

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 11 November 2015

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

In attendance: The Clerk; Wiltshire Cllr C Berry; M Smith; R Pratten; B Kimberley; W Corry;
G Clarke; H Milnes (parishioners); K McQuaid (Land and Mineral Management Limited); J
Hartshorne; B McFadden (The Standard newspaper)

The meeting commenced at 7:15pm

Prior to the meeting,

Mr Hartshorne introduced his developer, Mr McQuaid, and addressed the Parish Council to explain that concerns, raised by the Council at a recent meeting, would be unfounded as the development of the site at Three Bridges as a private fishery would be used as facility for friends and family only. There were no plans for ancillary buildings, however the agricultural building on the land would remain, as Mr Hartshorne has agricultural land elsewhere. Naturally, this would include excavation of the site as there is no lake there at present. Mr McQuaid explained that extraction would be a low key affair with up to eight to ten lorry loads per day during the two year period planned for the work. It would be expected that work would take place between March to September, during the better weather. There would be a wheel washing facility on site and a noise assessment in the area, indicated minimum impact. Cllr Wingrove thanked Mr Hartshorne and Mr McQuaid for their explanations.

Mr Hartshorne and Mr McQuaid left the meeting

Mr Smith addressed the Parish Council with a proposed plan to allay the parking issues in Gosditch by the school. He said that he thought that that the parking by school staff further narrowed the road and could present a problem to emergency vehicles. Issues were presented with pictorial evidence and alternative parking sites advised, however no approach has been to the owners of the sites at this point. Mr Smith has arranged a meeting with the School Head to discuss his proposals. It was noted that the report was a snapshot in time and monitoring needed to be continued. Mr Smith was thanked for his comprehensive report.

Mr Smith then addressed the Parish Council with regard to the recent public consultation held at short notice by SF Planning, regarding the potential development of land behind Gosditch and the B4696. He felt that this was contrary to the emerging Neighbourhood Plan, the Wiltshire Core Strategy and the Conservation Area.

Mr Kimberley concurred with the comments adding that respondents to the Housing Site Consultation had placed the land 8th of 10 plots put forward as potential housing sites, and this is reflected in the Neighbourhood Plan. Furthermore, traffic issues along the B4696 would be created as the only access point available onto the B4696 is between two bends in the road. Mr Kimberley asked if the Parish Council had considered purchase of land behind the school for the parking of school staff.

Mrs Milnes informed the Parish Council that, having lived by the field in question for many years, the site, being in the flood zone, was under water on many occasions.

Mr Corry informed the Parish Council that the Thames Water pumping station had been consciously sited and cordoned off to prevent gases infiltrating the area, also over 10 million gallons of water were pumped to Swindon from the site on a daily basis.

Cllr Wingrove thanked the parishioners for their observations.

Mr Smith and Mr Pratten left the meeting

2015/133 Apologies for absence accepted by the Council

Apologies were received from Cllrs M Cooper; B Ellison; M Seymour and A Tindall.

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2015/134 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2015/135 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 14 October 2015

The minutes of the Council Meeting 14 October 2015 had been circulated previously and were agreed and signed as a true record.

2015/136 Matters to Report not included on the agenda

- The tree at Kent End and Harris road will be attended to by the Parish Council as Wiltshire Council is unconcerned.

Action: The Clerk

- The fly-tipping at Cox's Hill has been removed.
- Cllr Seymour has been negotiating with members of the Playing Fields Committee regarding the kissing gates to the entrances to the Bradstone Playing Fields. Quotes are being obtained.

Action: Cllr A Seymour

- Wiltshire Council had invited town and parish councils to take on the maintenance of Council land within their areas. A map had been obtained and this showed that the majority of the land involved verges. At this point the Parish Council could see no benefit to taking over additional maintenance of verges.
- The Eagle Line bus pick up points have been resolved.

2015/137 Chairman's Report

- Cllr Wingrove confirmed that there had been no Parish Council support for a very out-of-date weight restriction request along the B4696 and Wiltshire Council will remove the request from the issues list.
- Mr Ollie Phipps, the Community Engagement Officer of Wiltshire Council, had forwarded a request to include Ashton Keynes in the Bus 51 route, but had received a negative response. Councillors agreed that the bus company's response of the lanes being too narrow for their double decker buses was unacceptable. Mr Phipps is to be thanked for his efforts to date and be asked to continue his dialogue with the bus company.

Action: The Clerk

2015/138 Clerk's Report –

Wiltshire Council has been made aware of the erection of kissing gates along footpath 39 by Little Kent End and the footpaths team will investigate.

Maps have been sourced indicating the Wiltshire Council areas of responsibility, these maps were circulated at the end of October.

Planning applications have been forwarded to Wiltshire for the tree works in Four Acre Close and the High Road Playing Field. Tree work has been completed to the Cherry tree in The Mead.

Responses have been received to the request for notification of faulty street lights in the latest Parish Magazine.

The issue of parking by the bridleway and in private gateways along Rixon Gate and Fridays Ham Lane, possibly due to the requests for "donations" to park in the Waterhay car park, is to be raised with the Community Area Transport Group (CATG) as potentially, if allowed to escalate, problems could arise in the future.

