

# *Ashton Keynes Parish Council*

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); M Carter; B Ellison; A Seymour; M Seymour; A Stefanovic; E Tidmarsh; R Thomas; K Winstone

In attendance: The Clerk, Unitary Cllr C Berry, Aaron Smith (Fowler Architecture and Planning Ltd), Terry Klee

Prior to the meeting Aaron Smith gave a presentation proposing plans on behalf of the Trust concerning Rixon Farm, Rixon Gate. The proposals indicated the acknowledgement of the listed buildings in situ and the intention to keep within the ambiance of the area. Members of the Council raised questions surrounding the number of dwellings proposed and nature of the building materials. Mr Smith confirmed that the farmhouse would be restored with no external alterations, the listed barn and cow byres would conform with previously approved planning and the more modern farm units demolished with a courtyard of three further dwellings, materials would be in keeping with the area but the plans were at a very early stage and his company wanted to inform the Parish Council in order to keep them involved with the process. Cllr Wingrove thanked Mr Smith for his presentation.

Mr Smith and Mr Klee left the meeting.

## **Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 12 February 2014**

### **2014/011 Apologies for absence accepted by the Council**

Cllr M Cooper

### **2014/012 Declarations of Interest in items on the Agenda**

There were no Declarations of Interest

### **2014/013 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 8 January 2014**

The minutes to the meeting held on 8 January 2014 were confirmed and signed.

### **2014/014 Appointment of Vice Chairman**

Since no nominations had been brought forward and in order to give all Councillors an opportunity, the position of Vice Chairman has been held open until the March meeting.

### **2014/015 Matters to Report**

- Cllr Berry will source the statistics requested regarding number of applications that miss the deadline for approval  
**Action: Cllr Berry**
- Playground equipment has been sourced to use the Section 106 funds available. Residents in the immediate locale of the equipment are to be informed of the enhancement of the playground equipment. Mr Jefferson to be contacted with regard to the progression of sounding out residents in the vicinity of the High Road Playing Field.  
**Action: The Clerk**
- The rock salt purchased earlier in the winter should be secured against the wet weather.  
**Action: Cllr Ellison**
- The procedures for announcing the vacancy on the Council had been set in motion and further notification will be forwarded to the parish magazine. Should no

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requests for an election be forthcoming, Wiltshire Council will inform the Parish Council that they will be able to co-opt a suitable candidate.

- Recent correspondence from Wiltshire Highways indicated that the bin situation would be remedied in the near future and that it is hoped the cost to the Parish Council would be minimal.
- Cllr M Seymour had attended a Flood Wardens Group which dovetailed with the meeting Cllr A Seymour had regarding the development of the Ashton Keynes Emergency Plan. A letter will be placed in the parish magazine, outlining the plan with the initial focal point of call indicated and asking for volunteers to act in a general emergency and to assist in devolving the emergency plan. Cllr A Seymour was asked to forward to Councillors a paper outlining the plan to date.

**Action: Cllr A Seymour**

- It was confirmed that it is every riparian owner's duty to maintain their water courses, fuller clarity and consequences to be put in the parish magazine.

**Action: The Clerk**

- The potential for purchasing sandbags from Wiltshire Council and to be held by the Parish Council is to be investigated, although it was recognised that this could cause storage problems.

**Action: The Clerk**

- The storage problem could be overcome by the purchase of the bags only and an arrangement with Aggregate Industries (AI) Ltd whereby volunteers could load these with sand on the AI site sand should the need arise. Cllr M Seymour agreed to investigate this.

**Action: Cllr M Seymour**

- The dog waste bag dispenser has been made and the Village Hall Committee are happy to have it placed on the Village Hall wall.

**Action Cllr Ellison**

- The work to the trees has been delayed by the recent bad weather and is ongoing.

## 2014/016 Chairman's Report

The Chairman received an urgent request from the Village Hall Committee for financial assistance for external repairs to the roof and internal repairs to the ceiling which had been affected by rain leaking into the property. The Village Hall Committee are able to apply to the Area Board for some assistance. However, the Board is keen that the Parish Council makes a contribution as part of the match funding to their grant.

Cllr Thomas proposed that the Parish Council made grants available to the Village Hall Committee of:

- £1,000 towards the costs of the external repairs.
- £1,000 towards the costs of the internal repairs.

Cllr M Seymour seconded the proposal.

There was a unanimous vote in favour of the proposal.

The Parish Council resolved to inform the Village Hall Committee of its decision.

**Action: The Clerk**

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The Chairman had attended the recent CATG meeting with Mrs Jane Slaughter who has organised the formation of the Community Speed Watch (CSW) group, consisting of ten local residents. Although now trained, they are still waiting to be given the go-ahead to commence operating. Mrs Slaughter had also initiated an Area Board Issue requesting that more 40mph repeater signs, 40 mph road 'roundels', and 'Pedestrian' warning signs, be installed along the section of the B4696 which runs alongside the Village. The Malmesbury CATG agreed, at its meeting on 11 February, to fully fund this request. This work is likely to be undertaken in May 2014.

The Chairman advised the Council that Mrs Slaughter had asked the Council to consider the installation of white gates by the outskirts to the village. She had requested this as an indication to drivers that they were entering a village. It was noted that the Parish Council would be expected to make a contribution towards the cost of such gates, were they to be installed. However, before it could make a decision, the Council felt that it needed more information about where these would be situated, and who would maintain them. Furthermore, the Council felt that the results of the CSW operation needed to be known before any decision could be made.

