

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 17th January 2024 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); G Carter; S Crawford; S Hill; N Inzani; B Low; M Low; T Romback; D Ventham.

In attendance: Wilts Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk, one member of public.

23-24/145 Public Section

One member of public was in attendance to bring to the attention of the Council, water coming down the footpath from Mill Field to Church Walk. There was a similar issue four years ago, a parishioner had written to Wiltshire Council who responded explaining that the adjacent landowner was responsible for the path. The Parish Council will contact the landowner.

Action: Clerk

It was also brought to the attention of the Council that an arch bridge near Mill House was falling into the river. The Council was asked to find out when the bridges were last inspected.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

23-24/146 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr M Carter.

23-24/147 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23-24/148 Parish Council Vacancies

There is still one vacancy, Councillors were asked to spread the word. The vacancy will be included in the newsletter.

23-24/149 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13th December 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 13th December 2023 were approved and signed.

23-24/150 Actions from Previous Meeting

23-24/103 – Cllr Inzani will raise the Tree Warden role at an upcoming meeting of the Millennium Green.

Action: Cllr Inzani

23-24/133 – Planning comments have been submitted; a planning committee meeting has been arranged for Monday 22nd January at Bradstone Pavilion.

22-23/110 – The Planning Support Officer has responded to Cllr Berry regarding landscaping at Wheatley's Farm development. The developer has been advised that any trees planted are likely to die due to the ground being built up with stone, they will look into alternative planting.

23-24/151 Chairmans Report

The Wheatley's Farm Gravel Extraction application has been refused, there is six months to appeal the decision. Thanks were expressed to all who helped with the objection.

The application for restoration of a building in The Derry has also been refused.

Footpath 41 was recently reinstated but had not been fully clear to walk the entire length. The Millennium Green had concerns about damage being caused by people diverting off the path. The Millennium Green Trust contacted the landowner, and the footpath is now clear. Thanks will be expressed to the landowner.

Action: Clerk

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

The Cullimore Group have been carrying out works to footpaths to ensure that they are clear for use. This includes on the Thames Path towards Lower Mill where the footpath was being eroded due to fallen trees. Thanks will be expressed in the newsletter and by email.

Action: Clerk

Chairman gave apologies for the February meeting, Cllr Crawford will chair the meeting.

23-24/152 Clerks Report

A significant sum of money has been received, this is now known to be CIL money. A plan will need to be put in place to spend the money.

A tree survey has been carried out at the High Road playing field, the report has been forwarded to the Playing Fields Committee.

A complaint has been received regarding people trespassing on private land rather than sticking to footpaths, also bikes/electric bikes using footpaths. A reminder will be included in the newsletter.

23-24/153 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Lloyds

Income since the last meeting:

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Village Hall Hire	£ 30.00
Outreach Post Office	£ 780.00
O2 Mobile Phone	£ 13.20
OSM Contract Oct/Nov/Dec	£2970.00
HMRC	£ 48.57
Payroll Compliance	£ 12.54
Bradstone Cleaning	£ 113.36
Sharples Tree Services	£ 500.00
Cllr Training Travel Expenses	£ 25.20

Unity

Income since the last meeting:

Interest £ 695.26

Expenditure since the last meeting:

Account Fees £ 18.00

The council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

23-24/154 Village Hall Grant

During budget discussions last month the council had made a decision regarding the Village Hall Grant, however, we received a second request for more money and it was agreed that more information was needed. The Chairman and Clerk met with The Chairman and Treasurer of the Village Hall Committee to discuss finances. The Village Hall Committee want their annual grant to be called a maintenance grant and the extra request was a cut and paste from a previous years request.

The Village Hall, being an old building, will eventually reach a stage where investing substantial funds for its upkeep becomes impractical. Both Chairmen agreed to revive a sinking fund for long term use on the Village Hall.

23-24/155 Playing Fields Committee

All orders and invoices for new equipment have been put together in an electronic document, this will continue to be added to. The Committee have not yet met to discuss risk assessments and maintenance schedules. A meeting is due next month, all outstanding issues will be raised.

A zip-wire specialist has been contacted and stated that the average speed should be 7 metres per second. The Play Inspection company will be providing further advice, they have stated that the height of the take off wire should be 4.7mtrs and the landing wire 3.25mtrs to give an industry standard gradient of 1.5mtrs. The zip-wire installed at the High Road currently has a 0.6mtr gradient.

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

An independent party is needed to inspect the zip-wire and provide a report, this is being investigated.

It was noted that another local parish have the same issues with a zip-wire, also installed by Playdale. Clerk will make contact.

Action: Clerk

There is no longer any orange tape at the playing fields, safety barriers are fully installed. A frame climber has been installed and mulched around. Phase one is now complete. Thanks were recorded for Martin Young, Sam Crawford and the many volunteers who have managed to get the project to the end of phase one.

23-24/156 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- a) Planning Committee () – Nothing to report.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee () – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (BL) – Nothing to report.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (ML) – Nothing to report.

It was noted that the Parish Council will be contacted regarding the changing of the name of the Cotswold Water Park.

- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (DW) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC) – Nothing to report.

It was noted that lots of signs are currently down due to the amount of rain from recent storms. All signs need to be reported via MyWiltshire. Parishioners are to be asked to report damaged signs.

Action: Clerk

- h) Footpaths, Cycle Routes and Waterways (BL) – nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council (BL) – Nothing to report.
- k) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- l) B4696 Road Safety (SC) – Nothing to report.

23-24/157 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.

23-24/158 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 21st February 2024 at 7:15 p.m. at Ashton Keynes Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 8.49pm