

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

Source Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12th January 2015 @ 7.00pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

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

In attendance: District Cllr Darby, 2 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** M English (Clerk)

2. **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. **Confirmed that Cllr Hague and Cope have submitted Declaration of Interest forms to Wychavon.**
- 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.
- e) 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.

3. **Minutes** from November meeting were approved as true and accurate

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time at 7.10pm to listen to Mr Finch & Mr Facer, (notes attached below)

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.

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

Minute Item No	Description	Responsibility	Action Taken
a) Social Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Cope shared a quote for maintenance & repairs to playground from Wicksteed. £5103 ex vat. Mr Facer suggested that usually not all repairs are essential and final costs are usually £1500-2000. Cllr Cope added that repairs are needed for underneath swings area where water is gathering. 	Cllr Cope	
b) Bredon Hill Conservation Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Now have a secretary, we have previously agreed to support this Group with £25 per annum. Added to Budget No other news 	Cllr Becket	
c) PACT	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No crimes to report for the last month for Ashton. Receiving some reports of poachers and lamping taking place around the area and we have also had a further two burglaries reported in Bredon. Encourage everyone to look again at their home security and ensure that a light is left on a timer to give the impression that someone is home. If anyone sees or hears anything suspicious please ring immediately on 101 or 999 as appropriate. 	Cllr Moore	Need to allocate responsibility for PACT at the next meeting. Add to Agenda
d) Lengthsman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To cut back verges in Cotton's Lane, i.e. from top of Badgers Retreat in front Anna Smith property and further up to opposite Arana, to ensure water flows smoothly into drains and not down the road Hedges lining pavements on both sides of the Groaten need to be cut back. Hedges on left after last house privately owned by farmer. Affected houses to be leafleted All drain tops in village to be cut around 	Clerk	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact Lengthsman with List of Works Leafletting to be carried out by Cllr Smith Cllr Hague to contact landowner to get Hedge trimmed
e) Vehicle Activated Sign	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Battery to be replaced Relocate to Beckford Rd 	Clerk	Add to Lengthsman list of works
f) Defibrillator	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Nothing to report 	Cllr Smith	
g) Flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Possible leak has been identified in the verge outside The Yarde property. 	Clerk	To establish responsibility, e.g. Severn Trent and contact
h) Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic survey has been carried out, awaiting results Damage is being caused to verges by school coaches, e.g. bottom of Gorse Hill. It was agreed to ask residents to submit individual complaints to the coach company as they happen, supplying dates and times and photographic evidence where possible. It was suggested that information about this could also be uploaded onto the PC Facebook page, the Ashton 	Cllr Smith	<p>Cllr Rowley to supply information via the media mentioned.</p> <p>Cllr Smith to contact Highways Agency and both schools</p>

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h)	Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Traffic survey has been carried out, awaiting results Damage is being caused to verges by school coaches, e.g. bottom of Gorse Hill. It was agreed to ask residents to submit individual complaints to the coach company as they happen, supplying dates and times and photographic evidence where possible. It was suggested that information about this could also be uploaded onto the PC Facebook page, the Ashton newsletter and the website. On Facebook, residents could be encouraged to upload photos and comment on any incidents. Both schools to be contacted to put this request in their Newsletter Cllr Smith suggested requesting that coach companies install cameras in the front of their vehicles to record incidences of mounting verges etc. Cllr Smith suggested Highways are consulted about the conditions of contracts for school coaches 	Cllr Smith	<p>Cllr Rowley to supply information via the media mentioned.</p> <p>Cllr Smith to contact Highways Agency and both schools</p>
i)	Trees in the Parish	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Concern raised that the Nicklin's were cutting too many trees down on their land at the end of the Groaten. Forestry Commission to be contacted to understand allowances and check for licences. 	Cllr McIntyre	Contact Forestry commission and confirm what is allowed and report back on action required.
j)	Communications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cllr Rowley to look into taking over the official Wychavon parish council site to provide information about the PC Agreed Groaten bus stop noticeboard enlarged to provide more space for notices from residents living in lower part of village. Brian Stephens & John Kenrick to send email list for Cllr Rowley with block village correspondence Cllr Rowley is taking over editorship of Ashton Newsletter 	Cllr Rowley	Cllr Rowley to compile list for block emails, update noticeboard, and review websites
k)	Footpaths	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No further information from CC Hardman on the status of the footpath from the memorial to the church. Chair has written to Highways with details of the issues, no response received yet Cllr Cope pointed out that the footpath is now in such a bad state of disrepair that an elderly resident recently tripped on it and she fears worse accidents might happen if issue not addressed soon 	Cllr Smith	Cllr Smith to contact CC Hardman again, to chase repair, and request quote for matched contribution.
l)	Neighbourhood plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Our application to designate area for a Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for the village has been approved Cllr Becket met with Cllr Matt Darby from Bredon Parish Council who shared the process Bredon PC followed to develop their pre-submission Neighbourhood Plan, which has recently been through the consultation period. Ideas and recommendations were also shared which will provide Ashton Under Hill PC useful reference for commencing consideration and development of a neighbourhood plan. 	Cllr Becket	

