

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); M Carter; M Cooper; A Seymour; M Seymour; E Tidmarsh; R Thomas; K Winstone.

In attendance: The Clerk, Unitary Cllr C Berry, PC S Harvey

Prior to the meeting PC Harvey gave a brief report on main issues within the Parish. There had been dwelling burglaries, in Eastfield and The Lotts, with similarities in methodology and targeted items. High value bikes had been targeted during the summer and it would be advisable for those previously affected to be vigilant as replacement bikes could be vulnerable. The message continues to be: if unsure about certain activities, make the police aware. Speed continues to be an issue along the B4696 and the situation is being monitored. The problems caused at pick-up and drop off times, outside the school, is being proactively worked on, with pupil involvement, and a request to Wiltshire Highways to refurbish road markings in that area. The availability of road caution signage in bad weather would need to be taken up with Wiltshire Highways.

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11 December 2013

2013/141 Apologies for absence accepted by the Council

Cllrs S Jefferson, B Ellison, A Stefanovic

2013/142 Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda

There were no Declarations of Interest

2013/143 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 13 November 2013

The minutes to the meeting held on 13 November 2013 were confirmed

2013/144 Matters to Report

- The application by the Ski Club at Lake 37 to amend clause 9 has been actioned by Cllr Berry with confirmation that should Wiltshire Planning Officers are mindful to permit the amendment, it has been requested to go to committee.
- As a result of the tree survey, it has been confirmed that only the trees that are the responsibility of the village have been surveyed, the horse chestnuts surrounding the Bradstone Playing Fields being the responsibility of Fields in Trust. Those trees requiring work are to be checked by councillors and tenders sought.
Action: Cllr E Tidmarsh, The Clerk
- The Council confirmed that a Parish Council entry of 'No Objection' should be submitted regarding Planning Application 13/05914/FUL

2013/145 Chairman's Report

The Chairman reported on activities undertaken since the last meeting.

- Issues log: it appeared that some councillors had found it difficult in accessing the Issues Log, but several had viewed the log without difficulty. Passwords may be required to be reset and access permissions may need to be re-granted by Cllr Jefferson.
- Following the clearance of vegetation surrounding the pumping station in Gosditch, Thames Water had agreed to consider making alternative arrangements to hide the eyesore. To date, nothing had occurred. It was agreed that the Council should contact Steve Rapkins of Thames Water for an update on the situation.

Action: Cllr R Thomas, The Clerk

- Geoff Winslow had said that he would forward a map to confirm areas in the Village which are owned by Wiltshire Council. The map has not yet been received.

2013/146 Clerk's Report

The paper containing the clerk's report had been circulated previously. Points to note included: Acknowledgement of receipt of the grants to the Ashton Keynes Playing Fields, the Millennium Green Trust, the Parochial Church Council and the Village Hall Management Committee had been received.

The results of the tree survey had indicated that several trees were in need of attention and the Council confirmed further action would be required.

Steve Leonard, Rights of Way Officer, will be asked to check out the footpath between the Church Walk cross and river bank. Prior to the duck race, the Council will undertake a risk assessment and report its findings to the organisers so they are aware of the problem and marshal accordingly.

Action: Cllr A Seymour, The Clerk

A worksheet depicting the dates the new Community Steward would be in the area had been received.

There were several reports forwarded to Wiltshire Council via 'the 'My Wiltshire' App. There has been a moderate success rate using the facility.

The use of Section 106 monies for enhancement to the High Road playground equipment is to be reviewed and there will also need to be consultation with the local residents.

Action: Cllr S Jefferson, The Clerk

There had been no road signs identified as unnecessary within the Parish and a report to that effect will be forwarded to Wiltshire Council.

Action: The Clerk

2013/147 Financial Report

The financial report had been circulated previously. This was in the form of income received and expenditure on a month by month calculation, which was compared with the budget set for the year.

Expenditure in November that exceeded £500 were:

➤ Clerk's employment costs (gross)	£607.43
➤ Ashton Keynes Playing Fields	£3,000.00
➤ Ashton Keynes Village Hall	£1,500.00
(included £500 contribution to the rental costs incurred by the Pre-School)	
➤ Parochial Church Council	£1,000.00
➤ Millennium Green Trust	£500.00

Income received

- Not available when the agenda had been sent, however the interest received in November was £5.04

The council requested a year end forecast for the next meeting.

Action: The Clerk

2013/148 Planning Application

- **13/02911/FUL (revised)**
Proposal: Demolition of existing bungalow & erect two dwellings
Address: 6a Park Place

The council reviewed the revised plan and considered the improved designs. However, the loss of single storey dwellings in the village, contrary to the results of the housing survey undertaken by Wiltshire Council, caused concern. The Parish Council would favour two single storey dwellings on the site to maintain the openness of the area. Two storey dwellings neither preserve nor enhance the scene. Concerns were raised over the access of the site for one dwelling from the High Road.