Action: The Clerk

2015/139 Financial Report –

Expenditure for October was noted

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Clerk's salary: £410.40 (gross), room hire; £44.00 which included a Neighbourhood Planning Consultation day, open space maintenance £816.00: Insurance £826.66

The draft budget had been forwarded as recommended by the Grants and Finance Working Group. Discussions regarding the allocation of grants to village organisations resulted in the Proposal by Cllr Tidmarsh, seconded by Cllr Thomas of raising the grant to the Millennium Green Trust (MGT) to £750 was voted in favour by a majority of 6, 1 abstention. The remaining allocations of £3,000 to the Playing Fields, £1,000 to the Parochial Church Council and £1,500 to the Village Hall, proposed by Cllr Wingrove, seconded by Cllr Tidmarsh was voted in favour, unanimously. Other than the change to the grant to the Millennium Green Trust, the draft budget, as presented was approved.

2015/140 Lake 82 update

A public meeting has been arranged for 17 November 7:30 at the Village Hall. The event had been advertised in the newsletter and Cllr Jordan thanked those who had assisted with the delivery of the flyers and will be finalising the presentation with the assistance of Cllr Carter.

Action: Cllr Jordan

2015/141 Land behind Gosditch and B4696

It was noted that the Neighbourhood Plan process has been going on for two years with all housing aspects reviewed and put through the consultation processes. However, it was noted that the representatives of the owners of the land had made representations as part of the Draft Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Process. It was not, therefore, appropriate for the Parish Council to make a formal response until after these representations had been considered.

Action: AKNP Steering Group

2015/142 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- Planning
Application: 15/10351/WCM
Proposal: Installation of a cable ski facility and associated infrastructure including new access arrangements
Site address: Land at Kent End Farm
Decision: The Parish Council is not against the concept of a cable ski operation at the site. However, it formally objects to the application as it stands. This is because the proposal for a car park of 160 spaces with 4 coach parking spaces, and a beach with a paddling area, indicates that the operation would be bigger and more diverse than the Council had originally been led to believe. The Council would therefore prefer to see a scaled down version of the plan.
Application: 15/10352/WCM
Proposal: Variation of conditions 14 and 16 of N/96/1704: relating to the phasing of restoration and landscaping of the lake.
Site address: Land at Kent End Farm
Decision: Object as this would only be necessary should application 15/10351/WCM be successful
- Grants and Finance – minutes circulated, the budget and grants discussed, as shown in Minute 2015/139
- Footpaths, hedges and water courses – it was noted that there were hedges along footpaths requiring attention. Initially, Councillors will approach the landowners to request compliance before a more formal approach is made. Wiltshire Council will be asked if the gate and "Private Drive" signage along the public footpath behind the Horse and Jockey were authorised by the footpaths team.
Action: Cllr A Seymour, the Clerk
- Communications – no report
- Village Hall – Following lengthy consultations between the Village Hall Management Committee and the Post Office, an operator has been found who is willing to provide an Outreach Post Office service in the Village Hall. It will run on Tuesdays 9:30 –

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12:30 and Thursdays 14:30 – 16:30, to commence after Christmas (with a partial commencement before Christmas if that proves possible). It was noted that this would increase running costs for the Village Hall. Given that this will be a service of benefit to the whole community, the Parish Council agreed to assist in covering these costs for a trial period of 12 months. The additional cost to the Parish Council would be in the region of £780 for this 12 month period.

- Playing Fields Committee – in previous years the Parish Council had paid the grant in full to the Playing Fields, who then returned a sum to assist in the cost of the insurance. The Parish Council agreed that it would be beneficial to all, to reduce the grant to the Playing Fields by the insurance and thereby alleviating the possibility of missed transactions. The Playing Fields Committee have confirmed that this arrangement would be acceptable. Some concern was expressed about the manner of the disposal of a tree recently at Bradstone. After some discussion it was agreed that, in future, the Playing Field Committee needs to liaise more closely with the Millennium Green Trustees to ensure that similar problems do not arise in the future.

Mrs Milnes left the meeting

- Minerals Liaison – waiting on Aggregates Industries to confirm a date to meet
- Cotswold Water Park – next meeting to be held in December
- School Governors – Cllr Wingrove will arrange to meet the School Headteacher

2015/143 Neighbourhood Planning Update

The Plan consultation period has been completed and the comments, of which there are 140 in hard copy and c150 from the website, are to be collated and analysed. The steering group will be meeting next week.

Action: AKNP Steering Group

2015/144 Cotswold Community update

Cllr Wingrove had not received any further correspondence from the developers.

2015/145 Multi Use Games Area

Cllr Winstone has forwarded confirmation that the planning application has been approved with conditions. The advertising period should be completed by the end of the month and a decision should be made by December. Hopefully, work can then commence in the Spring. A report from the Millennium Green Trust (MGT), regarding the Barbary moth, had been received and it indicated the preferred construction period be outside the breeding period of the moth. There will be a meeting with contractors, MGT and Cllr Winstone to discuss best practises as the MGT would not want MGT land to be used during the process.

Action: Cllr Winstone

Cllr Wingrove thanked both Cllr Carter and Cllr Wingrove for their efforts on the Neighbourhood Plan and the Multi Use Games Area respectively.

2015/146 Matters for the next meeting

Councillors were reminded to forward items for the December agenda to the Clerk by 2 December 2015.

2015/147 Date for next meeting 9 December 2015.

The meeting was concluded at 09:56pm