5. District and County Councillors' reports: for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

Report by District Councillor Adrian Darby to Ashton under Hill PC 12th January 2015

South Worcestershire Development Plan Recommendations have been made and a report is due at the end of this month. The Plan will be passed in spring but there will be a period of judicial review before that. Plan should be in effect by summer 2016. Significant Weight is now given to the content of this plan in planning decisions.

6. Planning

Appl Number	Application	Update
Decisions		
15/02872	Conversion of bungalow to 2 storey – Harvest Fields	REFUSED
Current applications		
15/02563	Land adjacent Northfield Farm - Change of use to Gypsy Site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Village was leafleted. Over 90 Objections including PC request for this application to go to committee will be granted if the Officers recommend approval Heritage Officers report will be key
	Land at the Bottom of the Groaten – Enforcement Notice not enacted	Cllr Darby to chase this notice being enforced. Also to identify if the PC can take any action and recharge this to the landowners/Wychavon.

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7. New Homes Bonus

No new information. Meeting to be arranged with the ASC to spend the agreed funds available in line with the Village Poll – Cllr Beckett and Cllr McIntyre

8. Phone box door has been repaired but needs some adjustments. Bill for Materials £171.26, no charge for labour. Previous quote £500. Thanks given to Cllr Moore.

9. Finance

a) Budget

A proposal for the Budget was made at the Finance Committee meeting on the 5th January. It was agreed that the Precept be increased to £16K to be around £1000 ahead of where the precept would have been if it was not decreased 3 years ago. This allows current expenditure to include support ASC and Churchyard maintenance to continue, whilst rebuilding the retained monies to cover emergencies. A secondary Budget was also prepared in case a referendum is called and the increase voted against. This Budget is £11,220. These Budgets were approved unanimously.

b) Grant Awarding Policy

- The Policy for allocating and approving community grants was amended to include VFM requirement. We agreed to require value for money demonstrated by alternative quotes etc for the expenditure, and any explanations why the preferred supplier is chosen. We agreed that an annual meeting with the Village groups would take place to understand the grant request and ensure need and VFM. Meetings to be held in December each year
- The revised policy was agreed unanimously.

c) Cheques for payment approved (table below)

Date	Chq No	Payee	Reason	VAT	Amount incl VAT
		Beckford Group Magazine	Subscription		£ 133.00
		M English	Clerk's Salary		£ 413.71
		S Hague Farm & Gardens	Annual bill for mowing verges		£ 1610.00
		F Moore	Phone box repairs		£ 171.26
		M Cole (Lengthsman)	General work		£ 198.00
		OHL	Clerk's Expenses		£ 23.33

- Cllrs Cope & Hague need to ratify identity at the Bank – Clerk needs to provide Mandate to take along with their proof of identity.

d) Bank balance

Bank balance as at 21st December 2015 £8,965.81
Savings - £3,134.90

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st December 2015 = £12,280.71

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

- Councillors regretfully accepted Cllr Frank Moore's decision to resign, effective from this meeting. Remaining councillors congratulated Mr Moore on his loyalty and hard work over the past five years. Mr Moore assured the committee that he would continue to offer support in the future if required. The vacancy will be advertised in due course.

11. 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.

- Cllr Cope has noted that Paris road (the private section) is in a poor state of disrepair. Clerk to identify whether we can mandate or simply request repairs – postman, milkman etc struggling with the potholes.
- Back Lane (public road) is in a similar poor state of repair. Clerk to find out who has responsibility for the gullies which are blocked, adding to the issues.
- It was decided not to proceed with the purchase of wheelie bin stickers as they are no longer free (500 for £210).

12. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 8th March at 7pm. The meeting closed at 8.50pm

.....(Chair)

.....(Date)

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PUBLIC NOTES

Mr Finch queried progress on removal of caravan and general tidying up of Mr Nicklin's field at bottom of Groaten. It was revealed the caravan couldn't be currently moved because of the sodden state of the field. Dist Cllr Darby was asked why the enforcement order couldn't be enacted by Wychavon. Mr Finch queried why several apparently healthy trees had been felled by Mr Nicklin. See notes in Section 4 on Trees.

Mr Finch queried the Northfield planning application and was updated by Cllr Smith as to current situation. Dist Cllr Darby recommended Parish Cllr and a village rep attended any committee hearing as two people are permitted to talk for 3 mins each.

Mr Facer commented that defibrillator does not display local emergency phone numbers. Cllr Smith explained the procedure is to call 999 who will simultaneously trigger calls to trained villagers, local responders and an ambulance. This is the recommended practice.

Mr Facer suggested PC have powers to impose traffic calming measures such as speed bumps and 20mph speed limit in village. It was explained that only Highways Agency can do this, but that PC were working with Highways and aiming for series of measures to limit speeding vehicles.

Mr Facer informed the committee that there are always unavoidable Social Centre costs, e.g. maintenance and insurance over past 3 years have amounted to between £7.5 and 9k. He does not want to raise rents, e.g. guides, brownies. Mr Facer is in agreement to the precept being raised to enable support to the ASC.

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 10th March 2015 @ 7pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

Members and Officers present: Cllr Moore (Chair) Cllrs Barnett, Cllr Fletcher, Cllr Sanger-Davies, Cllr Smith, Cllr Cope & Cllr Hague

In attendance: DC Darby, Clerk & 4 members of the public

1. **Apologies:** To receive apologies and to approve reasons for absence .
2. **Declarations of Interest:**
 - a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. None
 - 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. None
 - 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.
3. The minutes of the meeting held on 13th January 2015 were signed as a true record
4. **Progress reports:**
 - a. **Social Centre –**
 - A few items need doing/repairing in the play area which is expected to come to the value of £1300.
 - There will be a new football team for Ashton Under Hill next season
 - b. **Bredon Hill Conservation Group**

The Linden homes application to build 150 homes at Pamington on land off the A46 opposite Ashchurch Camp has been approved in principle by Tewkesbury Borough Council; Formal planning permission will be issued after the developer has agreed (in writing) to fund improved community facilities in both Aschurch and Tewkesbury. Planning officers had advised approval while the County Council had raised no objection in the light of the Highways Agency stating that the increase in traffic (caused by this development) would be less than five per cent. this, of course, is in addition to any other development(s) alongside the A46.
 - c. **PACT**

Surgeries being held every second Wednesday of each month at 10.30 at the Beckford Village Shop
 - d. **Lengthsman**

We still have £600 in the budget, clerk instructed the Lengthsman to make use of it before the end of March 2015.

Jobs to be done :-

 1. The war memorial needs a prune and spring clean steps included.
 2. Cut ivy off ash tree in gorse hill

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3. Tidy up along broken chain link fence in gorse hill
 4. Clear mud from sunken path at the bottom of bakers lane.
-
5. The path down from The Close to the church needs chopping back and clearing as the original path is a metre wide and the grass has encroached narrowing it down to 18 inches in places.

e. Vehicle Activated Sign

The Lengthsman will need to purchase additional brackets in order to erect the sign. It is believed the battery may be faulty, Lengthsman to check. Need to contact Highways to determine how and where to place the VAS on the Beckford entrance to Ashton. Can existing 30mph sign be used as we are not allowed to erect one.

f. Defibrillator

The training for the defibrillator has been set for Saturday 21st March at 11am and 2pm, approximately 30 people will be attending. The Ambulance Service prefer to do 2 sessions on one day as they need to bring dummies and training kit for the trainees to practice on. The sessions will last up to 2 hrs each. Once the training is complete the defibrillator will be installed and all those trained will be given the keycode. It has been confirmed that the key pad is not attached to the electricity supply. Names of volunteers to be given to Brian Stephens in order for them to be advertised.

