

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 20th July 2022

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); R Blackaller; M Carter; N Inzani; B Low; C Sims.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry; Fiona Ryder – Clerk.

The meeting commenced at 7:15pm

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave instruction in the event of a fire alarm.

22-23/42 Public Section

There were no members of public in attendance.

22-23/43 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Crawford, Moran, Smith and Ventham.

22-23/44 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

22-23/45 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 15th June 2022

The minutes of the meeting held on 15th July 2022 were approved and signed.

22-23/46 Actions from Previous Meeting

22-23/030 – The Chairman has responded to the Highways Improvement Request regarding the High Road. The Parish Council have noted the landscaping issues and would like action to be taken. A report has been written by the Council with photos included for the Planning Enforcement Officer. The Parish Council Chairman will meet with residents to discuss.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

Wilts Cllr Berry & Cllr Inzani arrived.

22-23/20a – Happy Land Highway Improvement request has been discussed at Malmesbury Local Highway and Footway Improvement Group (LHFIG) and will be addressed.

Action: Cllr Berry

22-23/35 – The B4696 Road Safety Working Group will report back at the September meeting.

22-23/35a – The Footpaths Working Group Chair has liaised with landowners regarding Footpaths 13 and 14 and arrangements have been made for clearance works.

22-23/31 – Costs have been investigated for planting a tree to commemorate the Queens Platinum Jubilee. Trees cost around £35 - £50 and a plaque will cost around £150. It was agreed to have one tree and a physical plaque. Councillor Sims to liaise with Martin Young regarding type of tree and possible location. It was noted that parishioners had requested wildflowers to go along with the new tree, this will be discussed at a later date. Costs and options to be brought to September meeting.

Action: Cllr Sims

22-23/34 – The new play equipment orders have been placed. One company has made amendments and increased the price. Playing Fields Committee are liaising with the supplier.

22-23/37 – A proposed transport plan for planning application 20/09696/FUL has been passed on to Wiltshire Highways for consideration.

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22-23/47 Chairmans Report

The Chairman thanked organisers of the recently held AK Festival. An email had been received from the Cotswold Lakes Trust regarding the informal lay-by on Rixon Gate/Fridays Ham Lane. Trespassing/poaching issues have been raised along with the blocking of the bridleway. It is not known who the land belongs to. The Parish Council agreed to maintain a neutral stance and speak with the Senior Rights of Way Warden for North Wiltshire to discuss the blocking of the bridleway.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

22-23/48 Clerks Report

The report was circulated prior to the meeting. Ashton Keynes came second in the North Wiltshire and Swindon Large Village Category of the CPRE Best Kept Village Competition. The Church were disappointed with the judge's report as they work hard to maintain the churchyard. It was agreed that the Face-to-Face meetings protocol be amended. 4.8 shall now read 'Parish Council have to ensure the safety of attendees and may limit numbers. It was also agreed to take out the line regarding 'not congregating'.

Action: Clerk

22-23/49 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting. Playing Fields finance is now included in the report. The Chair and Clerk will discuss how to make the report clearer in future.

Income since the last meeting:

AK Charity Grant	£ 2000.00
Playing Fields Hire	£ 1115.10

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Admin to Council	£ 581.01
O2 Mobile Phone	£ 13.40
OSM Contract May	£ 900.00
Cleaning Bradstone	£ 95.00
Spot on Supplies	£ 92.27
TV Licence Bradstone	£ 159.00
Jubilee Celebrations	£ 75.00

Closing balance: £33,965.62

The council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

22-23/50 Playing Field Committee Documents

Draft version 1 of the Playing Fields Policy mentions in 6.3 an Operations Manager, Bookings Secretary and Secretary, however, Terms of Reference only mention a Bookings Secretary. The Clerk explained that a committee should have a Chair and can have a Bookings Secretary if needed but other titles are not necessary. The Parish Council agreed to reword the Terms of Reference to include Operations Manager and Secretary in line with the Playing Fields Policy. The Terms of Reference and Playing Fields Policy were approved with the suggested change.

Action: Clerk

22-23/51 Village Cross

There are four medieval crosses in the village. The base of the cross by the White Hart is in need of attention. Cllr Blackaller volunteered to investigate taking on and managing a project to improve this cross and to see if anything needs to be done to the other village crosses. It was noted that the crosses are listed, and no work can be done on them without the appropriate authorisation. English Heritage will be contacted as a starting point.

Action: Cllr Blackaller

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22-23/52 Phone Box Art Gallery

The Art Gallery is up and running and is actively being used. There is a liability issue with the lease preventing it from being signed. It was made clear that individuals/organisations from outside of the village are allowed to exhibit in the phone box, however, priority should be given to those within the parish. It was noted that a sign was placed in the phone box advertising items for sale and commissions taken, it was agreed that the artists name and contact details should be allowed but no active advertising.

An invoice for expenses was received by the Clerk, the Parish Council agreed to pay £139.99 for expenses as part of the agreement for start up costs. Further invoices supported with receipts would be considered by the council, the council does not reimburse for printing/photocopying.

Action: Clerk

22-23/53 Planning Application PL/2022/04271

Proposal: Change of use from agricultural to enable erection of 2no. commercial holiday lets.

Address: Seymours Farmhouse

Comments: Object

Ashton Keynes Parish Council objects to this planning application primarily because the proposed buildings would be located outside the Ashton Keynes Settlement Boundary. It is noted, though, that it is intended that the two proposed buildings will be used as holiday homes and not for permanent residential accommodation. Therefore, should Wiltshire Council be minded to approve this application, Ashton Keynes Parish Council requests that a condition that states the property is to be occupied no more than 140 days per annum (a standard break-point for holiday accommodation), so as to provide sufficient safeguard.

22-23/54 Planning Application PL/2022/04411

Proposal: Erection of Dwelling

Address: Land at Kent End

Comments: Object

Ashton Keynes Parish Council objects on the grounds that section 1 of Wiltshire Council decision notice relating to application 20/01181/FUL is still valid, despite the latest changes in the design of the building. The council also cites reasons for objecting given by Ms Caroline Ridgewell - Senior Conservation Officer.

22-23/55 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- a) **Planning**
Minutes and Agenda for planning meetings continue to be circulated to all.
- b) **Flood Risk** – Nothing to report
- c) **Internal Affairs** – Nothing to report.
- d) **Village Hall** – Nothing to report.
- e) **Playing Fields Committee** – Nothing to report.
- f) **Cotswold Lake Trust** – Filming has now finished; the site is being reinstated and footpaths have all reopened. There is a Scarecrow trail on 20th August. A 10k Run and Family Fun Day will be advertised in September.
- g) **Police** – Nothing to report.
- h) **Highways** – Nothing to report.
- i) **Footpaths & Cycle Routes** – The Senior Rights of Way Warden for North Wiltshire is visiting tomorrow to meet with the Chair of the Footpath and Cycle Routes Working Group. A report will be provided for the September meeting. 2 complaints have been received, one regarding a bridleway which has been checked and no problems found. The Footpath from Jennie's Kitchen to Fox Cottage is now ok.
- j) **Ashton Keynes Charities** – Nothing to report.

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- k) **Parochial Church Council** – The Church Fete will be held on 11th September.
- l) **Phone Box Project** – Nothing to report.
- m) **Speed Mitigation** – Nothing to report.
- n) **Millennium Green** – Nothing to report.

22-23/56 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to contact the Clerk with any items to be put forward for the agenda and to submit any reports for the Committees, Working Groups and Representatives section at least 10 days in advance of the next meeting.

22-23/57 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be 21st September 2022 at Ashton Keynes Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 9.43pm.