

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 21st June 2023

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); R Blackaller; M Carter; S Crawford; S Hill; N Inzani; C Sims; D Ventham.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk. Fourteen members of public.

23-24/038 Public Section

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. One member of public had attended to give a presentation relating to agenda item 44, Planning Application PL/2023/03298. All other members of public had attended with an interest in Agenda item 43 and 44, it was agreed to move the items up the agenda.

23-24/039 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Low and Smith.

23-24/040 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23-24/041 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 17th May 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 17th May 2023 were approved and signed.

23-24/044 Planning Application PL/2023/03298

A presentation was given, a copy of which is attached to these minutes. It was agreed to produce and deliver a flyer around the village, to include a report in the newsletter and raise awareness on social media giving information for anyone wanting to comment on the application.

23-24/043 Planning Application PL/2023/03359

South Cerney Parish Council were represented at the meeting. A previous discussion had been had regarding the application and a potential response has been drafted. The Parish Council voted unanimously in favour of objecting to the application.

Action: Clerk

23-24/042 Actions from Previous Meeting

23-24/018 – Comments had been received at last month's meeting that the village was looking a tired mess, since then we have come second in our category of the Best Kept Village Competition. It had also been reported that a wall had been knocked down opposite Ellisons, this is in hand and will be repaired.

22-23/110 – Landscaping at Wheatleys Farm development, no further update. Cllr Berry will provide a quarterly update.

Action: Cllr Berry

22-23/114b – Lake 82 ditch works, no progress to report. Carried forward.

Action: Cllr Berry

22-23/138 – Speed Mitigation Group Terms of reference need to be produced – carried forward.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

23-24/27 – A notice of vacancy has been published following the resignation of Cllr Moran.

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23-24/027a - Following a complaint regarding the state of the bank at Happy Land, the Clerk has arranged for Wiltshire Council Highways to visit with the tractor to cut down the vegetation and will obtain quotes to improve the bank.

Action: Clerk

23-24/027b – Chairman to contact Oaksey Parish Council regarding a consulting company for the Neighbourhood Plan.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

23-24/032 – The Clerk has responded to the Highway Improvement Request discussed at last months meeting. The condition of the road will be reported to Wiltshire Council Highways.

Action: Cllr Crawford

23-24/045 Chairmans Report

Mr David Tarr has been recognised in the King’s Birthday Honours List and has been awarded the Medal of Order of the British Empire (BEM). The Council congratulated Mr Tarr on his award.

We currently have one Councillor vacancy and Cllr Sims has given notice that she intends to stand down in September.

Ashton Keynes came second in the North Wiltshire and Swindon Large Village Section of the Best Kept Village Competition. Although we will not be going through to the county-wide final, this is still a commendable result. Thanks were given to Cllr Ventham for completing the entry.

CIL money has been received from Wiltshire Council relating to the AB Carter site.

The noticeboard is in need of replacement, Clerk will look into a replacement.

Action: Clerk

23-24/046 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Income since the last meeting:

HMRC VAT Reclaim	£ 5328.70
Playing Fields Invoice 459	£ 66.00

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Admin to Council	£ 636.31
Mobile Phone Contract	£ 13.01
Village Hall Hire	£ 81.00
Internal Audit	£ 25.00
Bradstone Cleaning	£ 62.52
OSM Contract	£ 990.00

The council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

23-24/047 Playing Fields Committee Terms of Reference

The terms of reference were approved.

23-24/048 Playing Fields Committee Policy Document

The policy document was approved.

23-24/049 Playing Field Committee Quotes and Invoices

The final invoice for repair works following an insurance claim at Bradstone has been received, awaiting confirmation that the works have been completed.

Only one quote has been received so far for replacement flooring.

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23-24/050 New Play Equipment Project Update

Playdale have confirmed that the zip wire at the High Road was installed incorrectly. Work started this week to rectify the problem and Playdale have assured that the Zip Wire will be up and running in time for the School Summer Holidays.

Additional resource has been identified to complete the additional Mound at the High Road. A working party has been arranged to finish the levelling of the mound, install the slides and get the area turfed. It is hoped this will be completed before the start of the School Summer Holidays with all cordons removed.

A separate working party has been arranged to install the new slide and balance beams at The Lotts Play Area, this work has started and is due to be completed within two weeks.

There are two further items of equipment to be installed at the High Road, however, the location is yet to be confirmed. Work on this will most likely not start until after the Summer Holidays to ensure that no further disruption is made.

The Community Landfill application needs to be completed; the Playing Fields Committee will action this as soon as possible.

An update will be included in the newsletter.

23-24/051 Risk Assessment

The risk assessment was approved.

23-24/052 Appointment/Confirmation of Parish Council Representatives

Cllr Carter was confirmed as the representative of Wiltshire Councils Operational Flood Working Group.

A representative for the Village Hall will be discussed at July's meeting.

23-24/053 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- a) Planning Committee (MS) – Minutes and Agenda circulated.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee (CS) – nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (PM) – nothing to report.
- d) Playing Fields Committee (SC/PM) – covered by agenda items.
- e) Cotswold Lake Trust (BL) – nothing to report.
- f) School Governors (SC) – nothing to report.
- g) Police (DW) – nothing to report..
- h) Highways (SC) – nothing to report.
- i) Footpaths, Cycle Routes and Watercourses (BL) – nothing to report.
- j) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – nothing to report.
- k) Parochial Church Council (BL) – nothing to report.
- l) Speed Mitigation (RB) – nothing to report.
- m) Millennium Green (NI) – nothing to report.
- n) B4696 Road Safety – Wiltshire Council Highways arranged for the trees to be assessed by their contractor and a report was received. The two priority trees have been removed. We are continuing to push Wiltshire Council to remove the priority two trees and see if we can get the two trees on Thames Water land removed at the same time. The felled dead tree has been left as a stump in the ground which should help long term to limit parking.
New poles and pedestrian crossing signs have been installed and the line painting will be carried out before the end of the week.
Tree removal, hedge cutting, and further measures identified by the working group will continue to be raised with LHFIFG.
Improved signage on the Thames Path will be investigated along with improvements to the gates.

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The location for new village gates is being pursued with a proposal to be brought to the Parish Council in July.
We have been invited to send data from the SID to the Police to enable them to see where and when speeding is a problem.

23-24/054 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.

23-24/055 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 19th July 2023 in the main hall of the Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 9.05pm.