

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd February 2025 at Ash Pavillion.

PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 minutes). There were two members of the public present, no comments were received.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

◆ Somerset Councillors

Cllr J Bailey summarised the February report, the main content dealt with the recent flooding, residents are encouraged to use the contacts provided to obtain flood prevention advice and contacts should premises be flooded. The report and link will be sent to the Clerk for circulation. A request for the drain jetting schedule for Ash Parish from Keir, SC contractor was requested. Cllr Pearlstone has been asked to locate the barriers (purchased by APC) which were placed around the fallen/damaged trees and return to the Bell Inn.

◆ Outside bodies/groups. None present

25/01 To receive apologies for absence and to approve reasons given.

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs S Davey, T Groves, A Brittan, L Andrew & E Pearlstone.

25/02 Declarations of interests. None noted

25/03 To APPROVE and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 6th January 2025. The minutes were approved and signed.

25/04 Matters to report from a previous meeting.

- Martock SID- Cllr A Groves reported that the designated person at Martock is attending to this matter.
- Signage Millennium Wood/play area. Awaiting information from Cllr Brittan. It was suggested that signage indicating that the area is under CCTV surveillance be considered.
- HMRC/payroll arrangements . Clerk is still waiting a response from HMRC
- Pavillion door replacement. Awaiting fitting date from Cllr Brittan
- Tree damage/Burrough Street- Awaiting further update from Cllr Pearlstone
- Auditor update – PATAS had been approached through the Clerk for the 2024/5 Audit. Cllrs approved the appointment. Proposed Cllr Halfhide, seconded Cllr A Groves, Approved.
- Somerset Council, footpath modification orders numbers 11, 13 & 14. Responses had been sent from residents and Cllrs. Somerset Council response was neutral, the matters have been decided, no current access will be affected or removed.
- Precept submission. Clerk reported that the precept request had been submitted.
- VE Day- update re suggested contribution/event. It was suggested that an aluminium ladder to access the Church tower/flagpole may be appropriate. The cost of a V E Day flag is approximately £9.99, Clerk will purchase a flag to be flown on the Church Tower.

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- Playground footpath access update. The comments from a resident were noted. It was agreed to wait for the result of the play ground inspection before any further action is taken.

25/05 Planning decisions report. None to report

25/06: Planning Applications: None to report

25/07 Finance – To **APPROVE** the regular payment schedule as detailed below, regular payments to be reviewed at the AGM or when the payment amount changes, whichever is sooner. Approved. It was agreed to include a 50% payment for the Adobe software used by the Clerk for Parish documentation. Proposed Cllr Halfhide, seconded Cllr England. Approved.

25/08 Finance: To discuss the payment requests as detailed below & minute decisions. Approved and signed

25/09 Finance: To approve & sign the Bank reconciliations - January 2025 to date. Approved and signed

25/10 – Finance: To approve & sign the Bank Statements - January 2025 to date . Approved and signed. Clerk to query recent bank charges with Lloyds and report back.

25/11 – Parish Matters: To consider request for financial support for Village Fete. It was noted that the financial support for the 2024 fete was £250 but was not required. It was agreed to offer the same level of support for the 2025 fete. Proposed Cllr Halfhide, seconded by Cllr A Groves Approved.

Meeting closed at 19.55hrs.

Date of next meeting 3rd March 2025.

Matters for inclusion on the next agenda:

Quote for replacement notice board + solar light above.

Exterior lighting for ramp to Pavilion

Note invoicing report for Pavilion

Review Agenda format.

Schedule of Regular Monthly Payments, for report only.

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Monthly	S Davey	Virtual Landline	£6.50	SO Report
Monthly	R A Evis	Ground Maintenance Sept	£458.33	SO Report
Monthly	KL Bungay	Pavilion cleaning	£102.00	SO Report

Signed: Date:

Payment requests as at 28th January 2025

03/02/25	Clerk	Adobe subs	9.98	
03/02/25	Clerk	Printer supplies	145.00	
03/01/25	A Groves	Christmas expenses	128.20	

Payments made between 02/01/2025

07/01/25	Clerk / HMRC	November/December	157.18	FPO

Signed:.....Date:

Direct Debit payments between 31/12/24- 28/01/25

28/01/25	BRITISH GAS	Utility	164.20	
02/01/25	BT GROUP	Utility	34.46	
17/12/24	BANK CHARGES		9.87	

Signed: Date:

Dog control at Millennium Wood

The management group therefore propose that the PC does not hold a Parishioner consultation exercise at present but instead:

1. Agrees the wording of a "code of conduct" for dog walkers, using one derived from the Woodland Trust model, viz.:

1. Our dog-walking code of conduct

- **Ensure your dog is trained in basic recall. If not, please keep them on a lead at all times.**
- **If your dog is off the lead, please keep them in sight and under control.**
- **Be respectful of other wood users, including other dogs. If the dog approaching is on a lead, put yours on a lead too. Ask people for their consent before allowing your dog to approach them.**
- **Stick to paths when walking your dog to protect precious ground flora and tree roots.**
- **Clear up after your dog and put waste in the bin provided.**
- **If the weather's warm, please provide your dog with water**

1. This has the benefit of explaining what "UNDER CLOSE CONTROL" means. Thanks to Amanda for this suggestion.
2. Agrees the design, purchase and installation of a di-bond sign to replace the existing one and to include the above wording. A second could be installed at the Recreation Ground if required.
3. Invites Parishioners to report any dog related issues to the PC, perhaps through the village website, email or in writing, giving details of incidents such as times/days, dog breed, problem, names.
4. Collates the issues raised over the course of 12 months to review if problems have increased, decreased or stayed the same.
5. Reviews progress in 12 months to see if further changes or a Parishioner consultation exercise is required.

Ash P C gully clearance/maintenance schedule

With regards to the gullies, we don't have a schedule as such but the programme shows that Ash has a mixture of Annual, Biennial and 4 Yearly gullies,.

Main Street gullies are Annual and are due in 2025

Highway are Biennial and are next due 2025

Milton Lane are Annual so due in 2025

Screech Witch Hill, Biennial and are due in 2025

Witcombe Lane, Biennial and are due in 2025

Burrough Street, Four Yearly and are due in 2025

Middle Leaze Dove, Four Yearly and are due in 2025

Ash Croft, Four Yearly and are due in 2025

Martock Lane, Biennial and are due in 2025

I think this covers the whole of Ash Parish and as you can see all gullies in Ash are due in 2025/26, the above detail will allow you to understand the rounds going forward in