitability of using the phoneboxes to house community defibrillators (for information, this subject was previously discussed in July 2007). AE

Post office relocation

It was advised that the outreach Post Office will be based at the Rose and Crown pub once an electrical certification has been issued. There is no definite timescale involved at the moment.

Spending returns by parish councillors

The clerk again requested that each of the parish councillors submits an election spending return (by law) to VWHDC. Marion Turner confirmed she had sent hers, however all other councillors have yet to submit their returns. all

Planning issues

Permitted

None was permitted since January 2012

Refused, pending appeal

Mr M MacGillivray	The Croft, Ashbury	<i>Proposed loft conversion</i>
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Outstanding

Lotta Christensen	Box Cottage, Ashbury	<i>Front porch and rear extension - extend time period of approval</i>
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It was noted there is a move towards paperless advice from the District Council for the receipt of planning applications. This is not confirmed yet, but following a letter dated 27.2.12 it is likely to be in place sometime in future.

Draft Interim Housing Supply Policy and draft Local Community Plan

Marion Turner reported that there is to be a sub-committee of local residents formed to communicate effectively with Vortal Properties, who is submitting a site for development screening by the District Council (under the terms of the draft IHSP). MT will update at the next meeting. MT

Steve Treadwell will reconvene the Village Shop Committee to establish the need and form (if necessary) of a local shop if included within the Walnut Trees Hill development.

A report from Oxfordshire Rural Communities Council was presented of the results from the recent Affordable Housing Survey. Six responses confirmed a desire for personal affordable housing within the parish. This will be followed up by ORCC in conjunction with the development/approval of the draft IHSP.

Two sites have been submitted for screening as part of the draft IHSP – Walnut Trees Hill and a plot of agricultural land alongside Idstone Road. Further responses will be published during April.

The launch event for the Local Community Plan (in conjunction with ORCC) was postponed and will now occur later in the year. MT to advise.

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 5 March 2012. The estimated annual surplus is £13.92.

Correspondence

There was no additional correspondence other than what has been reported elsewhere.

Village school update

Isobel Weller (governor) reported that OFSTED now undertake drop-in inspections instead of pre-planned visits. The school has also taken part in a recent World Book Day and a World Maths Day.

Mr Crook (Year 2 & 3 teacher) will be leaving at summer half term and a replacement will be appointed for September 2012.

Highways matters

Bill Spence advised that Ashbury Farms Ltd would not be undertaking contract work for local snow-clearing.

Village Hall Update

There are events planned for fundraising – the Summer Ball (14.7.12) and a Tea and Photo Event (15.5.12).

Any other business

The clerk is waiting to hear from the Property Numbering Team at the District Council to confirm the numbering of properties in the High Street, following a request by a member of the public.

JRG

Comments from the public

It was noted that complaints must come from residents of Pound Piece directly for the neighbourhood police team to be involved in resolving car parking issues. There can be no further action from the Parish Council on this matter.

There is to be a Jubilee Beacon in Ashbury as part of the national celebrations.

There will be a meeting at Uffington village hall on either 19 April or 3 May to discuss opposition to the planned closure of the recycling centre in Stanford.

The clerk will contact Highways to resolve the road maintenance issue outside Stainswick Farm along the B4000 towards Shrivenham.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm
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Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting and Annual General Meeting will be Monday 7 May 2012.