

Minutes of a Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on Monday 5 February 2024 at 19:00hrs

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

In attendance: J Ferguson (Parish Clerk), Somerset Cllrs (SCllr) John Bailey and Emily Pearlstone and 3 members of the public.

Public comments

The following topics were raised:

- Dog waste bin rusting on the playing field. PC agreed to replace (**ACTION: Clerk**).
- Footpath sign needing repair between Back Street and Witcombe Lane (**ACTION: Clerk**).

Somerset Councillor Reports

A verbal report was heard.

19:25 – Meeting opened

23/164 To receive apologies for absence and to approve the reasons given (LGA 1972 s85(1)).

Apologies were accepted from A Groves (holiday) T Groves (work commitment) and L Andrew (personal reasons).

23/165 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 S Davey had a payment due.

23/166 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 8 January 2024.

23/167 Matters to report from a previous meeting.

- Pavilion insurance claim signed off. ACTION: S Davey. Complete.
- Update Ash Cemetery Rules and Table of Fees. ACTION: Cllr Andrew. Ongoing.
- Footpath improvements. ACTION: Cllr Davey and England. Ongoing
- Rules for Parish Council Car Parks. ACTION: Cllr Davey. Ongoing
- High interest savings account set up, £50K deposited (approval pending). ACTION: Clerk. Complete.
- Defibrillator and cabinet installed and registered on The Circuit in Milton telephone kiosk. ACTION: Cllr England and clerk. Complete.
- Broadband provider switched to BT Internet. ACTION: Cllr Davey. Complete.

23/168 To co-opt members onto the Parish Council.

There was no co-option at this time.

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

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

23/169 Planning decisions report. None.

23/170 Planning applications - 24/00155/HOU. Karina 26 Back Street Ash Martock Somerset TA12 6NY. First floor extension to existing carport.

RESOLVED: To **SUPPORT** the application.

23/171 Finance – To APPROVE the payment schedule for February 2024.

Ash Parish Council February 24 Payment Schedule			
Invoice	Payee	Particulars	Amount
1	STAFF	SALARIES & EXPENSES	£954.45
2	R EVIS	GROUND MAINTENANCE JAN24 (SO)	£458.33
3	K L BUNGAY	PAVILION CLEANING JAN24 (SO)	£90.00
4	SOMERSET COUNCIL	RANGER DEC 23	£211.26
5	S DAVEY	REIMBURSE VIRTUAL LANDLINE (SO)	£5.95
6	BRISTOWS ELECTRIC	NOTICEBOARD ELECTRICAL WORK	£45.25
7	PLAY INSPECTION COMPAN	ANNUAL INSPECTION FEE	£120.00
8	SLCC	MEMBERSHIP FEE	£57.25
10	S DAVEY	REIMBURSE ELECTRICAL ITEMS	£4.84
	TOTAL	Feb-24	£1,947.33

RESOLVED: To approve the payment schedule for January 2024.

ACTION: Cllr Davey and Cllr T Groves

23/172 Finance – To APPROVE the cashbook/bank reconciliation to 31 Jan 2024.

There was no reconciliation presented this month.

23/173 Finance – To APPROVE a budget for refurbishment of the Milton BT phone kiosk.

RESOLVED: To **APPROVE** a budget of £100 for the refurbishment of the phone kiosk.

23/174 To NOTE the cessation of the Somerset Council Ranger scheme and discuss alternative arrangements.

Noted. A local handyman known to the parish council was suggested and Cllr Halfhide agreed to speak to him to discuss the role.

ACTION: Cllr Halfhide

23/175 To APPROVE the Memorandum of Understanding with Somerset Highways for the SID locations and installations.

The clerk reported that the map did not appear to reflect the email describing the locations and it was agreed to defer this until the Cllrs that had been organising the SID and locations with SC Highways were present.

23/176 To APPROVE the Cemetery Rules and Table of Fees.

Cllr Davey presented a cemetery plan that was agreed by all to take forward for consecration. Cllr Halfhide agreed to start the consecration process.

ACTION: Cllr Halfhide

23/177 To NOTE the Play Inspection Company annual play equipment inspection report.

Noted. Cllr Halfhide suggested that future routine play inspections and any outstanding 'minor' issues should be part of the parish handyman role. This was agreed.

23/178 Reports – To receive reports from:

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Julie Ferguson

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- a. Parish Councillors
- b. Working Groups

23/179 Clerks report and correspondence.

- Hedgehogs R Us Highway Project – Box of 50 Hedgehog Highway surrounds and information leaflets costing £150. Cllr Davey suggest an Ash Alert be sent out to gauge interest.
- Ash PC meeting dates for 2024 agreed:
 - 11th March 2024
 - 8th April 2024
 - 13th May 2024 – Annual Parish Council Meeting
 - 3rd June 2024
 - July 2024 – no meeting
 - 5th August 2024
 - 2nd September 2024
 - 7th October 2024
 - 4th November 2024
 - 2nd December 2024
- The Annual Parish Meeting was discussed and Cllr Halfhide suggested that a dedicated larger parish event should be considered to try to bring more groups together and recruit volunteers to help support the parish generally.

23/180 Items for the next or future agenda.

- Hedgehogs R Us Highway Project
- Annual Parish Meeting plans
- Cemetery consecration costs and process

23/181 Date of next meeting – 11 March 2024 (Cllrs to note - All agenda items to be notified to the Parish Clerk by Thurs 29 Feb 2024).

End of Agenda