The spare defibrillator has not been taken by any other authorities in the area, Cllr Smith has written to a variety of community based clubs, hotels, golf clubs, schools and pubs offering this for sale. It was suggested that it be erected near the Middle School, however it was agreed that the Council would prefer to get some money back for it. The Council decided to give it until the end of March before advertising on EBay.

g. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School)

Latest news from the Senior Traffic Management Engineer, Kieran Hemstock is that all comments now need to be sent to the Chief Constable so the Police can consider and comment further.

The Police have 4 weeks to respond.

h. Trees in the Parish

- Wychavon have been contacted by Andy Tustin, a local tree surgeon, who was querying whether he would need to notify the District Council regarding the removal of trees to the front of Graham House, Elmley Road, Ashton under Hill. The trees were a line of large conifers along the boundary wall, half of which were Leylandii previously managed as a hedge and therefore the removal of which would not need to be notified to the Council. The second half of the line were much larger Cupressus type conifers which do not appear to have been managed as hedging although Andy says they have. Strictly speaking a notification should be made for the removal of these trees from the Conservation Area, however as we are about to enter the bird nesting season Wychavon were minded to allow this without the delay of the notification period.

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

March 2015

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This has been completed

- 30 young trees will be planted around the playing field over the weekend 14th March.
 - The trees outside Station House and Stanley farm, The Groaten need trimming back, clerk to speak to County Council.
- i. **District and County Councillors' reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

Report by District Councillor Adrian Darby to Ashton under Hill Parish Council.

As always, most of my Wychavon council work has been concerned with planning and I attended meetings of the planning committee in February and March.

As I told you in January I appeared as a witness for the council at the appeal against refusal of planning permission for 33 houses at Cheltenham Road, Bredon in December, and we received the result of that appeal just in time for your meeting.. The inspector dismissed the appeal and found that Wychavon does indeed have a five year housing land supply. This very good result was reinforced by a similar appeal decision against the refusal of 70 new homes at Averill Close, Broadway. We hope that these decisions will help in the appeal against 98 houses at Tewkesbury Road, Bredon which starts tomorrow.

South Worcestershire Development Plan

We have now been given the date for the hearing into housing allocations in the Wychavon Category 2 and 3 villages. This is on 5 June. If the Parish Council has objected to either of the allocated sites in Ashton under Hill and wishes to pursue its objection it should make a submission as soon as possible. I note that an agent for Mr D Eaton is being invited to speak.

Double Yellow Lines

I have written to the Head of Legal and Democratic Services at Worcestershire County Council adding my voice to that of the Parish Council and many residents objecting to the proposal for restricting parking on Elmley Road and elsewhere. I have received an acknowledgement and await a decision.

- j. **Planning application:-**
W/15/00393 – Long Carrant Park, erection of porch, no objection

Applications approved

W/14/02468 – White Hart Villa, approved

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k. A Suitable location to scatter wild flower seeds by the Woman's Institute was agreed to be by the drive leading to the Pavilion or the War Memorial

l. Improvements of the footpath from end of Chandlers End to Gorse Hill was discussed "Footpaths group, lead be John Kenrick, has examined the path and plan to determine who is responsible, WCC Highways or Ashton Footpath Group. If the latter John will schedule simple remedy using wood chipping and shuttering to create 3 or 4 long steps. Thereafter Lengthsman can check its state from time to time."

The meeting adjourned at 7.57 pm to begin the Annual Parish Meeting and reconvened at 8.12pm

m. Parish Electoral Publicity

Nomination forms handed out to present Councillors.

The Clerk reminded candidates that forms can be submitted between the 23rd March and 9th April to Wychavon. Nominations must be delivered by hand either by the candidate or a person you trust to The Shorwell Room, Civic Centre, Queen Elizabeth Drive, Pershore between 9am and 5. Please note that the deadline time is 4pm on the 9th April.

Publicity of Parish Council Elections were discussed. The Chairman requested permission from the Council to hand out a flyer produced by the Clerk and Wychavon to publicise the forthcoming elections. One Councillor felt that the paragraph "***Lets build a diverse Council that fully represents the Parish of Ashton Under Hill and builds upon the solid work done in recent years to make our community a great place today and for future generations***" was unacceptable and sounded like the current Parish Council were incompetent.

