# Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of Ash Parish Council held on

# Monday 12th August 2024 at 19.00hrs

**Present: Cllr Steve Davey (Chair), Cllr Caz Halfhide, Cllr Antoinette Groves, Cllr Zak England, Cllr Tim Groves, Cllr Alan Britten**

**In attendance: 3 Members of the General Public**

**24/77 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given** (LGA 1972 s85(1)).

Apologies were received from Cllr Lesley Andrew, SCllr John Bailey & SCllr Emily Pearlstone, all due to prior commitments

**24/78 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 (be). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

Declarations of interests were made as follows:

Item 24/83 Cllr Tim Groves has a stand at the event. Cllr Caz Halfhide will be providing the Bar and BBQ

Item 24/84 Cllr Tim Groves and Cllr Steve Davey have children that attend the school

Item 24/01502/FUL Cllr Zak England will be supply stone

**24/79 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 meeting held on Monday 1st July 2024**

**24/80 Matters to report from a previous meeting**

The agreed application for a free portrait of The King needs to be found and followed up.

Action: Cllr S Davey and Cllr Caz Halfhide

Cllr Antoinette Groves reported that she had applied to the Police Community Fund, towards the cost of a Speed Indicator Device, but due to high uptake the fund has been closed.

Cllr Zak England was asked to contact Ash Primary School regarding the kind offer of High Viz vests for the children. It is thought that they were previously supplied with a large quantity, and if they still have them, they will not require any more.

**24/81 Planning decisions report**

**NONE**

**24/82 Planning applications** –

**23/00788/OUT.** Ash Farm Middle Leaze Drove Ash Martock Somerset TA12 6NZ.

Outline Application with all matters reserved for the erection of a detached dwelling and garage for agricultural and equestrian related use and revocation of existing consent for a dwelling under reference 03/00358/FUL

An Agricultural Tie was noted. The high standard of previous works carried out was acknowledged and all voted in favour to approve.

ACTION: Cllr Steve Davey to email the Parish Council response to the Planning Department at Somerset Council.

**24/01502/FUL.** Holy Trinity Church Main Street Ash Martock Somerset TA12 6NS. The erection of new steps to the bell-tower (alternative design for approval 23/00293/FUL)

The alternative design is to be built in stone and very much more in keeping with the existing structure. All voted in favour to approve.

ACTION: Cllr Steve Davey to email the Parish Council response to the Planning Department at Somerset Council.

**24/83 To APPROVE PERMISSION** for the proposed Millennium Woods Festival.

**RESOLVED: Approved. All voted in favour**

**24/84 To DISCUSS** a response to the cancellation of bus service to Huish Episcopi Academy.

This was discussed at length, and it was noted that there had been no meaningful consultation or notice, including safety, pavements, paths, lights or safeguarding.

Action: Cllr Steve Davey to write to Taylor’s expressing concerns following the cancellation of the service and to copy in Huish Episcopi Academy. Also, to ask SCllr John Bailey for contact details of the Somerset Councillor responsible for School Transportation.

Cllr Zak England is to make sure that Ash Primary School is aware of the cancellation of the service and that parents are advised, as this may affect their decision regarding follow on education from the school. Cllr Zak England is to also contact Vickery’s Coaches to see if there are any alternatives in terms of collecting pupils from Ash, to avoid having to travel to Highway to catch their bus.

**24/85** To **ACKNOWLEDGE** and **DISCUSS** the results of the LNR consultation

***It was noted that this item was included in the agenda in error, as it had been included in the previous meeting***

**24/86** To **APPROVE** applying for the Lloyds Bank free accounting package.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Caz Halfhide, Seconded Cllr Steve Davey.

All voted in favour. Action; Cllr Steve Davey to apply

**24/87 Finance –** To **APPROVE** the payment schedule for August 2024

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 01/08/24 | S Davey | Virtual Landline | £5.95 | SO Report |
| 01/08/24 | Evis RA | Ground Maintenance July 24 | £458.33 | SO Report |
| 01/08/24 | KL Bungay  | Pavilion cleaning July 24 SO | £102.00 | SO Report |
| 29/07/24 | Britsh Gas | Pavilion | £32.20 | DD Report |
| 18/07/24 | Evis RA | Lengthsman services June | £235.00 | Report |
|  | Stone King  | Consecraton of Cemetery extension | £1,080.00 | TBA |
|  | Pinnacle AccountancyServices | Wage services | £49.20 | TBA |
|  | Evis RA | Lengthsman services July | £235.00 | TBA |
|  |  |  |  |  |

It was noted that there is VAT to reclaim on the payment to Stone King.

The payment for Lenghtsman service July was approved, but it was agreed that it would be paid once completion of works had been signed off. Action Cllr Antoinette Groves

**24/88 Finance –** To **APPROVE** amending Standing Order to S Davey for Virtual Landline to £6.50.

**RESOLVED:** Approved and all in favour.

**24/89 Finance –** To **APPROVE** setting up Standing Order for £235 per month for Evis RA for Lengthsman work.

**WITHDRAWN:** It was explained that the works covered by the payment need to be signed off each month,

**24/90 Reports –** To receive reports from:

1. Parish Councillors
2. Working Groups

**24/91 Clerks report and correspondence**

Insurance Claim for Pavilion Doors. Cllr Alan Britten to obtain an updated quotation and forward to Cllr Steve Davey.

Correspondence has been received from Somerset Council regarding the costs of emptying Poo Bins that are not owned by Somerset Council. Cllr Steve Davey has responded by advising that we have no record of payment for the bins and therefore they must belong to Somerset Council.

Somerset Council have advised of an overpayment of an invoice in December 2023.

£374.20 was paid against a charge of £211.26 Action: Cllr Steve Davey to let Cllr Caz Halfhide have the AGAR records and she will investigate.

**24/92 Items for the next or future agenda**

**Updating of the Asset Register**

To achieve this, the current Asset Register needs to be circulated to all Councillors for checking.

If appointed, to approve the monthly salary payment of the Clerk, until such time as a Standing Order is in place.

**24/93 Date of next meeting**

2 September 2024

**24/94 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.

**24/95** To **APPROVE** appointment of candidate for Parish Clerk and associated costs.

**RESOLVED: Approved to appoint the favoured candidate. All in favour. A three-month trial was proposed by Cllr Davey. All in favour. The purchase of an external hard drive to store Ash Parish Councils records, up to a cost of £80 was proposed by Cllr Caz Halfhide. All in favour**

**The Meeting Closed at 20.30 hrs**