

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 14th November 2018

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove; M Carter; M Cooper; A Tindall; A Levens; B Ellison;

In attendance: Clerk Fiona Ryder; Wilts Cllr Berry.

The meeting commenced at 7:15pm

2018/124 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence accepted by the Council were received from Cllr Crawford; Cllr Inzani; Cllr Smith.

2018/125 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

2018/126 To confirm the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10th October 2018

The minutes of the Council Meeting 10th October 2018 had been circulated previously and were agreed and signed as a true record.

2018/127 Parish Council vacancies

The Parish Council still has two vacancies, it was agreed to include the vacancies in the Parish Newsletter.

Action: Clerk

2018/128 Matters to Report not included on the agenda

- Update on moving the Defibrillator is on the Clerks Report.
- The Clerk has sent a comment of No Objection to the Licensing Authority regarding the New Premises Application at Jennies Kitchen.
- Cllr Wingrove has spoken with the Chair of the Playing Fields Committee regarding the flood light issue raised at last months meeting, a compromise has been reached. A discussion was had regarding what would be happening next year, it was agreed that either the Parish Council or the Youth Football Group are to write to residents prior to the use of flood lights next year.
- The Clerks Year training course has been booked for next month.
- A note regarding the use of 'My Wilts' app was included in this month's newsletter.

2018/129 Chairman's Report

- On Sunday at the end of the Remembrance Service Cllr Wingrove planted an Oak tree in the Churchyard to commemorate the end of World War 1. It was thought appropriate to have a small plaque or engraved stone, Cllr Wingrove will investigate and present to the council at the next meeting.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2018/130 Clerk's Report

- The Clerk had included details and costs to move the defibrillator to the phone box. The existing defibrillator is the wrong voltage to be installed in the phone box and would therefore cost more than was expected to move the defibrillator such a short distance. A number of alternate uses for the phone box were discussed. It was stated that the phone

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box was originally adopted by the Parish Council to retain its look and that it could be kept as a locked box as it would be easier to preserve. It was asked if there was a shelf life to the defibrillator that we currently have. Cllr Wingrove will speak with Dave Shepherd and report back.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2018/131 Financial Report including Draft Budget

Income since the last meeting:	Expenditure:	
	Clerk's wages Net Pay	£ 404.28
	Website	£ 106.79
	Mobile Phone	£ 19.20
	OSM Contract (October)	£ 900.00
	Room hire (October)	£ 19.00
	Clerks Expenses	£ 43.93
	Village Hall Flat Roof Repairs	£1357.20
	Chairs Expenses	£ 74.32

Closing balance: £58,981.95

The Parish Council noted the financial report.

- The Grants and Finance Committee met recently to discuss the budget for next year and agreed to propose keeping the precept the same. There is a difference in the number of dwellings to last year so there would be a tiny reduction for parishioners. It was noted that the highest costs are the Clerks Salary and the Open Space Maintenance Contract which are both susceptible to inflationary increase. Our account has been in a small surplus for a number of years and we don't want to have too big a surplus. A few months back Wiltshire Council announced that their budget was frozen but Parish Councils were not, it was asked if we are comfortable that no services will be transferred to us from Wiltshire Council. Cllr Berry said that although it would never be compulsory, if funds were short and something needed doing it might be better for the Parish Council to pay for it to get it done, some services may not be as frequent or efficient. Everyone else seems to be looking at an increase of around 5%. The Parish Steward scheme was threatened but will remain. Cllr Wingrove proposed keeping the 2019/2020 precept at £33,650.00. Cllr Tindall seconded the proposal. The council voted 4 in favour and 2 against. Parish Council to meet September/October time next year to discuss an increase. Clerk to inform in the parish newsletter that the precept will be kept the same for next year with a small increase likely in the future.

