

Ashton Keynes Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held in Ashton Keynes Village Hall on Wednesday 18th October 2023 at 7.15pm

Present: Cllrs D Wingrove (Chairman); M Carter; S Hill; N Inzani; D Ventham.

In attendance: Fiona Ryder – Clerk. One member of public.

23-24/091 Public Section

One member of public was attending as a spectator with a view to joining the Parish Council at a later date.

23-24/092 Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Crawford and Wilts Cllr Berry.

23-24/093 Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

23-24/099 Councillor Vacancy

This item was moved up the agenda to explain the current position of the Council. The Council is made up of Eleven Councillors, however, four councillors have recently stood down leaving vacancies to be filled by co-option. Unfortunately, due to the Six Month Rule one other Councillor has forfeited their post, it is hoped that the Councillor will be co-opted back at the November meeting. We currently have two interested parties which still leaves us with vacancies to fill.

23-24/094 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20th September 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2023 were approved and signed.

23-24/095 Actions from Previous Meeting

23-24/082 – The Insurance has been renewed.

23-24/085 – Due to the current low number of Councillors, the 20MPH project will be put on hold.

23-24/087 – There was no update on the slide at The Lotts, the orange tape has been taken down, it is not known if this was done officially or by a member of public.

Action: Cllr Crawford

23-24/087a – It was agreed that quotes would be obtained for a tree survey for all trees at the High Road.

Action: Clerk

23-24/096 Chairmans Report

Wiltshire Council had distributed a Briefing Note titled North Meadows Mitigation Strategy, relating to the SSSI and NNR North Meadow in Cricklade. The mitigation strategy will be funded by developer contributions, Ashton Keynes sits within the outer zone for contributions.

There are currently two non-tree applications outstanding and three tree applications, the non-tree planning applications have been extended and will be brought to the next full council meeting due to low numbers in the Planning Committee.

The December Parish Council meeting has been brought forward and will be held on 13th December in the school hall.

23-24/097 Clerks Report

Details of work carried out by the Parish Steward on his latest visit were given, these included:

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Checking Spine Road for fallen branches following the storm.
Painted High Road sign and Ashton Keynes sign.
Filled the hole in the dip in the footpath to the churchyard.

Gosditch Overhanging Hedge – Email received reporting overhanging hedge.
Visited site, took photos, Councillor has responded that the hedge in question does not restrict vehicle access. Parish Council will monitor.

Somerford Keynes Parish Council - Email received asking for contact details of Wiltshire Council Highways and also asking if AKPC have been dealing with the Spine Road/Ashton Keynes crossroads.

Responded with information regarding historic Highways Improvement Request submitted in 2019. I have also chased an update from Highways.

Road Traffic Management Plan – Email received from a concerned resident asking if there is a traffic management plan for the Cotswold Water Park and who is making decisions about traffic management in the area.

Forwarded the email to Wiltshire Highways and responded to the resident to inform them that traffic management is the responsibility of Highways. I have since received further emails chasing a response from Highways and stating that James Gray has not responded either.

Details on Website – Email received informing that the details on our website for the local PCSO are incorrect.

I have not received any update from Wiltshire Police regarding personnel.

Planning Permission for Solar Panels – Answerphone message received, frustrated that Wiltshire Council have not helped with planning query regarding installation of solar panels and asking Parish Council to say yes or no.

Number withheld and no phone number left to call back.

23-24/098 Financial Report

The finance report was circulated prior to the meeting.

Income since the last meeting:

| | | |
|----------------------------|---|----------|
| Playing Fields Invoice 462 | £ | 26.60 |
| Wiltshire Council Precept | £ | 18167.50 |
| Playing Fields Invoice 463 | £ | 82.20 |
| Playing Fields Invoice 464 | £ | 58.00 |

Expenditure since the last meeting:

| | | |
|---------------------------|---|---------|
| Clerks Expenses | £ | 105.26 |
| Boston Bulb Company | £ | 1056.00 |
| Bradstone Cleaning | £ | 83.36 |
| Community Heartbeat Trust | £ | 120.00 |
| Clerks Expenses | £ | 92.64 |
| Insurance | £ | 1442.89 |
| SSE | £ | 370.18 |
| Audit PKF | £ | 378.00 |
| O2 Mobile Phone | £ | 13.20 |
| Walc Annual Subscription | £ | 579.14 |
| Admin Costs to Council | £ | 843.37 |

Unity Income: Aviva Insurance Claim £3424.00
Interest £ 643.03

Unity Expenditure: Account Fee £ 18.00

The council approved the finance report and income and expenditure.

23-24/100 Planning

- Application: PL/2023/07536

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Proposal: Variation of condition 1 of 19/06811/WCM to extend mineral and inert cessation dates and restoration requirements by two years.

Address: Dairy Farm Quarry, Ashton Road

- Application: PL/2023/07537
Proposal: Variation of condition 1 of 19/06818/WCM to retain the aggregate recycling operation for a further two year period to December 2026.
Address: Dairy Farm Quarry, Ashton Road
- Application: PL/2023/07538
Proposal: Variation of condition 1 of 19/07127/WCM to retain the concrete batching plant for a further two years to 31 December 2026.
Address: Dairy Farm Quarry, Ashton Road

It was agreed that there were valid reasons for the extension requests set out in the above applications, however, the Parish Council would object to any further extension requests. No objection to be submitted with above comment.

Action: Clerk

23-24/101 Representatives Vacancies

Due to recent resignations from the Council, there are now representative vacancies that need to be filled.

Internal Affairs Committee – Cllr Crawford

Village Hall Representative – Cllr Carter

Planning Chair – To be elected in Committee.

Parochial Church Council Representative – to be decided.

Planning Committee Member - Cllr Carter

Footpaths Working Group – Claire Sims to remain a member of the working group.

23-24/102 Climate and Ecology Bill

A pressure group named Zero Hour had emailed asking the Council to support the Climate and Ecology Bill. It was agreed that this was not within the remit of a Parish Council.

23-24/103 Tree Warden Scheme

The Parish Council support the post of a parish tree warden and will advertise for a volunteer. Any interested parties should contact the Clerk.

Action: Clerk

23-24/104 Playing Fields Committee

No update had been received. It was noted that the Committee were seeking independent advice on the Zip Wire. Clerk to distribute latest meeting minutes.

Action: Clerk

23-24/105 Committees, Working Groups and Representatives' Reports

- a) Planning Committee (MS) – Minutes and Agenda circulated.
- b) Internal Affairs Committee (CS) – Nothing to report.
- c) Village Hall (PM) – Nothing to report.
- d) Cotswold Lake Trust (BL) – Nothing to report.
- e) School Governors (SC) – Nothing to report.
- f) Police (DW) – Nothing to report.
- g) Highways (SC) – Nothing to report.
- h) Footpaths, Cycle Routes and Waterways (BL) – Nothing to report.
- i) Ashton Keynes Charities (NI) – Nothing to report.
- j) Parochial Church Council (CS) – Nothing to report.

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- k) Speed Mitigation (RB) – Nothing to report.
- l) Millennium Green (NI) – Nothing to report.
- m) B4696 Road Safety – Nothing to report.

It was agreed to remove item k on future agendas.

23-24/106 Matters for the next meeting

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.

23-24/107 Date for the next meeting

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 15th November 2023 in the main hall of the Village Hall.

The meeting concluded at 8.05pm