

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ

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MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – Monday 4th November 2019, Ash Pavilion at 7.30pm

19.30 Meeting opened

The Chairman spoke on behalf of Ash Parish Council regarding the sad news of the death of Steve Vickery. He expressed condolences to Debbie and his family and spoke of a great character with whom they had shared many laughs and would be sadly missed by all who knew him.

1	<p>Attendance and to receive apologies for absence. Present: Jack Parker (Chair), Antoinette Groves (AG), Gayle Defries (GD), Roger Coombes (RC), Nick Bluck (NB), Jonathan Mock (JM), Hugh Thomson (HT). In attendance: Julie Ferguson (Clerk), Neil Bloomfield (District & County Councillor), 6 members of the public. Apologies received and accepted: Louise Clarke (District Councillor).</p>
2	<p>Declarations of Interest. There were no declarations of interest.</p>
3	<p>To consider approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting. HT attendance was omitted. The minutes were amended and signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.</p>
4	<p>Matters to report from previous meetings. There were no matters to report.</p>
5	<p>District and County Councillor reports Cllr Bloomfield reported that he was still trying to get the 'Highway' sign replaced and suggested that a small donation from the PC would expedite the process. The Small Improvements Scheme request for a pavement between Ash and Stapleton Cross was difficult because the road width would not allow for space to be given over to a path and the County Council could not compulsory purchase land. Following a recent SSDC committee meeting for a large planning development in Mudford, which resulted in planning permission being approved, Mudford PC were planning on setting up a 'fighting fund' with which to force a judicial review. Cllr Bloomfield suggested a similar approach could be considered for the Coat road application if approval was granted. Ash PC still needed to give their comments on the planning application. ACTION: N Bluck AG requested double yellow lines be painted on Whitcombe lane alongside the pavement (map to be provided). It was agreed to check with homeowners affected before going ahead. ACTION: A Groves 19.52 Cllr Bloomfield left.</p>
6	<p>Clerk appointment The new clerk introduced herself & was welcomed by the committee.</p>
7	<p>Correspondence The following items of correspondence were presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Email from Cllr Bloomfield asking the PC to consider a grant structure for the future for St Margaret's Hospice. The PC agreed to consider this at a future finance meeting.- Email from SSDC about the Christmas Tree Recycling service from Environmental Services. It was agreed to ask for the service in the Pavilion car park, as for previous years. <p>ACTION: Clerk</p>
8	<p>Planning The PC were still waiting for clarification on listed building consent for replacement window at 5 Main Street. ACTION: Clerk</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) Decisions reported. There were no decisions reported.b) Applications received. 123/456 – Ash Primary School, Retention of a building. There were no comments.c) Appointment of a planning sub-committee. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to appoint NB, HT & 1 other (TBD).
9	<p>Environment</p>

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	<p>a. Parish Ranger. All work requested had been completed. Items identified for the next visit included clearing around the 30mph signs. Any further items to be passed to AG before the next visit.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: All</p> <p>b. To discuss central Government & District council Environmental Strategies. HT reported back on SSDC Environment Strategy document explaining that he felt it had no clear objectives or solutions but was largely suited to deflate political criticism & the Extinction Rebellion movement. He asked the PC to consider taking more direct steps towards protecting & enhancing the environment of Ash & to plan for local action to address the concerns over Global warming. It was agreed by all that this item was ongoing and although there was nothing specifically identified at the current time, it needed to be given careful consideration in all future plans.</p> <p>c. To consider adopting a Tree Policy. Following on from the previous item, HT asked the PC to adopt a draft Tree Policy. RESOLVED: It was agreed that the final draft would be agreed at the next PC meeting then made available to all residents for public comment.</p> <p>d. To consider setting up an Environmental Working Group. HT asked the PC to consider setting up an Environmental Working Group made up of PC members & the larger community. It was understood that Martock already had something similar. The PC were supportive & agreed to consider at a future meeting.</p>
10	<p>The recreation ground and play area It had been agreed at a previous meeting to instruct the Play Inspection Company. Clerk to find out when the inspection was due to be carried out.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: Clerk</p>
11	<p>Highways</p> <p>a. AutoSpeedWatch. AG reported that a village, manned speed-watch needed to be back up and running before the Police would act upon the AutoSpeedWatch data. AG agreed to co-ordinate, including training for volunteers.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: A Groves</p>
12	<p>The Pavilion</p> <p>a. Approach road repairs. JM reported that he was still waiting on a 3rd quote and that Yarlington residents required 2 months' notice for disruption caused by the repair. It was agreed to try to organise the temporary repair as soon as possible.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: J Mock</p> <p>b. Pavilion door seal and accessibility. It was reported that a low threshold had been delivered as ordered. A mobility threshold should have been ordered.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: J Mock</p> <p>c. Vacancies and upkeep/maintenance report. There was still nothing to report.</p> <p>d. To consider the purchase of presentation equipment. JP had carried out some research and suggested a 3rd generation Apple TV box as a suitable solution. NB offered to source a unit from a business contact.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">ACTION: N Bluck</p>
13	<p>Village defibrillator GD reported that fundraising was going well, with a GoFund total of £792. Local members of the Plymouth Brethren Church present at the meeting kindly offered to donate a defibrillator unit and suitable cabinet as part of their Rapid Relief Team activities. This was gratefully accepted and it was agreed that fundraising should continue towards the purchase of a second unit.</p>
14	<p>VE Day celebrations Enquiries were ongoing into planned activities in the village. GD reported that the school were not holding a fete & the pub had nothing arranged. Thoughts around a dance on Friday & street party, in the recreation ground on Saturday were ongoing. It was reported that Martock had nothing planned currently.</p>
15	<p>Cemetery and churchyard Discussions between all PC members about ownership, boundaries and licences were heard and it was agreed that these issues needed to be fully understood before the next steps towards bringing the extra land into the Cemetery could be considered. GD advised that the Title Deeds needed to be removed from the office & placed in a fire resistant safe. HT agreed to take the Cemetery files from the Pavilion office & scrutinise the contents to establish the current position.</p>

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	<i>ACTION: H Thomson & G Defries</i>				
16	<p>Accounts</p> <p>a. Financial report. The Clerk did not have access to the bank accounts currently. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed that the Clerk could contact Lynne Buckley to arrange a mandate for access to statements.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: Clerk</i></p> <p>b. Payments for authorisation. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the following payments, JM & NB to sign cheques.</p>				
	ASH Parish Council - payments for authorisation sheet NOVEMBER 4th 2019				
	<i>raised at this meeting</i>				
	<i>CQ No.</i>	<i>payee</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>amount</i>	
	39	Pinnacle	Wage Records	£ 24.00	
	40	SSDC	Ash Ranger Fees to 24 th Sept 2019	£ 346.32	
	41	SALC	SALC Parish Online Seminar	£ 15.00	
42		Water2business	Pavilion Water charges to 15 th Oct 2019	£ 85.79	
	TOTAL			£ 471.11	
	<p>c. Budget and precept setting. It was agreed that a further meeting would be arranged to discuss the draft budget.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: All</i></p>				
17	Date of next meeting. Monday 2 nd December 2019. Further meetings will be called as necessary.				

21.25 Meeting closed

PUBLIC SESSION

GD reported that the memorial plaque for Di Clarke would be installed soon. NB had kindly agreed to erect the memorial. A member of the public who was hoping to set up a Cricket Team in the village introduced himself to the PC. He was warmly welcomed and there was some discussion regarding the plans for the pitch and timescales. The PC expressed a wish to help support the Cricket Club in some way, in the future.