Action: Clerk

- The draft budget includes an increase of 10% to the Playing Fields Committee, Church and Village Hall Grants, the Millennium Green received an increase a few years ago so their grant has been kept the same for next year. It was asked if the recent survey of the Village Hall would throw up any unexpected expenses? Nothing catastrophic had come up and we do have reserves available if needed. Cllr Wingrove proposed to accept the budget breakdown as shown in the report, Cllr Cooper seconded the proposal, voted in favour unanimously.

2018/132 Tree Survey

- The Clerk provided a report on a Tree Survey which contained a quotation from Charlton Abbots Forestry who have carried out previous Tree Surveys for the Parish Council. We do not have enough information to go out to tender to other companies. It was suggested that we ask for a post survey presentation of the report and map so that we fully understand what we have got. It was also suggested that we look into the archives for information on

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land ownership. Clerk to contact Charlton Abbots Forestry and ask them to be explicit about what they are going to provide and also request a face to face presentation.

Action: Clerk

2018/133 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Report

a) Planning – An application for the septic tank installed at Derry Fields has now been received, this is to be discussed at the December Parish Council meeting. An extension of one week has been requested for comments to allow the application to be discussed. We will be looking to Wiltshire Council for guidance. Cllr Berry has spoken to the planning officer and will look into matter further.

Action: Cllr Berry

b) Environment group – There seems to be a lot of interest in litter, with a certain number of hotspots in the village. Rubbish in certain areas has been there for a while and there doesn't seem to be a particular problem with groups hanging about at the moment. It was noted that a car and a number of bikes from out of the area have been seen parked up recently. Changing the environment could discourage litter dropping, when litter is reported by parishioners it was suggested to ask them what they felt could be done about it, any sensible proposals would be considered. Cllr Wingrove will raise the concern with PCSO Jon Bordiss next Tuesday in the village hall.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

c) Flood management – Cllr Tindall attended a Flood Resilience course today, while Wiltshire Council have a good relationship with the Environment Agency what they are doing is irrelevant to us. We are in the Thames area and South East area of the Environment Agency and most of the county is in the South West. Due to the nature of the threat in the village, Flood Wardens would not be that useful. We have an emergency plan which includes a section on flooding, our focus should be on prevention with ditches and drain clearance etc.

It was noted that there was hardly any water in the village at the moment, the sluice gates where the Thames and Swillbrook separate are fixed and not moveable, the top couple of planks were missing and water was going down Swillbrook more, this has been fixed and more water then came through the village. The duck race is of concern this year, without rain the only way to get water into the village would be to ask Thames Water to put in a pipe to pump water into the river, it has been done before, the water can be held and let go when it is needed. Cllr Ellison to contact Thames Water.

Action: Cllr Ellison

d) Historic Conservation -nothing to report.

e) Minerals Liaison – nothing to report.

f) Village Hall – nothing to report.

g) Playing Fields Committee – nothing to report.

h) Cotswold Water Park – nothing to report.

i) School Governors – elections have taken place with results due out soon.

j) Police – PCSO Jon Bordiss will be in the village hall on Tuesday morning.

k) Highways – nothing to report.

2018/134 Speed Indicator Devices

- Cllr Crawford would like to look into some more options that may now involve a fixed solar powered SID on the B4696 on a dedicated pole. Both Oaksey and Minety move SIDs themselves, Cllr Berry is going to CatG to ask if the Parish Steward could use his street licence to help Parish Councils. To be discussed at the December Parish Council Meeting.

Action: Cllrs Crawford & Berry

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2018/135 Update on Neighbourhood Plan initiatives

- Village Hall: Cllr Smith has taken the report and prioritised actions and grouped tasks, this report needs to be shared with the village hall. Cllr Wingrove will send the report to Dave Shepherd tonight and a meeting can be arranged if needed. Thanks were expressed for Cllr Smith for carrying out the report.

Action: Cllr Wingrove

2018/136 Matters for the next meeting

There were no matters put forward at this time.

2018/137 Date for next meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting would be held in the Village Hall on 12th December 2018 at 7.15pm.

The meeting was concluded at 9.23pm