

DRAFT MINUTES

2024/015



ASHENDON PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held in the Village Hall.

Monday 24th June 2024 at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Councillors: Les Curtis (**LC**), Fiona Jacobs (**FJ**), Chris Rand (**CR**), and Venetia Davies (**Clerk and RFO**).

Parishioners: Richard Phillips was present.

Parishioners Question Time (PQT).

There were no questions. Thanks were paid to Andy Theobald for repairing the light in the car park.

1. Apologies

Luke Jamieson (**LJ**), Sian Miller (**SM**) and Ashley Waite (**AW**).

2. Approval of Minutes – Monday 20th May 2024

The Draft Minutes of the May meeting were accepted as a true record and signed by Chair, Chris Rand.

3. Matters Arising

- **Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Elm.** **ACTION: CR to clear a patch of briars and plant.**
- **Defibrillator.** The new IPADSPR defibrillator has now been installed at the Village Hall. Thanks were paid to Kevin Nash. **ACTION: CLERK to list on Asset Register.**
- **Ultrafast Broadband.** Ongoing.
- **Assistance with the APFA playground inspection.** The Parish Council resolved that the APFA were best placed to instruction the inspection.
- **Parish Council Insurance.** **ACTION: CR/LJ to review.**

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no interests declared.

5. PC Governance

The new Financial Regulations were approved together with the Biodiversity Policy. Subject to a final draft, the Parish Council agreed the Grants Policy (permitting the power to make more substantial donations to community organisations). **ACTION: CLERK to upload on the website.**

6. Ashendon Village Pub Initiative

The Community Share Offer was launched on Friday 21st June and was very well attended. A six-week window for the purchase of shares has been set (to 6th August). Shares are £100 and the minimum is one. A total of £160k has been received in pledges. A minimum of £200k is required but the target is preferably £300k. The Parish Council commended the Steering Group for its continued efforts.

DRAFT MINUTES

2024/016

7. Contributions from Buckinghamshire Councillor

There were no contributions.

8. Reports from Councillors attending meetings and outside organisations.

There were none.

9. Correspondence

Community Impact Bucks. An invitation to an online rural housing enabling service Q&A. The aim of this service is to improve the housing situation in rural communities, by supporting parish councils in Buckinghamshire to address their local affordable housing needs. The Parish Council agreed to decline.

10. Speed Safety Projects

- **HS2 Road Safety Fund** (third and final tranche). The Speed Watch team have prepared an application for a new SID which is completely programmable. The response from Judith Wainwright (HS2 Safety Fund) has been very encouraging. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to support the application. **ACTION: CLERK to submit application and circulate insurance to Richard Philips to ensure adequate cover. CLERK to arrange meeting with Colin Woolford and Richard Phillips to discuss road markings and other traffic calming measures.**
- **Wotton Road footpath.** CR has met with one contractor and is awaiting quotation. **ACTION: CR to arrange site visit with two further contractors for quotations and potentially apply for funding to Community Fund.**

11. Trees on Parish Land

ACTION: CR to produce a tree register of trees on Parish land and inform any associated works including inspection of trees on Wotton Road (and contact land agent for Thames Water if necessary).

12. Children's Play Activity

Clare Cook has kindly agreed to arrange and co-ordinate a children's play activity and will notify the PC of date and arrangements. **ACTION: CLERK to promote.**

13. Finance

- a. **Balance from Minutes of previous meeting (20th May 2024): £49,570.53**
 - **Receipts: £625.10** (Bucks Council Devolution Grant)
 - **Debits: £299.00** (Clerk Salary)
 - **Plus unrepresented BACS: £996.12** (Venetia Davies £18.90, JE Accountants - £240.00, BALC - £42.42, Sparkx Ltd - £636.00, ARG Compulink - £58.80).
 - **Less standing orders: £64.22** (Hugo Fox - £11.99, Npower - £52.23)
 - **Balance of Bank Account: £50,828.53** (as at 23rd May 2024)
Available Funds: £49,832.41 (balance of bank account less unrepresented BACS)

DRAFT MINUTES

2024/017

b. **Orders for Payment: £1,720.82**

- **Venetia Davies - £9.45** (Clerk travel)
- **Clear Councils Insurance - £409.43** (to ratify payment made)
- **MRA Garden Services - £270.00** (Grass cutting - June)
- **Well Medical - £1,031.94** (£850.00 + £9.95 shipping + £171.99 VAT) – New Defibrillator for Village Hall.
- **BALANCE: £48,111.59** (Available Funds less Orders for Payment)

c. **Management Report.** The Management Report for June was circulated.

14. Planning

There were no new planning applications to consider.

15. Items for Information including Diary Dates:

- **Grass Cutting schedules:** Verges - 26/07, 03/09, 15/10/2024.
- **Ashendon Pub in the Park Rounders Competition** - Saturday 29th June 2024.
- **CLG meeting** - Monday 8th July at 6pm (in person or by Teams).

16. Date and Time of Next Meeting:

Monday 9th September 2024 at 7.30pm in Ashendon Village Hall