

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASHTON HAYES PARISH COUNCIL** held on Monday 13 February 2012 at 8pm.

**PRESENT:** Mrs Pauline Tilley (Chairman), Mrs Naomi Deynem, Mrs Lisa Allman, Mr David Wilson, Mr Dave Lee, Mr Trevor Scadeng, and Jane Colville

**ALSO PRESENT:** 6 members of the public

**135 PUBLIC SPEAKING**

There were 6 members of the public present and the following concerns were raised:

- Cutting down of the shrubs at the garage site in Peel Crescent.
- Improvements to public transport and what if any progress had been made
- Whether the Parish Council was considering producing a Village Design Statement and a Neighbourhood Plan?
- Two cottages in Kelsall Road had the same name 'Rose Cottage' and the owners had received letters of concern from the Council regarding this.
- Trenches had been dug in the field next to Chapel on Ashton Lane and concern was expressed as to whether Archaeologist should have been present?
- Increase in dog fouling in the village, especially in Church Road.
- Increase in vegetation on footpath between Ashton Hayes and Mouldsworth
- Curb stones coming away on the Mouldsworth footpath.
- Pot Holes in Church Road.

**136 APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr Garry Charnock and Mrs Georgina Lloyd Watts.

**137 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**138 MINUTES**

**Agreed: That**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16 January 2012 be approved as a true record.

## 139 FINANCE

The following expenditure was approved in February 2012

100256	Mr Charnock	Reimbursement for website hosting	£351.00
100257	Ashton & Mouldsworth Community shop	refreshments for away day	£33.48
100258	Mrs Forgrave	Jan 13hrs Caretaker	£82.03
100259	Mrs Thwaite	Clerk wages	£310.02
100260	Autela Ltd	Feb payroll	£12.00
100260	HMRC	January TAX A Thwaite	£74.00
100260	HMRC	December Tax A Thwaite	£73.20
100260	United Utilities	8 Oct - 16 Jan charges	£14.63
100260	Ashton Hayes Sports & Rec	Noticeboards	£46.62
100260	scottish power	7 Oct - 23 Jan electricity	£28.06
100260	Adam Hulse	April 40hrs	£265.02
100260	Ashton Hayes Primary school	Hire of Hall	£20.00
100260	cancelled		£0.00
100260	Commonwheels	new Member	£12.00
100260	A Thwaite	Tax feb	£74.00

## 140 INCOME

The following income was received in February 2012:

100075	Chester Society for Landscape History	Hire charges	£12.00
100076	Co=op	GCNP	£40.00
100077	Scrabble Club	Hire charges for Jan 12	£48.00
100078	Thursday Club	hire of hall	£18.00
100079	Playgroup	Hire of hall 6th Oct and 11 Nov	£24.00
100080	Commonwheels	Income from electric car	£56.77
100081	ashworth time bank	Aug - December 2011	£195.00

## 141 PLANNING APPLICATION FOR 15 AFFORDABLE HOMES ASHTON LANE.

The Chairman advised that the public meeting held on Saturday 4 March to gauge the opinions of local residents regarding the proposed plans for 15 affordable homes in Ashton had been a successful event. Approximately 130 people attended and 95% of the residents would support some form of affordable homes in the village but 95% of those in attendance were against Equity Homes' proposals for a number of reasons

A summary of the issues raised during the meeting were as follows:

- That Ashton Hayes Parish Council will be producing their Neighbourhood Plan as they want to have influence in shaping their village.
- Density of the scheme in question
- Safety elements associated with the proposed site in Ashton Lane and in particular concerning b[vehicles and pedestrians
- Lack of public consultation by Equity Homes
- Drainage and flooding issues within the village
- Use of the green belt
- That Ashton Lane is not a straight road despite Equity Homes' plans showing it was.
- Inaccuracies of their planning application
- No pavement on the Chapel side of Ashton Lane.
- No sustainable features in their proposals

The Parish Council had submitted its comments to Cheshire West and Chester Council and had posted them on their website.

The Chairman thanked all the residents for attending the meeting and for their constructive comments.

Councillor Eleanor Johnson proposed that a site meeting with the Council's Case Officer, representatives from the Parish Council, Highways Officer and herself would be beneficial and said she would make the necessary arrangements for it.

AGREED: that

The Parish Council attend a meeting with the Council's Case Officer.

**142 12/00197/CAT- FELLING OF CYPRESS TREES. PADDOCK EDGE DUCK LANE ASHTON HAYES CHESTER.**

Mr Scadeng and Mr Wilson had undertaken a site visit and had no objections to the proposal to fell the Cypress tree.

**143 HIGHWAYS**

The Clerk reported that the pot holes in Church Road had already been reported.

**144 MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT**

The Chairman reported that a motorcyclist had been knocked off his bike in Ashton Lane, opposite the entrance to recreation field by a car pulling out of the car park. No more information was available.

145 **GRANGE ROAD**

The Clerk reported that the Borough Highway's Department had ordered new 'not suitable for heavy vehicles' signs which were to be erected both ends of Grange Road. A clear up of the road had been ordered too.

146 **PARISH COUNCIL AWAY DAY – SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY.**

The Chairman advised that Parish Council's Away Day held on Saturday 11 February had been successful. Lucy Hughes, Principal Planning Officer, had attended to advise the Parish Council on how to produce its Neighbourhood Plan.

