

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held at Bradstone Pavilion on Thursday 9th April 2026 at 7.30pm

Present: Cllrs S Crawford – Chairman; M Carter; N Inzani; T Romback; A Tindall; A Ellis; M Jeffery; C McMurtry; K Grieves.

In attendance: Wiltshire Cllr Berry, Fiona Ryder – Clerk, 2 x Members of Public.

26-27/001 Public Section

One member of public had been invited to provide further information on a later agenda item. One member of public did not wish to address the Council.

26-27/002 Co-option

There were no interested parties, the vacancy will continue to be advertised.

26-27/003 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Young.

26-27/004 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

26-27/005 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 12th March 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2026 were approved and signed.

26-27/006 Actions from Previous Meetings

25-26/151 – SLCC annual membership has been renewed.

25-26/152 – New bank signatory has been set up.

25-26/154 – No comment on previously presented planning applications have been submitted.

26-27/007 Chairmans Report

The Village Hall management committee have written to advise of rising costs for the Outreach Post Office. This will be added as an agenda item for next month's meeting.

Immediate remedial work to the electrical installation at Bradstone Pavilion is required. Works will take place next Thursday/Friday. It was noted that as part of the remedial works, the driveway lights will be disconnected and will require further investigation.

Minety Parish Council have asked for assistance on identifying some flooding issues that are affecting properties on the Ashton Road, they are specifically interested in any blockages at the "Three Bridges". The request will be passed to the Footpaths, Rights of Way and Waterways Working Group for comment. Minety PC have also produced a comprehensive document regarding potholes and the state of the roads in and around their parish. Works to repair the worst of the potholes has started and Wiltshire Council has confirmed that it will carry out works to repair the sinking section of the Ashton Road near to the Three Bridges. The document produced by Minety PC will be shared with all Councillors for their comments on the proposal to carry out the same for Ashton Keynes.

Action: All Councillors

Following consultation for proposed 'No Waiting at any time' on a section of the B4696 around the Thames Crossing, Wiltshire Council have confirmed that requests for further

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restrictions were received and it will now be necessary for a report to be placed before the Cabinet Members for Highways. Councillor Berry will request further information.

Action: Cllr Berry

26-27/008 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Income since the last meeting:

Expenditure since the last report:

Scribe	£ 84.00
Open Space Maintenance	£1980.00
02 Mobile Phone	£ 30.84
Payroll Services	£ 26.36
Lloyds Bank Charges	£ 8.50
Website Support	£ 773.61
AK Mother & Toddler Group Grant	£ 500.00
SLCC Annual Membership	£ 200.00

Playing Fields

Income since the last meeting

Hire £ 222.00

Expenditure since the last report:

Bradstone Cleaning	£ 240.00
H&S Supplies	£ 49.41
YGP Electricity	£ 225.52
Swindon Fire Protection	£ 660.00
Hills Waste	£ 298.08
Castle Water	£ 10.91
Noticeboard & Supplies	£ 124.19

The Council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

26-27/009 Water Testing Kit

The Parish Council approved the request from Cotswold Rivers Trust for funding of one water testing kit at a total cost of £60.

Action: Clerk

26-27/010 White Hart Inn

In 2024 the Parish Council became aware of potential receipt of a significant sum of CIL funds. At the time the owner of the White Hart (building, not the landlords), was experiencing financial issues. Investigations into the feasibility of a potential future purchase of the pub by the Parish Council were carried out in the background, and an independent valuation was sought. At the time it was agreed not to pursue the matter any further. This information was not made public at the time due to the sensitive nature.

The village currently has a fully functioning pub that is listed as an Asset of Community Value.

26-27/011 Playing Fields Committee

Quotes had been provided for new equipment at The Lotts and High Road play areas. The castle climbing frame is currently unsafe, quotes for a replacement had been provided.

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Further clarification on the quotes was requested and it was agreed to move the agenda item to the next meeting.

Action: Clerk

26-27/012 CIL Working Group

The working group had proposed a further village consultation and had provided documents prior to the meeting. The Parish Council approved the circulation of a survey subject to agreed changes being made, and printing costs of £272.50.

Action: Clerk

26-27/013 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

To respond to any questions relating to reports circulated prior to the meeting.

- a) Planning Committee (AT) – Minutes and Agendas circulated. The planning committee is in need of additional members.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee () – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (MC) – A report was circulated prior to the meeting. The VHMC have agreed a rise of 10% on booking charges from 1st May. The AGM was held on 25th March. A meeting with the Village Hall Management Committee Chairman and Treasurer, Parish Council representative, Chairman and Clerk was held earlier this evening, a report will be provided for the next meeting.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (MJ) – Nothing to report.
- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (SC) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- h) Footpaths, Rights of Way and Waterways () – Nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council () – Nothing to report.
- k) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- l) B4696 Road Safety (SC/AE) – Nothing to report.
- m) CIL Funds (TR) – Covered as an agenda item. Minutes of the latest meeting had been circulated.
- n) WC Operational Flood Risk Working Group (MC) – Nothing to report.

26-27/014 Matters for the next meeting

Noted items were the increase in costs for the Outreach Post Office and the decision on new play equipment.

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.

Proposals for the Council need to include sufficient information for the Council to be able to make an informed decision.

26-27/015 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 7th May, 7.30pm at Bradstone Pavilion.

The meeting concluded at 8.40pm.