Action: Cllr R Thomas, The Clerk

2013/149 Confirmation of Parish views on potential development

- **Cotswold Community**
- **Church Farm**

Following discussions at the recent Planning meeting, the Chairman had written and circulated papers outlining the Council's views on these potential developments. The Council resolved to approve these papers and agreed that they should form the basis of letters to be sent to the respective developers.

Action: The Chairman

2013/150 Update on winter emergency planning, Cllr B Ellison

Cllr Ellison had issued his report prior to the meeting.

Cost of additional rock salt had been sourced and the best price £126 per ton (delivered)

The favoured option for storage would be by the Bradstone Pavillion and covered with a tarpaulin.

The Council is to seek approval for this from the Playing Fields Committee.

Action: Cllr S Jefferson, The Clerk

The use of a tractor and grit spreader would only be viable with a minimum of ten tons and the hire of a tractor would need to be sourced. Cllr Ellison has volunteered to maintain the worst effected areas, sourced as

Happy Lands

The shop

The school

Richmond court slope

Centre cross by the white hart

Door to the post office

Doctors path village hall

Other areas by request if salt is available.

A reminder is to be issued in the Parish Newsletter reminding people of the danger areas leaving or accessing the village on icy days that don't get salted.

There are only six ways to do this of entering or leaving the village by road, from the highest risk:

1. Happy lands through to Waterhay to Cricklade cross roads (very bad)
2. Fridays Ham Lane to the spine road (very bad)
3. Cox's Hill (bad at the top of the hill)
4. Gosditch
5. The Derry
6. Stone bridge

Action: Cllr B Ellison, The Clerk

2013/151 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- Planning Committee, the minutes had been circulated.
- Footpaths - no report
- Grant and Finance – since the last meeting when the Council resolved to adopt the draft budget based on no top up grant from Wiltshire Council, confirmation had been received, from Wiltshire Council, that the top up grant, equal to 65% of the grant for 2013-14, would be available. The council resolved to accept the grant and raise the precept to £32,770.63 which will total the income to £33,650.
The proposal was to apply for a total precept of £33,650.
Proposer: Cllr D Wingrove, Seconder: Cllr E Tidmarsh
For: Unanimous

Action: The Clerk

- Village Halls – re-iterated their thanks for the grant
- Memorials – no report
- Aggregates – to confirm an arrangement of a visit to the site on the B4696, a minerals meeting to take place within the first three months of 2014
Action: Cllrs B Ellison, E Tidmarsh
- Playing Fields – sourcing of benches and tables for the High Road had commenced and further investigation regarding use of Section 106 monies to be undertaken.
Action: Cllrs E Tidmarsh, K Winstone
- Emergency Planning – emergency planning templates had been received and a meeting to be convened in January 2014.
Action: Cllr A Seymour
- School – no report
- Cotswold Water Park – Cllr Stefanovic had attended the CWP meeting for Parishes associated within the Water Park area. Progress had been made on the misappropriation of funds and while £23,000 had been recovered, CWP had already spent £59,000 on legal costs. CWP are selling one of the MR grants houses which should be completed by January 2014. CWP are continuing to improve sites, income and relationship with the RSPB. No work on the Cleveland lakes as CWP has only had a 2% control and the Reed Hide has had to be closed due to vandalism. The Riverside Car Park has been refurbished, grants from Natural England. Mink have returned to the water park. The new caterers at the Gateway Centre have been in post for 18 months and appear to be doing well. For the future, improvements to the rivers, enhancement to Neigh Bridge Country Park and development of education programmes. The Keynes Country Park is to be handed back to CWP Dec 2016 and may be looking for a company to run the Park, but no decision has been made.

2013/152 Neighbourhood Planning update

Councillors had attended a workshop at Devizes, which led to further clarity of the procedures and confirmed that focus groups do not need to make elements complicated nor over elaborate.

A spreadsheet had been designed indicating the progress to date, the success of Wiltshire Council approval of the plan and the application of a bid for a grant of £7,000 to Locality for further development work on the plan. The result of the bid should be known by early January 2014. If successful, the funds will enable the work on the Plan to continue through to December 2014.

Flyers for an amenities questionnaire had been issued through the Parish magazine, are to be handed out at the duck race and to parents at the school in order to have an inclusive view from the parish.

The council extended its thanks to Cllr M Carter for his dedication and extensive hard work put in to ensuring the ongoing momentum of the project and success to date.

2013/153 Ashton Keynes Charity appointment of Nominative Trustees from the Parish Council

The Council had been notified that Cllr R Thomas had completed his fourth year as trustee to the Ashton Keynes Charity and, in line with the Charity's governing document, the Parish Council are required to maintain a presence of two councillors on the Charity's Board of Trustees. Cllr Thomas has agreed to return for a further term of office.

Proposal to nominate Cllr R Thomas, as the council's representative, to the Board of the Ashton Keynes Charity.

Proposer: Cllr M Seymour, Seconder: Cllr A Seymour

For: Unanimous

Action: The Clerk

The meeting was concluded at 9.12pm

The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 8 January 2014 at 7:15pm

Signed:

Date:

Dave Wingrove Chairman