

# **Minute of a Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2024 at 19.00hrs**

**PRESENT:** Councillors (Cllrs) – Steve Davey (Chair), Zak England, Caz Halfhide, Antoinette Groves, Lesley Andrew, Alan Britten.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Somerset Cllr (SCllr) Emily Pearlstone and three members of the public

**Somerset Council Report:**

A written report was provided

**19.00hrs – Meeting Opened**

**24/30 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given** (LGA 1972 s85(1)). Somerset Cllr John Bailey and Cllr Tim Groves, both for personal reasons

**24/31 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 received other than re-imburements of items paid on behalf of Ash Parish Council

**24/32 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 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024**

**24/33 Matters to report from a previous meeting**

Cllr Zak England reported that repairs had taken place at the top end of Witcombe Lane with others still to be completed.

Cllr Steve Davey reported that the insurance excess for the damaged Pavilion front door would be £250. Discussion took place regarding the fact that ideally the replacement doors should open on to the recreation ground rather than inward. It was suggested that a door with a 2/3 opening and 1/3 fixed would allow safe entrance and exit onto a ramp. Two quotes are to be obtained. Cllr Alan Britten to obtain one and Cllr Caz Halfhide the other.

Cllr Steve Davey reported that Plusnet had continued to charge for the broadband at the Pavilion, despite removing this service in February. This has been resolved and a refund is being processed.

Cllr Caz Halfhide reported that the process of arranging for the new cemetery area to be consecrated was well under way and that it is planned to take place, following a church service on Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> July 2024

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Clerk:

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## 24/34 Planning decisions report

None

## 24/35 Planning applications

None

## 24/36 To **DISCUSS** and **APPROVE** holding monthly surgery in Ash Pavilion

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that this was a good idea and an opportunity for Parishioners to bring their thoughts and concerns to the attention of the Parish Council. This will take place at The Pavilion on the last Wednesday of the month between 10.30am and 11.30am. No decisions will be made, but notes will be taken and shared with the other Parish Councillors. An email alert is to be sent out advising Parishioners.

Proposed: Cllr Caz Halfhide, Seconded Cllr Steve Davey

All Councillors voted in favour

## 24/37 To **NOTE** successful running of Ash Village Fete and thank those involved.

**RESOLVED:** Cllr Steve Davey read out a list of thanks to all those in the planning and success of the day.

## 24/38 To **DISCUSS** and **AGREE** permission for a teenage Ash resident (year 9) and friend to volunteer as part of their DofE award to tidy the book exchange once a week.

**RESOLVED:** Agreed, but a written response is to be sent to their parents advising of the Parish Councils concerns over safety due to the location of the book exchange. Parents are to ensure adequate supervision for their own safety/protection and high viz should be worn. Action: Cllr Antoinette Groves

Proposed: Cllr Antoinette Groves, Seconded Cllr Lesley Andrew

All Councillors voted in favour

## 24/39 Finance – To **APPROVE** the payment schedule for June 2024

|          |                 |                                |         |           |
|----------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------|-----------|
| 28/05/24 | PlusNet         | Pavilion Internet              | £14.42  | Report    |
| 28/05/24 | British Gas     | Pavilion electricity           | £118.12 | Report    |
| 01/06/24 | S Davey         | Virtual Landline               | £5.95   | Report    |
| 01/06/24 | Eavis RA        | Ground Maintenance May 24      | £458.33 | SO Report |
| 01/06/24 | KL Bungay       | Cleaning May 24 SO             | £102.00 | SO Report |
|          | British Telecom | Pavilion Broadband             | £34.46  | TBA       |
|          | S Davey         | New recreation ground lock     | £27.26  | TBA       |
|          | Caz Halfhide    | Cleaning products for Pavilion | £41.42  | TBA       |

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|  |                      |                       |         |     |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|---------|-----|
|  | Caz Halfhide         | New keys for Pavilion | £9.00   | TBA |
|  | Pinnacle Accountancy | Payroll expenses      | £102.00 | TBA |
|  |                      | Internal Audit Fee    | £180.00 | TBA |

**24/40 Finance** – To **APPROVE** lockable outside tap, lightweight hosepipe and watering can for use at the pavilion £185

**RESOLVED:** Proposed Cllr Caz Halfhide, Seconded Cllr Alan Britten. All Councillors in favour

**24/41 Finance** – To **APPROVE** new water butt for Pavilion £66

**RESOLVED:** Proposed Cllr Caz Halfhide, Seconded Cllr Alan Britten. All Councillors in favour

**24/42 Finance** – To **APPROVE** new handrail for Pavilion £110 or £136 depending on options.

**RESOLVED:** Metal Option at £110. Proposed Cllr Alan Britten, Seconded Cllr Caz Halfhide. All Councillors in favour

**24/43 Finance** – To **CONSIDER** request for donation for Costa Rica trip.

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that it was inappropriate to donate to an individual's trip. However, an email is to be sent offering support in promoting any fund-raising activities. **Action Cllr Steve Davey**

**24/44** To **DISCUSS** and **APPROVE** a strategy for issue of aggressive dogs when delivering leaflets and newsletters in the Parish

**RESOLVED:** It was agreed that all volunteers should be made aware that it will be at their own discretion to decide whether they are comfortable delivering to an address.

An email alert is to be sent advising Parishioners and advising them that if this may affect them, they can sign up for electronic versions

**24/45** To **AUTHORISE** new members of the PC to be signatories to the PC bank account.

**RESOLVED:** Agreed if the Councillor agrees themselves.

Proposed: Cllr Steve Davey, Seconded Cllr Caz Halfhide. All in favour

**24/46** To **APPROVE** a scheme for delegation of payments?

**RESOLVED:** In the need of emergency payments, we do not currently have a clerk to make the decision alongside the Chair. Until such time as we have an RFO again, the Chair, Vice Chair and one other councillor can authorise emergency payments. Once we have appointment a new clerk, this will revert.

Proposed: Cllr Caz Halfhide, Seconded Cllr Steve Davey. All Councillors in favour

**24/47 Reports** – To receive reports from:

- a. Parish Councillors
- b. Working Groups

Cllr Steve Davey reported that the AGAR had been received back from the internal auditor but had arrived too late to add to this month's agenda for approval and submission to PKF, and as such may be late in posting on the Parish Website. Action: Cllr Steve Davey to enquire as to how we need to proceed.

Cllr Steve Davey is to provide login details for the Defibrillator Reporting (The Circuit), to Cllr Antoinette Groves. Cllr Steve Davey is also looking into the costs and funding for Bleed Kits.

A rusted-out Poo Bin was previously reported. This is to be located and action taken to

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repair/replace.

## **24/48 Clerks report and correspondence** **Not Applicable**

## **24/49 Items for the next or future agenda**

### **24/50 Date of next meeting – 1 July 2024**

(Cllrs to note - All agenda items to be notified by Friday 21 June 2024).

Cllr Steve Davey will not be available for this meeting. Cllr Caz Halfhide will chair the meeting. The meeting will be recorded, and the recording used to support the preparation of the meeting minutes which will be taken by Cllr Lesley Andrew. The recording will then be destroyed.

### **24/51 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.

### **24/52 To CONSIDER nominations for the Chairmans Award.**

**RESOLVED: A nomination was made, with all Councillors in favour. Cllr Lesley Andrew and Cllr Caz Halfhide to prepare the citation and Cllr Steve Davey will submit it.**

**The meeting ended at 20.45pm**