The Clerk and Chairman reminded Councillors that Wychavon had requested that the Clerk make residents aware of forthcoming local elections in May and publicise the fact that all current Councillors must stand down or be re-elected. A couple of Councillor felt that there was no need to publicise this.

n. Finance

Bank balance as at the 21st February 2015

Current	-	£ 506.82
Savings	-	£5,312.88

Income since last statement

Lengthsman £330.06

PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

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Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st February 2015 £5,819.70

Cheques below were approved

M English	£527.33
M Cole (Lengthsman)	£337.80
OHL	£ 48.42
L Oliver (PAYE)	£ 30.00

o. **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.)

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

- New Homes Bonus – we have £2224 to use, ideas to be discussed at the May meeting.
- Reported fly tipping of possible asbestos sheeting on Back Lane after the Telecoms mast
- Sent email to Mrs. Baldwin requesting copy of letter she wrote to WCC, no reply

q. **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.

Cllr Barnett raised the fact that the Clerk had not sent a letter to Mrs Mountain requesting the damaged wall at The Close, Elmley Road be repaired. The Clerk agreed to do this task the following day.

Cllr Fletcher reported that there is a smell from the drains by the Middle School. Clerk to contact Severn Trent.

r. **Date of next meeting:** The date of the next meeting was confirmed for the May 12th. The meeting closed at 8.45pm

.....(chairman)

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.....(date)

Draft

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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 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

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PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 2015

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Flooding / Snow	-	Cllr Hague
Trees	-	Cllr McIntyre
PACT	-	Cllr Moore

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

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

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- 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
9. The Parish Council agreed to incorporate Libertees 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.**

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

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

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.

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

May 2015

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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

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

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

.....(chair)

.....(date)

Draft

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 July 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 & 2 member of the public

1. **Apologies:** None.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. KR on application W/15/00990

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:** Cllr Moor commented that points C-F were confusing and that G&H should be crossed out (think bullets were inadvertently applied to all lines rather than points). Minutes signed off at 7.35pm.

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time at 7.35 to listen to Mr. Mark Cottrell. Meeting reconvened at 8.00pm, notes attached

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.

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

a. Social Centre

DC

It was agreed that the Marquee which is damaged belongs to the social centre, Council to look at the possibility of purchasing a new one, however it is unlikely there will be funds available to do this.

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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The Council agreed that they would like to see a detailed set of accounts for the village fete.

- b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group JB
Clerk agreed to collect a list of meeting dates.
- c. PACT FM
No incidents in the village. It was agreed to invite them to the September meeting
- d. Lengthsman SH
All work has been completed satisfactory.
- e. Vehicle Activated Sign SH
Agreed that the Lengthsman should site the VAS outside Graham House and issue the Council with a list of hits each time the battery is charged and moved
It was agreed that Cllr Hague would enquire what the difference is to upgrade his insurance in order for him to change the VAS, Council would look into covering the difference.
- f. Defibrillator SS
Ashton Somerville are looking to purchase a Defib. It was agreed the Council would pay £99 per year to the Ambulance Service in order to do a scramble system for volunteers. Clerk to contact the school regarding who is paying for electricity
- g. Flooding SH
During the recent rain for a couple of hours it was noted that the culvert outside Cllr Copes house was blocked. Lengthsman to check all culverts and gulleys.
- h. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School) FM/SS
Follow up on email from WCC.
 - Propose areas where monitoring should take place
 - State the requirement for a 20mph, stagger school start and close times
- i. Trees in the Parish NM
Arrange for a meeting with Mr Jeff Fletcher
- j. Communications KR
It was agreed to upgrade the notice board as suggested.
- k. Neighbourhood plan
It was proposed to set up a sub committee lead by Cllr Becket

4. **District and County Councillors' reports:** for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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5. Planning

Appeal opposite the Middle School has been turned down

W/15/00990 Willow Cottage, Elmley Road – Renovation and extension of exiting dwelling, erection of two cottage style dwellings, no objections

W/15/01308 14 Elmley Rd – Porch & rear extension (PC had no objection)

W/15/01202 Graham house, Elmley Rd. – First storey extension (PC had no objection)

W/15/01025 – Harvest Fields, Back Lane – Refused

W/15/01308 – Porch & rear extension - Approved

6. To discuss the New Homes Bonus - £4552.00 available to drawn down

a. Proposals have been

- Marquee for the social centre
- Wooden posts
- Drinking water fountain
- White gates on entering the village

