

MINUTES OF THE ASHTON HAYES PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The Parish Room, West End, Ashton Hayes. Monday 10 February 2014 at 8.00pm.

PRESENT

Cllr. Jane Colville - Chairman

Cllr Lisa Allman

Cllr Dave Lee

Cheshire West & Chester

Members of the public -

Absent

Acting Clerk

Cllr Naomi Deynem

Cllr Trevor Scaldeng

Cllr Eleanor Johnson

Peter Wolveridge

Cllr Georgina Lloyds -Watts

Richard Salmon.

Cllr Garry Charnock

Ian Dossett

David Clamp

103. APOLOGIES.

Cllr David Wilson - Family Commitments

Resolved unanimously that Cllr Pauline Tilley's recent apologies for illness and family commitments be accepted as bona fide.

104. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS.

The Chairman declared a pecuniary interest in planning application 14/00255/CAT. 3 Carters Cottage, as a neighbour, should the matter be considered.

105. MINUTES

Resolved unanimously that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting, as circulated, held on 13 January 2014 be signed by the Chairman as a correct and true record.

106. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Prior to this meeting at 7.30pm the Chairman, Clerk and several Councillors had held a surgery, an opportunity for members of the public to raise any matters of concern.

Church Road Footway and localised flooding off Church Road had been discussed.

It was also noted that the area in front of the shop was unlit.

107. ACCOUNTS

Resolved unanimously that the Accounts as circulated be accepted and placed as page 31 in the cash book.

Resolved unanimously that the Clerk be paid 45p per mile for travel incurred other than to ordinary meetings of the council.

Resolved unanimously that a grant of £400 be made to Parish Rooms when their bank account is open and noted that £2,000 is earmarked for next year to cover running costs not met by income obtained through Hall Hire charges. .

Resolved unanimously that Council purchase a Contego Digital Listener with 3 receivers from Maloney.it at a cost of £1,009.78 (ex.VAT) for use within the village by user groups. Council agreed that this equipment be insured. It was also noted that a secure box would be sourced in which the equipment could be stored safely. The existence of the equipment will be publicised in Around Ashton and made known to local groups in order that it can be borrowed.

108. INTERNAL AUDIT

Resolved unanimously that Mr Harper Wright be appointed Internal Auditor for the year ending 31/03/14.

109. COUNCIL PROCEDURAL MATTERS

The Clerk reported that whilst he wished to strive for Best Practice, there should be some flexibility; he said that he was concerned with the way council currently responded to planning applications. Council agreed to look at this matter at some point in the future via a workshop/ training event

110. CHURCH ROAD FOOTWAY

Cllr Scadeng agreed to contact the person who council believed to be the land owners, of the land on which footway off Church Road passed, with a view to the council making improvements in respect of lighting and the footpath surface.

111. CODE OF CONDUCT DISPENSATION

Resolved unanimously: That council agree a dispensation for all councillors to participate in the setting of the precept. This dispensation will come into effect immediately.

112. PRECEPT

Resolved unanimously: That council confirms the precept for year 2014/5 at £12,586

113. GREEN WASTE COLLECTIONS

Council were concerned that as part of the Cheshire West & Chester Councils budget proposals for 2014 it was being proposed that there be some discontinuation of Green Waste Collections during winter months over the period from November to February. The Parish Council felt that account should be taken of the amount of leaf fall in late autumn and the period of discontinuation be less. It was suggested that December to February was more realistic. Cllr Johnson agreed to follow up this matter.

114. CHESHIRE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS

Council agreed not to pursue joining the Association at present but to reconsider when the new permanent Clerk is appointed and if there is further movement in respect of the development of a community pub/ facility.

115. SNOW ANGELS

Resolved unanimously: Council continue to act as bankers for the Ashton Hayes Snow Angels.

116. RISK ASSESSMENT

Resolved unanimously: that the circulated Risk Assessment be adopted by council and that it should be regularly reviewed so that any specific and local inclusions can be added.

117. PLANNING

Application 14/00166/FUL. Brookside Cottage. Extension.

Resolved unanimously: Council support this application

Application 14/00255/CAT. 3 Carters Cottages. Felling tree

Council did not consider this application

Application 14/00341/CAT. Grange Cottage. Works to 23 trees.

Resolved unanimously: Council support this application

Application 13/05232/FUL Woodside Farm. Council were concerned to learn that work on this site appeared to be getting close to Common Land, it was noted that the matter had been reported to the planning enforcement officer.

Council also noted that Equity Housing Group had advised that it was planning to submit an application build 15 affordable houses off Ashton Lane and that council had offered to host a joint public meeting with Equity. As of yet Equity had not acknowledged the invitation.

Resolved unanimously: Council accepted the Planning Register to date.

118. PROJECT UPDATES

Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Chairman reported on a successful joint information sharing event between the members of the Neighbourhood Planning Team and the Parish Council. She also referred to the role of Cheshire Community Action who are being commissioned as a 'critical friend' in respect of the plan and the processes underpinning it.

Community Action Programme

Ian Dossett a member of the Neighbourhood Planning team presented proposals (see attached proposal and illustrative example) to the Meeting as to how the NP output both in terms of the content of the formal document and other lesser but important proposals could be managed in the future.

The proposal put forward was for all items to be recorded on a standard set of control sheets split between

- problems
- improvements
- policies
- addressed archive issues

It was also proposed that this can be extended to include other village items such as Parish Council raised matters, Energy Company actions etc. The benefit of this is that a common rigorous transparent approach would be in place for all such matters. This would enable priorities and implications to be considered comparably in terms of what needs to be done.

The key benefits were seen as

- Provides one shared dependable point of reference i.e. one version of the truth
- More accessible as provides appropriate reference to detailed documents rather than having to search them for potential content
- Easier management as information is in one place
- Help prevent items of merit being lost due to more pressing matters
- Means to capture, record, communicate and progress NP items
- Provides a quick reference to the history of items and where to look for more information
- Provides a transparent reliable mechanism rather than relying on who remembers what
- Help balance financial and non financial aspects in terms of resources and what can be gained
- Inform budget setting
- Helps be able to respond to notice of available funds e.g. Woodland trust, footpath scheme
- Provides a mechanism to ensure the latest position re the NP actions can be accessed in future years as progress is made e.g. affordable housing completed at some stage. This will help avoid unnecessary planning.

The proposals were accepted by the PC. Ian Dossett was asked whether he would help set this up and advise re its use over the first year. He agreed to do this.

"The PC formally thanked Ian Dossett and the NP team for the excellent work it has done and its helpful suggestions regarding the Community Action Planning"

The papers as presented by Mr Ian Dossett are inserted at the end of the minutes
Golden Lion – Council noted the CEO response to council’s recent letter. Both are inserted at the end of these minutes.

Notice Board – Council noted that a new notice board was being constructed and the cost would be shared with the shop that will be using half of the Board.

Dementia Friends - Item deferred

119. W.I. HALL

The Chairman advised council that should it proceed with the Right to Bid on this site as there would be no obligation or penalty on them to buy at the end of any action on the part of the owners to put it on the market or subsequent negotiations.

Resolved unanimously: Council register the Right to Bid on the W.I. Hall.

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm

The date of the next meeting 10 March 2014

Signed.....

Date.....

Richard Salmon
11/02/14