

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Michelle English, Delamere House, Hill Furze, Fladbury, Pershore, WR10 2NB
Tel: 01386 860502, email ashtonunderhill@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th May 2015 @ 7.30pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

Members and Officers present: Cllr Smith (Chair), Cllr Moore, Cllr Cope, Cllr Hague, Cllr Rowley, Cllr Becket & Cllr McIntyre

In attendance: Clerk & 1 member of the public

The Clerk opened the meeting to welcome new councillors and thank Mr Barnett, Mr Fletcher and Mr Sanger-Davies for their dedication to the Parish Council.

1. Cllr Smith was elected as Chair and signed the Declaration of Office
2. Cllr Moore was elected as Vice Chair
3. **Apologies:** Cllr Darby sent his apologies.
4. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
 - b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
 - c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.
 - d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting.

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.

Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.

5. **Minutes:** The March minutes were signed as true and accurate

The meeting will be adjourned for Public Question Time – the meeting adjourned at 7.35 to listen to Mr Brian Stephens. Meeting reconvened at 7.40

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire.

6. Members of the Council were appointed to outside bodies within the village

Social Centre	–	Cllr Cope
Foot Paths	-	Cllr Moore
Flooding / Snow	-	Cllr Hague
Trees	–	Cllr McIntyre
PACT	–	Cllr Moore

Bredon Hill Conservation Group	–	Cllr Beckett
Lengthsman & VAS	-	Cllr Hague
Village Plan	-	Cllr Smith

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Defibrillator	-	Cllr Smith
Communications	-	Cllr Rowley
Grants	-	Cllr Smith

7. **Progress reports:** for information / discussion and comments if necessary

a. Social Centre

Events as follows :-

AGM – 13th May 2015 at 7pm

Shindig 30th May

Womans Institute Film evening 23rd May

OpenGardens 13th & 14th June

b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group

It appears highways officials at Worcestershire, Warwickshire and Gloucestershire are taking a new look at the possibility of a dual carriageway from the Cheltenham Road roundabout in Evesham to the M5. The original scheme was dropped in the mid 1990s on cost/value for money grounds. But now, with the huge number of houses proposed around Ashchurch, something has to be done to relieve pressure on the A46. I understand that any new scheme would follow the line of the A46 from Evesham, around the back of Little Beckford to Teddington Hands, then across country to a new M5 south junction between the Ashchurch and Cheltenham junctions. All this, of course, is in the very early stages of discussion.

The proposed Beckford care village is back on the agenda. Planners have called for an Environmental Impact Assessment before any new planning application is put in. Beckford PC thinks it will be too big and is concerned about long-term viability but, of course, can't make an official comment until a formal application is submitted.

Bredon Parish Council is in the process of doing a Neighbourhood Plan – similar to a Village Plan – and have engaged consultants at a cost of £10,000, much of which is being funded by grants from Government and Wychavon District Council.

The Bredon Hill Conservation Group is writing to Wychavon District Council asking for consistency from planners over any proposals for barn conversions, for example that buildings are structurally suitable, not metal, and not in the open countryside.

c. PACT

d. Lengthsman – jobs to be done regularly are :-

e. Footpaths, Memorial & Vehicle Activated sign. It was agreed that Councillors would send any queries to Cllr Hague to be forwarded to the Clerk. ACTION ALL

f. Vehicle Activated Sign, it was agreed that the Clerk would request a number of hits from the

g. Lengthsman ACTION ME

h. Flooding, Ditches & Drains, Wychavon are dealing with 19 Cornfield Way

i. Footpaths

- Japanese Knotweed is growing on the footpath, it was agreed that Cllr Moore would take photos and send them to the clerk to forward to Wychavon. ACTION FM

- The footpath between Chandlers end and Gorse Hill has been repaired by the Footpath Team.

- Reminder email sent to Cllr Hardman regarding the footpath on the west side of Elmley Road which was promised to be repaired 12 months ago.

j. Trees in the Groaten were reported to Highways in March, there is still no response on a plan of action. New Saplings in the playing fields have been damaged. They responsibility of the Social Committee.

8. **District and County Councillors' reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.) none present

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9. The Parish Council agreed to incorporate Liberteas at the open gardens on the 13th & 14th June
10. **The Land at The Groaten (Enforcement Notice) was discussed and agreed to discuss further at the next meeting. Current position is that Wychavon need to send revised enforcement notice and allow 28 days for response. Expected timescale is end of May for this deadline. The Parish Council will request an update after this time.**
11. It was agreed to start again and gather ideas from residents on what they wish the New Homes Bonus to be spent on. This will be discussed and a decision made at the next meeting.
A few ideas raised by the Council were :-
- White gates on entering the village
 - Play equipment for younger children
 - Dog poo signs

12. **Planning:**

It was agreed that the clerk would email Councillors with planning applications, they would go online and make comments as necessary.

W/15/01025/PP - Harvest Fields, Back Lane, first floor extension to provide a two storey dwelling. No objections

Results of applications

W/15/0051, 28 Cornfield Way Approved

13. **Finances approved**

Bank balance as at the 21st April 2015

Current - £ 1,926.07

Savings - £ 3,313.75

Income since last statement

Lengthsman £337.80

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st April 2015 £5,239.83

Cheques below were approved

M English £ 591.52

M Cole (Lengthsman) £ 156.60

OHL £ 16.16

Chris Arnold £ 180.00

Zurich Insurance £ 316.08

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The Chairman 2014/15 (Frank Moore) signed and approve the Annual Return.

As at the end of March the closing balance for the Council stood at £4302.02.

It was agreed that the Council would not support the Rural Rate Relief for the Star

14. **Correspondence for Information:** To note the attached appendix of items which have been circulated or will be available for inspection at the meeting. (OR a list of items will be available at the meeting.)

Following the closure of the post office in the Village the Post Office has proposed a mobile Post Office to visit the Village once or twice a week. it was requested that this be at the Free Church carpark on a Wednesday morning to co-incide with the coffee morning.

15. **Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.**

- We have notification that the yellow line proposal has been rejected, however traffic is still an issue in the Village, and no alternative proposal was made by Worcestershire County Council. Cllr Smith agreed to write a letter on behalf of the Council requesting a way forward

16. **Councillors' reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

- Communications, Cllr Rowley to head up this project. A proposal to be made at the next meeting to include all forms of communication for the Village. Any ideas to be sent to Cllr Rowley.
- Bakers lane Fly Tipping of garden waste, Cllr Hague will keep an eye on this
- Willow Cottage, Cllr Rowley to supply history
- Neighbourhood plan
- Training

Date of next meeting: The date of the next meeting was confirmed for the 14th July at 7pm . The meeting closed at 9.08pm

.....(chair)

.....(date)