7. To review Standing Orders, Council Policies, Transparency Code & review the audit procedure

- Current Year Budget - defer
- Risk Assessment Policy - defer
- Asset Register, defer
- Lease Agreements – The Council felt it was their responsibility to understand their liabilities. In order to do this they needed to read the lease, it was agreed that Mr Brian Stephens would look for a copy of the lease between the Parish Council and the Social Centre.
- Insurances - defer
- Cashbook - defer
- Schedule of Council charges and fees for Services / facilities - defer
- Partnership Agreements - defer
- Any previous Development Plans / Neighbourhood plans (not village plan), Village Design statements, Village development control statement etc - defer
- Census date for the village - defer
- Discussion on AUHPC – General Power of Competence – defer

8. To discuss Japanese Knotweed in the Parish

It has been discovered that Mr Richard Hughes is the owner of the land. Clerk to write a letter advising him that if no action were taken within the next two weeks the Council would instruct Henderson & Taylor to do the work and make Mr Hughes liable for the bill. The Council agreed to put a note out to residents advising them of the weed.

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PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

July 2015

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

9. Finance

Bank balance as at the 21st June 2015

Current - £ 6,186.64

Savings - £ 3,313.75

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st June 2015 = £9500.39

Cheques below were approved

M English	£ 580.21
M Cole (Lengthsman)	£ 178.80
OHL	£ 31.41
Lin Oliver	£ 15.00
Zurich Insurance	£ 136.08
CALC	£ 544.97

Responsibilities

- Cllr NM - internal audit
- The Chair – clerk review

10. **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.)

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

12. **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.

- Cllr Moore made mention to the fact that a letter of thanks had not been done to Mr Sanger-Davies, Mr Fletcher & Mr Barnett.
- Long Carrant park to be given newsletters
- Footways between the Memorial – Church – Old Manor Farm are in a terrible state, clerk to follow up with CC Hardman

ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES

July 2015

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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- Parking issues, suggested parking bays in Elmley Road opposite Cornfield way. Parking on the grass in Willow close.
- Mirror at the bottom of Hill Side
- Post office - Cllr DC to keep Council posted
- Door to the phone box is damaged. SH to look at

13. **Date of next meeting:** Tuesday 1st September at 7pm. The meeting closed at 9.50pm

.....(chair)

.....(date)

Public open time

Mr Mark Cottrell (MC) read out statement voicing his objections/concerns about the Paris barn application. Council members allowed this but did not respond or enter into any discussion with him about this (other than comments from FM & SS below). MC said that he had been told by DC that the app would be raised during meeting. DC said she had told him it was not a formal app yet so would not be discussed. However, DC said that he is entitled to speak during PQT.

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ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Points raised by MC

Water/Drainage/Flooding

There is a private water supply to MC's house

He apparently spent £50k on this in 1990

Concerns over possible pollution to this during any building

Water needs to be diverted round village (unclear but think it relates to flooding concerns)

Flooding concerns

Highways

Concerns about access

Paris has no road upkeep (not public road?)

MC has appointed various bodies, surveyor, ecologist, lawyer

FM suggested MC speaks to John Archer

SS reiterated that we were unable to comment until formal application here.

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Tel: 01386 860502, email ashtonunderhill@yahoo.co.uk

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 1st September 2015 @ 7.00pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

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

In attendance: Clerk & 1 member of the public

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Hague.

2. **Declarations of Interest:**

a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.
None

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.

3. **Minutes were approved as true and accurate**

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time at 7.35 to listen to Mr. Brian Stephens

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.

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

a. Social Centre

Litter bins are being replaced to prevent foxes getting into them.

New bark may be needed

A couple of the new trees have been vandalised

Football club has started up

The Social Centre would like to purchase a new marquee. It was agreed the council would purchase it on their behalf and deduct the amount from their annual grant.

Copy of village hall and recreation ground lease was handed to the Chair and Clerk

b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group Clerk to send meeting dates out

ME

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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c. PACT

The Vale services had a vehicle make off without paying for fuel on 7/07 and the cash machine was stolen on the 17/07 which you will have seen reported in the local press. This was one of a series of nationwide targeted crimes for which enquiries are on going and a vehicle involved has since been recovered.

The third incident was damage to a vehicle at a property on Elmley Road on 22/07.

We have received notification from a company called AGS Global Fundraising Services letting us know that they will be in the Worcestershire area between 31/08 and 27/09 carrying out fundraising activities on behalf of the RSPCA.

Fundraisers will wear photo ID at all times and will be attempting to raise funds by signing residents up to monthly direct debits. They have also provided us with a helpline number which is 0800 031 9811 which residents can call if they are uncertain about the legitimacy of the caller.

d. Lengthsman

It was agreed to ask the contractors who mow the church yard if they would be prepared to amalgamate the mowing and strimming with Lengthsman work.

NM

e. Vehicle Activated Sign, it was agreed to discuss the possibility of Cllr Hague doing this further FM/SH

f. Defibrillator, re-advertise original purchase on EBay, and send details to Cllr Becket for Council's potential sale

SS

g. Flooding

Email from Wychavon

Dear Michelle

This has rumbled on for almost a year but I was determined to get some conclusion, at least as far as land drainage was concerned and for the landowners I have involved.

I do not believe there is a pollution issue. The Environmental Health Officer has been out to the site again and although there is a main sewer crossing if there was a problem there would be a really foul smell and there is not.

The residents path behind Cornfield Way has a build up of algae and has been very slippery but this is because over the months the water has leaked down the bank, ponded and become stagnant. This is something Rooftop will have to address.

The owner of the track is Mr Hughes and he has been very helpful with his local knowledge, as I said before.

Worcestershire County Council have recently been to investigate the highway drainage/structures.

I have seen the report and this now confirms to me that the flooding to the track, footpath and gardens of the properties in Cornfield Way are due to an open chamber and the collapsed highway drainage system on the track. This system takes surface water from the gullies in Elmley Road and during heavy rainfall is fairly substantial. Potentially this water should outfall somewhere in Mr Hughes field in an easterly direction (away from the residential boundaries). I am also concerned that the inlet outside

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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School Bungalow is not working.

I have asked Highways to take ownership of these issues and instruct a maintenance team to remedy.

This concludes my involvement in this vicinity.

I trust this updates your records.

Kind regards

June

On 9 Jun 2015, at 09:58, Hiden, June

<June.Hiden@wychavon.gov.uk<<mailto:June.Hiden@wychavon.gov.uk>>> wrote:

Dear Michelle

I sent you a copy of my informal letter on 29 April which was to Rooftop Housing the landowner of Cornfield Way. After discussion with Rooftop I then contacted the farmer who informed me that he had cut a channel at this location some years ago but not as a drainage ditch.

I met with the farmer, accompanied by an Environmental Health officer, for further investigations. As it had been raining we could identify the flooding issues and I queried whether there was a pollution problem as well.

I have now asked Highways to carry out an investigation so that this matter can be progressed.

If there are any further updates I will keep you informed.

h. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School) SS
Agreed to follow up with Highways on the Councils proposal of the three locations as well as the 20mph limit in the village

i. Trees in the Parish - The Millennium Trees in the Groaten may be diseased – reported by Andy Tustin. Cllr McIntyre to liase with Andy Tustin and investigate if this is true, determine action and if there is any comeback with the supplier

NM

j. Communication - It was agreed that a closed Facebook page would be created.

Pass on County "My Parish" admin and password

ME/KR

Mr Brian Stephens advised that Lawrence who prints the Ashton News would be happy to do photocopying and printing on behalf of the PC at a competitive price

k. Neighbourhood plan

It was proposed to speak to Cleve Prior before we begin. Set up a steering group, this would be advertised on the website, newsletters asking residents who wants to be involved.

l. Footpaths

The strimmer needs to be repaired, plus a couple of small items required – potential for discount NM

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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

6. Planning

- AB/15/01741/AB – Application for prior notification of agricultural development – proposed livestock building. Northfield Farm
- W/15/01025/PP – Notification of Appeal against refusal – Harvest Fields, Back Lane
- Approved
 - W/15/00990/PN Willow Cottage
 - W/15/01290/PP Mitha Dara, Cheltenham Rd

7. New Homes Bonus

It was agreed to input all ideas and gather costing's, once done this would be put out to residents for consultation.

