

Minutes of a Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on Monday 4 September 2023 at 19:00hrs

Present: Councillors (Cllrs) – Lesley Andrew, Steve Davey (Chair), Zak England, Rebecca Gray, Antoinette Groves, Caz Halfhide.

In attendance: J Ferguson (Parish Clerk), Somerset Cllr John Bailey and 5 members of the public.

County Councillors Reports

Cllr Bailey had provided a written report and further reported on:

- Free heart health checks taking place in libraries across Somerset
- No Somerset schools affected by RAAC
- Somerset County CEO visiting the parish
- Slinky bus service, door-to-door Demand-Responsive Transport (DRT) service

Public Open Session

The following topics were raised:

- PC to consider installing an all-weather cycle track around the recreation ground
- Disappointment regarding closure of the Martock Pharmacy on Saturday mornings
- Concern regarding the footpath width at the top of Main Street

19:30 – Meeting opened

23/97 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1))

Cllr Tim Groves had sent his apologies.

23/98 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)

Cllr A Groves declared an interest in item 23/104 as she had a payment due.

23/99 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 3 July 2023.

23/100 Matters to report from a previous meeting

Cllr Davey reported that the disabled access gates were going to be installed soon.

23/101 Planning decisions report.

None.

23/102 Planning applications 23/01746/HOU - Mistletoe Cottage Back Street Ash Martock Somerset TA12 6NY. Erection of a single storey rear extension.

RESOLVED: To SUPPORT the application. (REPORT).

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

Tel: 01935 571050 E-mail: clerk@ashpcsomerset.com

23/103 Finance – To report the payment schedule for August 2023

Ash Parish Council Aug 23 Payment Schedule			
Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	STAFF	SALARIES & EXPENSES	£919.96
2	R EVIS	GROUND MAINTENANCE JULY23	£458.33
3	K L BUNGAY	PAVILION CLEANING	£90.00
4	SOMERSET COUNCIL	RANGER JUNE 23	£211.26
5	PINNACLE ACCOUNTANCY	PAYROLL SERVICES	£45.60
TOTAL			Aug-23 £1,725.15

Noted.

23/104 Finance – To approve the payment schedule for September 2023

Ash Parish Council Sept 23 Payment Schedule			
Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	STAFF	SALARIES & EXPENSES	£914.31
2	R EVIS	GROUND MAINTENANCE AUG23	£458.33
3	K L BUNGAY	PAVILION CLEANING AUG23	£90.00
4	SOMERSET COUNCIL	RANGER JULY 23	£211.26
5	A GROVES	REIMBURSE WASP TREATMENT	£98.46
6	T GROVES	REIMBURSE NEWSLETTER JULY/AUG	£60.00
7	P G FIRE & SECURITY	ANNUAL ALARM MAINTENANCE	£199.99
8	PKF LITTLEJOHN	AUDIT FEE	£378.00
TOTAL			Sep-23 £2,410.35

RESOLVED: To approve the payment schedule for September 2023 totalling £2,410.35

ACTION: Cllr Davey and A Groves

23/105 Finance – To consider a budget of up to £1000 for legal advice relating to the Wessex Internet proposal to lay cables across the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: Not to consider a budget for legal advice at this time.

23/106 To accept the revised Wessex Internet proposal to lay cables in the Recreation Ground

RESOLVED: To accept the revised Wessex Internet proposal to lay cables in the Recreation Ground to include full fibre internet for the Pavilion at a cost of £1.20/mth (period of offer to be determined), with additional provisions and conditions as set out in the contract.

ACTION: Cllr Davey

23/107 To agree the next steps regarding the damaged Martock/Ash SID, including requests to Martock PC for repair, replace or refund

RESOLVED: To request a refund from Martock PC for the Ash PC contribution to the damaged SID and further request that Ash be added to the existing SID site rotation schedule.

ACTION: Cllrs Davey and A Groves

23/108 Finance – To consider a budget for the purchase of Auto Speed-Watch devices

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It was agreed to defer this item until after the follow-up Ash/Martock/Long Load & SC Highways meeting.

23/109 Finance – To consider starting a “20’s Plenty” campaign throughout the parish to include a budget for the purchase of wheelie bin stickers.

It was agreed to defer this item to allow for further public consultation to be carried out and feedback assessed from the Parish Newsletter and Ash Alerts.

ACTION: Cllrs Davey and A Groves

23/110 Finance – To consider submitting an expression of interest to Somerset Council for an initial assessment of a parish 20mph speed limit incurring a £500 non-refundable application fee

It was agreed to defer this item to allow for further public consultation to be carried out and feedback assessed from the Parish Newsletter and Ash Alerts (as for item 23/109) and for additional information to be obtained regarding the scope and suitability of a single funded scheme.

ACTION: Cllrs Davey and A Groves

23/111 To discuss unacceptable dog control incidents in the Millennium Woods and consider if any changes to the rules are required

It was agreed to defer this item until the Millennium Wood Group had been consulted with the recommendation of holding an ‘Information Campaign’ to include neighbouring parishes, encouraging responsible dog-owner behaviour.

ACTION: Cllr Davey

23/112 To approve the updated Ash Cemetery Rules and Table of Fees

A mature draft was presented and some amendments agreed. A final draft would be agreed at a future meeting.

ACTION: Cllrs Gray and Andrew

23/113 To receive Glebe Track Deed of Surrender and Lease signed by all parties dated 27th July 2023

Noted.

23/114 Reports – To receive reports from:

- a. Parish Councillors. There was nothing reported at this time.
- b. Working Groups. There was nothing reported at this time.

23/115 Clerks report and correspondence

The clerk reported that the following docs had been uploaded to the PC website:

- Adopted policies
- Quarterly budget report
- Signed and audited AGAR for 2022-23
- PKF LittleJohn final audit report for 2022-23
- Notice of conclusion of audit

The updated asset register had been circulated and would be approved at the next meeting.

23/116 Items for the next or future agenda

- Approval of the asset register
- To consider a budget for the purchase of Auto Speed-Watch devices
- To consider starting a “20’s Plenty” campaign throughout the parish to include a budget for the purchase of wheelie bin stickers.
- To consider submitting an expression of interest to Somerset Council for an initial

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- assessment of a parish 20mph speed limit incurring a £500 non-refundable application fee
- discuss unacceptable dog control incidents in the Millennium Woods and consider if any changes to the rules are required
- To approve the updated Ash Cemetery Rules and Table of Fees
- To consider permitting a chest tomb to be installed at Ash Cemetery

23/117 Date of next meeting – 2 October 2023 (Cllrs to note - All agenda items to be notified to the Parish Clerk by Fri 22 Sept 2023)

21:14 - Meeting closed