

# ASHBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of Parish Council Meeting

*Date:* Monday 12 January 2015

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

*Apologies:* Steve Treadwell

*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 17 November 2014 had been circulated prior to the meeting and were formally approved at this meeting.

### **Matters arising**

#### Website update

ST was unable to update at the meeting, so this will be held over until the March meeting.

ST

#### Jubilee bench

Bill Spence will liaise with Ray Gigg with regard to final siting and installation of the new Jubilee Bench alongside Ashbury Hill .

BS

### **Planning issues**

#### *Approved*

Coopers Field, Church Lane

*New dwelling*

Ridgeway House, High Street, Ashbury

*Change of use from shop to private accommodation*

#### *Pending*

1 College Farm Lane, Ashbury

*Change of roof pitch/type*

### **Update on Wixes Piece**

Marion Turner advised the developer is required to alter the new pavement alongside the main road, to ensure there is a smaller slope and the drop kerbs are to be replaced by standard kerbstones.

The parish council formally signed the contract for the transfer of public land. This will be returned by the clerk to the solicitors and ultimately the Land Registry.

JRG

The parish council agreed to a fee of £750 is payable to the solicitor for the work in this matter. The clerk will liaise accordingly.

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

JRG

The clerk reported there had been no progress on the drafting of any legal contract for the shop premises, and this is not likely until sometime in the Spring when the building nears completion.

### **Update from District and County Councillor**

Yvonne Constance advised that the draft Local Transport Plan 4 (LTP4) has been signed off for circulation for comments by members of the public. There is reference to improvements to the A420 to reduce the effects of 'rat running' during rush hours.

The Community Infrastructure Levy may also consider improvements to reduce rat running along the B4507 specifically and encouraged Ashbury PC to respond to the consultation in due course.

MT/EL

Various local highways matters – including a requested improvement to the surface of Church Lane, improvements to the road surface on Ildstone Hill and also a request to improve drainage along the B4507 near to Woolstone. Yvonne Constance will follow up.YC

### **Financial update for the parish council**

The clerk presented an update on the council's financial position as at 12 January 2015. The estimated annual surplus is £733.87.

The parish council will be applying for a Big Society Grant from OCC in due course (before 31 January 2015).

All

### **Annual Precept 2015-2016**

It was agreed by all present to increase the annual parish precept for 2015-2016 to £4,860. The clerk will advise VWHDC.

JRG

It should be noted the parish council is likely to draw substantially on cash reserves in future years, to help pay for a new lengthsman, playground maintenance and ultimately the public open space (once the 10 year section 106 money is spent).

### **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**

The school is now having to consider taking pupils from outside the updated catchment area, in the event there are spaces in year groups when requested.

### **Highways matters**

Barbara Rayner reported that Bishopstone PC paid in the region of £30K for the installation of the recent speed restriction 'gate' and therefore something similar for Ashbury would not be available, unless other funding was forthcoming.

Barbara agreed to contact the Neighbourhood Action Group to ensure Ashbury is included as part of a speedwatch group.

BR

Marion Turner will try once again to see if the problem of the overhanging tree along Millers Lane can be resolved. This has already been reported and advised to Highways (ref 563194). MT

**Village Hall Update**

The village hall is closed during January and February for renovations.

The clerk will find out how much it would cost extra per year to insure the completed village textile map once it is installed in the village hall. (The village hall committee would not be willing to pay for the annual insurance.) JRG

**Any other business**

The clerk will pursue and advise on the progress of applying for a tree preservation status alongside the Bunce premises on the south-west and south-east elevations JRG

**Comments from the public**

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.55pm.

**Dates of next meeting**

The date of the next meeting will be Monday 9 March 2015. all