The Clerk confirmed that she had thanked Lucy Hughes on behalf of the Parish Council for attending on a Saturday.

147 **DOUBLE TAXATION**

Ms Lloyd-Watts and Mr Wilson had reviewed the consultation documents that Cheshire West and Chester Council had circulated relating to proposals regarding double taxation and Special Expenses. Mr Wilson advised that under the proposals Ashton Hayes residents would receive a refund of £7.37 (based on a Band D property) to cover that fact that they did not directly benefit from play spaces, Police Community Support Officers and Christmas Lights. The Council's Executive was considering the proposals and their decision would be published shortly. If agreed this would take effect next year

148 **KISSING GATES**

The Clerk advised that Cheshire West and Chester Council had agreed to provide three new Kissing Gates for Ashton Hayes but the Parish Council needed written permission from the Land owners of the fields in question before they would install them.

The proposed kissing gates would be located as follow:

Whitegate Lane (at the end)  
Ashton Lane (next to Chapel)  
Duck Lane (behind Land End Farm).

AGREED: That

The Clerk would write to the Landowners in questions to obtain their permission.

149 **NEW VILLAGE FLOWER BEDS**

Councillor Johnson confirmed that she had awarded £400 towards the cost of new flower beds for Ashton Hayes. Mr Scadeng confirmed that the donated York stone from the Vicarage would be used to build new flower beds on the two main entrances to the village. He also advised that the work would be undertaken in March 2012 and the total cost of the project would be £800.00. The gardening club would donate £100.00 to the project and the Parish Council agreed to donate £100 from their 2012/13 budget towards the project too.

AGREED: that

The Clerk to pay the invoice for the work and the cost would be split between:

£400 Councillor Johnson  
£100 Gardening Club  
£100 Parish Council  
£200 to be confirmed

150 **GOING CARBON NETURAL PROJECT**

In Mr Charnock's absence, Pauline Tilley advised that he was on behalf of the Parish Council looking to sell the electric car and was currently trying to find a buyer.

151 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Mr Dave Lee enquired as to what did the Countryside Code say about dogs on public footpaths. Concerns had been raised about incidents of some dogs running loose on the footpaths at Peel Hall Farm and frightening the foals.

Mrs Naomi Deynem enquired as what were the plans for the perimeter footpath at the recreational field. Some residents have experienced concerns about walking on the current surface and that they preferred to walk on grass. They were concerned that the proposed extension could remove the grass which some residents preferred to walk on. Mrs Allman agreed to find out the details behind the proposed extension.

The Clerk confirmed that the Council had cleared all the rubbish from Ashton Lane and that 3 milk bottles had been found. She enquired as to whether Mr Craven was still collecting all the bottles as he had done previously and was the problem of milk bottles being left in Ashton Lane still a live one. Mr Craven was to be asked whether he was still collecting and if so how many he had picked up since the January Parish Council meeting .

Mr Wilson confirmed that the Church was undertaking a litter pick of the village on Saturday. The Clerk expressed some concern over this as the Council was supposed to clean the village via the new contractual arrangements. Mr Wilson will let the Parish Council know how much litter/rubbish was collected on Saturday and the details will be forwarded to the Council.

152 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN DETERMINES URGENT**

The Chairman advised that following the Parish Council Away Day held last Saturday that the following urgent items have arisen:

1. That the Parish Council produce and lead the production of Neighbourhood Plan and that Jane Colville be Project Leader with the help of two other Parish Councillors. Other interested residents be co-opted onto the initial Project Team. Mrs Colville confirmed that an initial planning meeting would be held next week. It was also agreed that all residents needed to be able to be fully engaged with the process though the detail of how this can be arranged has to be thought through

Proposed: Trevor Scadeng  
Seconder: David Wilson  
VOTE: all in favour

2. Due to the number of projects the Parish Council was currently undertaking, it was proposed that the Parish Council increase the number of its Parish Councillors from the current 9. Although any new vacancies would be advertised, the Parish Council agreed that it would seem sensible to co-opt new councillors who had specific skills such as planning.

Proposed: Jane Colville  
Seconder: Naomi Deynem  
VOTE: all in favour

3. The Parish Council will help co-ordinate the Village's Jubilee Celebrations and that Mrs Colville, Mrs Allman and Ms Lloyd-Watts be the Parish Councils representatives. Other volunteers will still needed to help with plans.
4. Following a comment raised at the Public Meeting about the Parish Council getting important messages to residents more quickly in the future and that it should also be trying to engage with the youth of village, it was proposed that the village have its own Facebook page and Twitter account. Mr Charnock and the Clerk are to manage the Parish Council's Social Media developments.

5. The sale of the Golden Lion had fallen through and the Parish Council had put an expression of interest for the Pub in to Punch Taverns. A proper survey on the Golden Lion is being undertaken to inform the Parish Council. It was agreed to invite Kate Harrison to attend March's Parish Council meeting to update the Parish Council on progress in this matter
6. Councillor Johnson advised that a planning application had been submitted to site mobile homes in a field in a neighbouring parish . The Parish Council considered the application on the basis of the information they were given and agreed that the proposals would be detrimental to the open countryside. It therefore agreed to support objection to the planning application as placed by the Parish Council on whose patch this sits

### 153 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was agreed that the date for the next scheduled Parish Council would be Monday 13 March 2012 and that

- Kate Harrison be invited
- Steve Williams – Integrate Transport be invited to attend
- Trevor Scadeng gave his apologies.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm.