

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 15 July 2013

Councillors: Marion Turner (Chairman), Eliza Lewis (Vice Chairman), Andy England, Steve Treadwell, Yvonne Constance (County and District Councillor)

Clerk James Greenham

Apologies Barbara Rayner, Bill Spence

Circulation: As above plus minute book and village website

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 13 May were read, approved and signed.

Matters arising

First Aid training

There had been no progress on the provision or demand for First Aid training and as such this will be carried over as an action until the September meeting.

MT

Ashbury seat maintenance

It was suggested and agreed that the maintenance of the six seats around the village could be included in the 2014 onwards cutting specification provided to the local churchyard contractor. AE to organise in due course.

AE

Website update

ST confirmed the parish website will be rebuilt soon, allowing a more interactive, informative and consultative style. Further updates will be provided at the September meeting.

ST

Planning issues

Permitted

The Croft, Idstone Road, Ashbury

Proposed loft conversion

Refused

Sarsen Cottage, Kingstone Winslow

Demolish garage and erect annex for dependent relative

Pending

There were no pending applications.

A discussion took place concerning the loft conversion completed at 12 Idstone Road. The parish council had been asked by the planning team if there was any known reason why the loft conversion could not take place (retrospectively). No known reason was provided and the matter will be closed.

Update on Walnut Trees Hill development

It was noted that construction is not likely to begin before the end of October 2013.

It was reported there are two applications to run the new village shop premises and detailed discussions and presentations are planned by the Committee accordingly.

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 15 July 2013. The estimated annual surplus is £661.37

It was confirmed a donation of £250 had been made towards the renovation of the village hall, following a request at the previous meeting. The clerk confirmed he has since presented the cheque to the Village Hall Committee.

Correspondence

The clerk confirmed that the external annual audit for 2012-2013 has been completed satisfactorily with no corrective actions or observations.

The audit fee for this year is free of charge.

Village school update

Isobel Weller provided a written update on school matters, notably the appointment of a new teach starting in September who will be teaching Ridgeway Class (years 2 and 3).

Additionally, the school would welcome opinions from the parish council and local community as to the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats facing the school. Further communication would be welcomed.

Highways matters

It was requested to ask the school to advise parents at drop-off and pick up times to park with consideration and avoid parking on corners etc. A reminder in September is thought to be most effective. MT

Village Hall Update

It was reported the renovation of the kitchen is now complete and plans are in place for the upgrading of lavatory facilities during August.

An energy efficiency audit is underway and will be advised in due course.

There will be a dementia awareness meeting planned for 24 July, which is being part funded by the parish council (the hire of the village hall).

Any other business

Andy England confirmed he was in contact with a potential supplier of a defibrillator unit and will provide a further update at the September meeting. AE

It was suggested the parish could adopt better methods of communication with local residents (inc email updates etc). ST agreed to circulate some ideas. *Outstanding since March meeting* ST

The clerk will draft a notice to go in the newsletter concerning GO Active, which is a project to encourage activity classes to be organised by volunteers on a local basis. *Outstanding since May meeting* JRG

Following discussions about the state of the pond alongside Upper Mill, Steve Treadwell agreed to investigate possible sources of funding to help improve the area, before the council considers approaching the landowner for involvement. *Outstanding since May meeting* ST

The clerk has requested all parish councillors to update their individual register of interests, as required by law, which was advised by email on 15 July 2013.

Comments from the public

It was agreed to consider how the village could commemorate last year's Jubilee, perhaps by incorporating the landscaping or naming in the new WTH development. All

It was also agreed to consider the logistics, practicality and legality of offering a webcam within the village. *Outstanding since May meeting* all

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 9 September 2013.