Finally, it was noted that Mrs Slaughter was still keen on seeing a footpath installed along the B4696. Several Councillors were sceptical about this, and the Chairman said that he understood that there were serious technical constraints associated with this. The Chairman said that Mr Martin Rose had offered to have a site meeting with Mrs Slaughter, after the upgrades had been made, to review all the above issues. It was agreed that this would be the appropriate approach and agreed that the Chairman should liaise with Mrs Slaughter on all these issues.

**Action: Cllr D Wingrove**

The Chairman requested the Council considered the possible inclusion of 20mph zones through the village as Wiltshire Council had set a deadline of the end of March for any requests of that nature. He said that he would forward, to Councillors, a paper on the subject.

**Action: Cllr D Wingrove**

A meeting with Cullimore Aggregates is still to be arranged.

**Action: Cllr B Ellison**

It was noted that both the Village and Parish websites had been difficult to locate using Google search.

**Action: Cllr M Carter**

It had been noted that the planning application for 23 The Mead had been withdrawn, and therefore GreenSquare was reverting to its plan to demolish only No. 24 The Mead, together with Nos. 25 and 26. Also, GreenSquare had been required by Wiltshire Council to amend their plans for the new 8 and 8a The Mead. As it stands, it would appear that one of the planned parking spaces outside these two new properties would be lost, but the Chairman said that he was working closely with Ms. Kelly Thomas to ensure that this did not happen. In any event, though, GreenSquare has said that they would honour their pledge to provide both 9 and 10 The Mead with new parking spaces, but assurances had been given that the parking spaces.

## **2014/017 Clerk's Report**

The paper containing the clerk's report had been circulated previously.

Points to note included:

A visit by Wiltshire Highways officers had resulted in a gully team being sent out for further clearance work around the village, repairs to drains and potholes noted for future work, most noticeably in The Derry where it is hoped that extensive repair work can be undertaken in the Spring.

Thames Water have ordered a cctv inspection along the pipe work in Fore Street and authorised any ensuing repair work.

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Areas of responsibility acknowledged by Wiltshire Highways included the grass cutting up to the front of 5 Four Acre Close and the riverbank along the High Road.

## 2014/018 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. The forecast to the year-end had been affected by the receipt of the grant from the Community Development Fund (CDF) for the Neighbourhood Planning process. The grant is intended to run throughout 2014, so the predicted surplus of c£7,000 includes restricted funds (principally the Community Development Fund of £6,300) to be carried forward to the next financial year. The clerk explained to the council that the reporting practices for Parish Councils were on a receipts and payments basis, therefore the receipt of the grant from CDF had to be declared in this financial year. In the next financial year, reports to the Council will separate out these two aspects.

Payments in January of significant amounts were:

➤ Clerk's employment costs (gross)	£607.43
➤ Website costs	£198.00

Receipts:

➤ Interest	£3.41
➤ Interest 3 yrs from loan to Village Shop	£180.00

## 2014/019 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- Planning Committee - the minutes from the last meeting were read out with only the one objection *i.e.* to 14/00051/FUL.
- Footpaths – a meeting to be arranged for the end of the month  
**Action: Cllr A Stefanovic**
- Village Halls – a meeting was held 13 Jan 2014 and the committee requested the Council to write an article for the Parish Newsletter regarding the dog fouling in the hall car park.  
**Action: The Clerk**
- Memorials – no report
- Aggregates – a meeting to be arranged by the end of March
- Playing Fields – no report
- Emergency Planning – as reported earlier in the meeting  
**Action: Cllr E Tidmarsh**
- School – no report
- Police – no report
- Trees - Cllr Tidmarsh has continued in validating the problem areas and recommended that much of the work in the report could be achieved by 'self-help'.  
**Action: Cllrs E Tidmarsh, M Seymour, A Seymour**

## 2014/020 Neighbourhood Planning update

The focus groups targets have been set with objectives for the end of March, quarter 1 of the Locality grant. Two Community Engagement days have been set for 12 and 16 April in the Ashton Rooms of the Village Hall. Planning for the full format of these days will take place w/c 17 February. Consultants are to be sourced to assist in the ongoing momentum of the Village Plan.

**Action: Cllr M Carter**

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## **2014/021 Adoption of the footpath from Four Acre Close to the Mead**

During discussions with GreenSquare over the development in The Mead, it had become apparent that there were no plans to do anything with the footpath and it would appear useful for the Parish Council or Wiltshire Council to adopt the footpath. It is believed that GreenSquare are amenable to the idea as they would be relieved of the upkeep.

Cllr M Seymour proposed the Parish Council take ownership of the footpath.  
Cllr A Seymour seconded the proposal.

The vote was unanimous in favour of the proposal

The clerk is to follow up on taking this forward.

**Action: The Clerk**

The Footpaths working group are to identify other potential footpaths that could be adopted in order to keep the open space and street scene for the village.

**Action: Footpaths Working Group**

## **2014/022 Matters for the next meeting**

- o No items were brought forward for the next meeting. However the Chairman requested that if any Councillor wishing to raise any matter for the next meeting, to please contact the Clerk of the Chairman by Wednesday 5 March.

The meeting was concluded at 9.28pm

**The next meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Wednesday 12 March 2014 at 7:15pm**

Signed:

Date:

Dave Wingrove  
Chairman