

ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

Date: Monday 17 November 2014

Councillors: Eliza Lewis (Vice Chairman), Andy England, Barbara Rayner, Bill Spence, Steve Treadwell, Yvonne Constance (County and District Councillor)

Apologies: Marion Turner (Chairman)

Clerk James Greenham

Circulation: As above plus minute file, village noticeboard and village website

Minutes of the last meeting

Minutes of the last meeting held on 8 September 2014 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were formally approved at this meeting.

Matters arising

First Aid/1st responder training

Maggie Simons offered to find out if the village hall might undertake training of volunteer first aiders. She will be happy to report back at the next meeting.

Andy England reported there had been no response from residents to volunteer for fundraising for a defibrillator and it was decided by all to take no further action for now. AE

Website update

ST reported that the data has now been transferred to the new website and he would need to co-ordinate with Diane MacLaren for the final elements before the new site is released. ST

Jubilee bench

Bill Spence confirmed agreement to the new site for the Ashbury Hill bench. This will be moved during the winter at a suitable time. BS

Planning issues

Approved

Pending

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|--------------------------------------|---|
| Coopers Field, Church Lane | <i>New dwelling</i> |
| Ridgeway House, High Street, Ashbury | <i>Change of use from shop to private accommodation</i> |
| 1 College Farm Lane, Ashbury | <i>Change of roof pitch/type</i> |

Update on Walnut Trees Hill development (Wixes Piece)

Marion Turner advised the developer is required to reinstate the drainage underneath the entrance road to Wixes Piece.

A final draft for the transfer of public land to the parish council had been circulated to councillor prior to the meeting. Final comments should be direct towards the clerk before Friday 21 November for onward submission to the council's solicitor. all

A public meeting which Barbara Rayner agreed to organise and coordinate, to discuss the 'rules and regulations' governing the public open space, will be held over until early 2015. BR

The new pavement construction is to be challenged as the kerb is dropped along the length of the pavement and is considered inappropriate for the position.

The clerk will establish responsibility for the collection of refuse bins etc and advise in due course. JRG

The clerk will also try and find out the status of draft legal contracts for the lease of the shop premises (from the landowner to the council and from the council to the shop manager) JRG

Update from District and County Councillor

Yvonne Constance advised that the draft Local Plan is being circulated for comments by members of the public.

Part 2 of the Local Plan will be circulated sometime around September 2015, which will directly affect the smaller villages (possibly including Ashbury).

It was noted that the District's 5 Year Housing Supply is close to being reached.

Financial update for the parish council

The clerk advised there was no formal update available, although it is estimated there is a similar surplus to the one reported in September.

The parish council will be applying for a Big Society Grant from OCC in due course (before January 2015). The clerk requested for all councillors to advise of ideas for submission – and how this will benefit the village and be measureable (as per the specifications of the grant application). all

Correspondence

The clerk has received information regarding a Neighbourhood Planning Conference being held by VWHDC in March 2015 and asked if any councillor might be able to attend. Further discussion when more details are available.

The parish council has been advised there will be a review in 2014/2015 of the subsidised bus services in Oxfordshire, which would include Ashbury. Consultation commenced in mid-October 2014 with a decision due in March 2015.

Southern Electric Power Distribution is looking to set up help desks in the event of prolonged power outage and once further details are available, the clerk will circulate the information.

Village school update

Richard Fergusson agreed to request regular updates for the parish council be supplied by the school's board of governors. It is hoped further updates can be provided at future meetings.

Highways matters

Barbara Rayner agreed to co-ordinate ideas for permanent speed restriction measures through the village, particularly along the Ashbury Hill part of the B4000. In due course, it was agreed that a cohesive argument can be developed and submitted to the officer at Highways responsible for speed reduction measures (Lee Turner). BR

Barbara also agreed to find out the cost of the recent traffic calming measure installed in Bishopstone. BR

Village Hall Update

Several events are being held over the coming two months, to help continue the fundraising drive.

Any other business

The clerk will apply for a road closure permission for future Remembrance Sunday services, from 2015 onwards.

JRG

It was agreed that the council should look to apply for tree preservation orders to protect the trees alongside the Bunce premises on the south-west and south-east elevations.

The clerk will pursue and advise.

JRG

Comments from the public

The clerk was asked by a member of the public to have the leaves cleared from Drews Hill. Following some discussion, the member of the public agreed to contact Highways directly and make the request.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45pm.

Dates of next meeting

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 12 January 2015.

all