

# ASH PARISH COUNCIL

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

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## Minutes of a Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on Monday 9 January 2023 at 19:00hrs

**Present:** Councillors (Cllrs) – Lesley Andrew, Steve Davey (Chair), Rebecca Gray, Tim Groves, Caz Halfhide, Lily Humby

**In attendance:** J Ferguson (Parish Clerk), County Cllr Emily Pearlstone and 1 member of the public.

### County & District Councillors Reports

A County Cllr report had been circulated by email and Cllr Pearlstone gave a brief overview of progress with LCNs and towards a unitary Somerset Council.

### Public Open Session

There was nothing discussed at this time.

### 19:10 – Meeting opened

**22/194 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given** (LGA 1972 s85(1))

Apologies had been received and accepted from Antoinette Groves.

**22/195 Declarations of interests.** Council members to declare any interests, including any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33 (b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations. None.

**22/196 To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting** (LGA 1972 sch 12, para 41(1))

**RESOLVED:** To approve and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on Monday 5th December 2022.

### 22/197 Matters to report from a previous meeting

Cllr Andrew presented a prepared submission to SSDC for nomination of The Bell as an Asset of Community Value. The PC were pleased with the report and thanked Cllr Andrew, who agreed to submit the text as part of the SSDC nomination application.

**ACTION: Cllr Andrew**

### 22/198 Planning decisions report

None.

### 22/199 Planning applications

None.

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Chairman

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Date

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**22/200 Finance** – To approve the payment schedule for January 2023 (REPORT)

Ash Parish Council January 23 Payment Schedule			
Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	STAFF	SALARIES	£1,010.65
2	SSDC	RANGER - NOV22	£192.07
3	BREAKTHROUGH COMMUNICATION	CLERK TRAINING	£72.00
4	P G FIRE AND SECURITY	ALARM MAINTENANCE	£46.80
5	BEN JONES	REIMBURSE FLOODLIGHTS	£119.80
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>£1,441.32</b>

**RESOLVED:** To approve the January 2023 Payments totalling £1441.32

**ACTION: Cllrs Davey and A Groves**

**22/201 Finance** – To approve the cashbook and bank reconciliation to 31 December 2022

**RESOLVED:** To approve the cashbook and bank reconciliations to 31 December 2022.

**22/202 Finance** – To approve the 2023-24 budget

**RESOLVED:** To approve the 2023-24 budget.

**22/203 Finance** – To approve the 2023-24 Precept request

**RESOLVED:** To approve a 2023-24 precept request of £43,723.

**ACTION: Parish Clerk**

**22/204 Finance** – To consider 3 quotes for 2 bus shelters and to approve the preferred quote  
Three quotes were presented with details to be finalised (all ex VAT):

- Quote 1 - Two bus shelters supplied and installed for £7,974 (with perch seat)
- Quote 2 - Two bus shelters supplied and installed for £5,645 (no perch seat)
- Quote 3 - Two bus shelters supplied and installed for £7,935 (with perch seat)

**RESOLVED:** To approve quote 1 for two bus shelters at a cost of £7,974.

**ACTION: Cllr A Groves**

**22/205 Finance** – To approve a payment of up to £400 towards a new Millennium Wood bench

**RESOLVED:** To approve a payment of up to £400 towards a new Millennium Wood bench.

**ACTION: Parish Clerk**

**22/206 To appoint a Human Resources (HR) Committee**

It was decided that an HR representative would be more suitable for a parish council with a single employee, rather than a committee.

**RESOLVED:** To appoint Cllr Humby as the HR representative for Ash Parish Council.

**ACTION: Cllr Humby**

**22/207 Civility and Respect Project** – To report on progress towards taking the Pledge

Cllr Humby had started to look at the steps required and would report back at a future meeting.

**ACTION: Cllr Humby**

**22/208 Ash Biodiversity Working Group (ABWG)** – To approve updated Terms of Reference

**RESOLVED:** To approve the ABWG Terms of Reference as presented and dated.

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Chairman

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Date

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## **22/209 Reports – To receive reports from:**

### a. Parish Councillors

Cllr Davey reported that the Pavilion electricity contract had been switched to a cheaper supplier, with the potential for considerable savings.

Cllr T Groves reported on plans for tree planting in the Cemetery, for which he was obtaining quotes.

### b. Working Groups

ABWG asked for the PC to allow the grass to remain uncut around the village car park verges to allow any wildflowers to flourish, before considering additional sowings for future re-wilding. It was agreed that the edges would remain tended to indicate the purposeful nature of the uncut area. All members of the PC agreed this would be a good start towards allowing biodiversity to flourish.

## **22/210 Clerks report and correspondence**

The following items of correspondence had been sent by email:

- SSDC Dry January campaign
- Temporary road closure notices
- London Hearts Community Defibrillator grants
- SALC Newsletters
- SWP briefings
- Community Review – Smart Communities
- SSDC Member briefings
- New Somerset branding
- LCN briefings
- Pavilion Alarm Maintenance report
- Tintinhull YFC - Request for sole use of the playing field. Cllr Davey agreed to seek clarification on a few points before a decision could be made.
- Platinum Jubilee Fund

## **22/211 Items for the next agenda**

There was nothing identified at this time.

## **22/212 Date of next meeting – 13th February 2023**

## **22/213 Exempt Session – Exclusion of the Press & Public**

**The Council is recommended to resolve that under section 1, paragraph 2 of The Public Bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business because publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.**

The clerk explained her salary breakdown to Cllr T Groves to clear up some confusion.

## **20:55 - Meeting closed**

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Chairman

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Date