

ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of the Council

Date: 17th November 2020 **Time:** 7.30 pm
Place: Meeting held virtually via Zoom
Present: Cllr Alan Cox (Chairman) Cllr Andrew Bays
Cllr Angela Harris Cllr Kieron Black
In Attendance: Sadie Owen (Clerk) 1 parishioner
Apologies: Cllr Sally Burch

1. Apologies

Apologies received from Cllr Sally Burch. It was agreed that going forward all future virtual meetings would take place at 6.00pm.

2. Minutes of last meeting.

The minutes of the meeting held on 2nd September 2020 were unanimously agreed as a true and accurate record. It was noted that the council had attempted to meet on 4th November but had not been quorate. The borough and county councillors had been present and updates were recorded by the Clerk in a briefing note (Appendix B). Cllr Cox agreed to sign them and hand back to the Clerk.

**Cllr
Cox**

3. Planning applications

- a) New Applications
20/02570/FUL Fieldway, Cross Lane. No objections.

T/00499/20/TCA Plough Inn. No objections.

20/02915/HSE Ashmansworth House, Church Lane. No objections on the basis that the ridgeline of the new building remained at 3.6 metres.

Clerk

4. Council business

- a) Clerk's report
The Clerk reported that she was experiencing difficulties extracting and backing up the council email address, but that once this was achieved the change of website could progress.

The councillors thanked the Clerk for her work in relation to the website.

- b) Lengthsman tasks

It was reported that the lengthsman had cut back overgrown foliage on bridleways 20 and 21, and that the stiles had been repaired.

Clerk to request that signposts and fingerposts throughout the parish be cleaned and cleared of vegetation.

Clerk

c) Outstanding actions from past minutes

Cllr Cox reported that following consultation Hampshire County Council had offered to cut the verges within the village twice a year, in Spring and in September. The cut would be 1 metre wide cut to comply with safety standards.

**Cllr
Cox**

The council agreed to support a request to HCC for two smaller cuts rather than one sweeping cut.

Cllr Cox reported that he had been invited to attend a Zoom meeting with MP Kit Malthouse and local police representatives to discuss rural crime. Cllr Bays agreed to attend the meeting with Cllr Cox.

**Cllrs
Cox &
Bays**

5. Local Roads

Potholes/Road Repairs

There was no update on the issues relating to the Drove or Cross Lane. Cllr Cox reported that he had written to County Cllr Tom Thacker requesting an update as to when the Drove would be repaired and the markings be repainted on Cross Lane, but was yet to receive a response.

Speeding Vehicles

There was no update in relation to installation of the gates.

6. Footpaths

There were no updates.

7. Statutory documents review and approval

The council reviewed and approved its Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Financial Risk Assessment.

8. Village shop

Cllr Black commented that he would not be happy about a 'Village Shop' being set up at the village hall. It was suggested that the alternative approach of residents offering their produce communicating via the AshyPC email distribution list was preferable.

9. Coronavirus response and local needs

It was reported that Neighbourcare was active again due to the second 'circuit break' lockdown and that Cllr Cox had circulated information to residents.

Cllr Cox reported that the village had held a very successful armistice day memorial with the laying of two wreaths on behalf of the council. It was suggested that the war memorial may need cleaning. Councillors agreed that professional cleaning to preserve the memorial would be preferable. Clerk to investigate prices with a view to cleaning in the summer of 2021.

Clerk

10. Financial Matters

- a) Payments Approval – the Clerk presented the financial statement (Appendix A). The payments were unanimously approved.

Clerk

Clerk to produce a budget for consideration of the precept at the next meeting.

11. Date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 6.00 pm. Next meeting Wednesday 13th January at 9.00 pm.

Appendix A

Financial Statement: Ashmansworth Parish Council

Meeting date: 17/11/2020

Balances:

Statement No: 04/11/20 Balance	Balance after reconciliation – 04/11/20
£7,015.19	£5,955.26

Payments since last meeting date:

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
	Vision ICT	Invoice 11911 (Domain)	£66.00
TOTAL			£66.00

New items for payment

Date	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
	Mrs S Owen	Clerk salary Oct	£115.48
	HMRC	Month 7 Tax/NIC	£29.00
	Mrs S Owen	Clerk salary Nov	£115.68
	HMRC	Month 8 Tax/NIC	£28.80
	Mrs S Owen	Poppy wreaths	£39.97
	A D Clark	Invoice 431	£190.00
	A D Clark	Invoice 443	£285.00
	A D Clark	Invoice 456	£190.00
TOTAL			£993.93

Receipts since last meeting date:

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
14/09/20	Vision ICT	Not paid last month	£66.00
	BDBC	Second half of the precept	£2,061.50
TOTAL			

Payments not yet presented

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			0.00

Appendix B

Ashmansworth Parish Council: Briefing Note

Informal meeting held on 4th November 2020.

Borough Councillor update:

Cllr Falconer reported that BDBC was facing a potential budget deficit of £1.03M in 2021/22, due to pressures and impact caused by the pandemic and cuts in funding. This will need to be addressed in order to set a balanced budget.

Cllr Falconer invited Cllr Cox to join a zoom meeting with local MP Kit Malthouse, representatives from the police and neighbouring Parish Council Chairs to discuss the approach to rural crime and in particular the spate of quad bike thefts in the area.

County Councillor update:

Cllr Thacker reported that he was aware of the issues in relation to road flooding and the Chair's request for road markings at Cross Lane, and commented that any such problems should be reported to him for the time being due to the vacancy left by Steve Goodall. He commented that he would inform the council of a direct contact as soon as he had ascertained who the replacement would be. Cllr Cox pointed out that we had also requested the SLOW signs on the road surface to be repainted.