Ideas are :-

Dog Poo signs

White gates into the village

Wooden posts by the triangle

Water fountain in the playing field

Storage Container for the playing field etc

Replacement Marquee

Designated Village Sign

8. Phone box door needs a new wooden frame. To be done at the end of October FM

9. Mirror at the bottom of Hill Side was discussed, Highways have advised they are against these. Defer DC

10. Parking issues in Elmley Road, defer for Cllr Hague's input DC

11. Footways between the Memorial – Church & Old Manor Farm, follow up with Cllr Hardman ME

12. The following procedures, policies were adopted

- Risk Assessment Policy
- Partnership Agreements
- Standing Orders
- Financial regulations
- Discussion on AUHPC – General Power of Competence

13. Japanese Knotweed in the Parish. Thanks to Mr Hughes for dealing with this promptly. Letter of thanks to be sent. ME

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Tel: 01386 860502, email ashtonunderhill@yahoo.co.uk

14. Finance

Bank balance as at the 21st August 2015

Current	-	£ 4,813.43
Savings	-	£ 3,3134.32

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st August 2015 = £8,127.75

Cheques below for approval

M English	£ 420.19
M Cole (Lengthsman)	£ 178.80
CALC	£ 120.00

It was agreed that all councillors would make comments on the budget before the 12th October. Chair and Clerk to meet prior to the meeting, week 19th October.

15. 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.)

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.

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

18. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 10th November at 7pm. The meeting closed at 8.25pm

.....(chair)

.....(date)

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

Source Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 11th November 2015 @ 7.00pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

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

In attendance: DC Darby, CC Hardman, Clerk & 5 member of the public

1. Apologies: Cllr Rowley.
2. Declarations of Interest:
 - a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests. None
 - 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.

3. Minutes from September meeting were approved as true and accurate

The meeting was adjourned for Public Question Time at 7.05 to listen to Mr Fletcher, Mr Stephens, Mr Finch and Mr Facer (notes attached)

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.

4. Progress reports: for information / discussion and comments if necessary
 - a. Social Centre
The village hall has been redecorated and bark ready to be spread on the play area.
 - b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group, following the meeting on 21/10/2015
 - The joint Core Strategy for Tewksbury/Gloucester/Cheltenham is under public consultation and examination under which the Ashchurch Camp proposal sits for circa 5000plus houses plus other uses. Representation has been made to the inspector to consider measures to prevent the villages becoming 'rat runs' and that the woodland belt between the development and Bredon Hill side of the site is made wider to limit the visual impact on the AONB.
 - An agreement was reached to support Eckington to oppose an application to convert and extend the former MOD Radar Station to provide overnight accommodation and meeting room for the Deer Park Hall Weddings and Business Centre. The site sits in an SSSI and SAC.
 - It is expected an application will be submitted for the proposed Beckford care Village by the end of December - 100 dwellings and high end care unit for 48 and there appears to be mixed views within the village. Could have an impact on Ashton re additional traffic if the Groaten is used to access the development.
 - Bredon PC has submitted its draft document to Wychavon for the public consultation stage and Eckington PC have just adopted the draft document ready for public consultation. Cllr Matt Darby of Bredon PC is happy to provide Ashton PC with advise on the process.
The group are still without a secretary and suggested that Ashton PC can provide its social media/notice board to help advertise for the post.

It was agreed the PC would post an advert KR
 - c. PACT FM
Local incidents were reported

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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- d. Lengthsman SH
It was agreed the Lengthsman could remove leaves
 - e. Vehicle Activated Sign SH
 - f. Defibrillator SS
Sold for £593.02
 - g. Flooding SH
Drains to be cleared
 - h. Highways issues (current traffic congestion proposal by WCC & School) FM/SS
CC Hardman was in attendance and discussed chasing the traffic survey. AH
 - i. Trees in the Parish NM
It was agreed to speak to a professional about the trees along the Groaten.
 - j. Communications KR
 - k. Footpaths
CC Hardman said he would check on the status of the footpath from the memorial to the church. He did state that there are years of backlog on path repairs and we could consider match funding to expedite. He would request a quote on this repair. Chair agreed to write to Highways with details of the issues. SS/AH
 - l. Neighbourhood plan
Document submitted to Wychavon. Going to consultation, expect to have answer end of the year, early 2016. Meeting to be scheduled between Cllr Janette Becket and Cllr Matt Darby as per the BHCG update.
4. District and County Councillors' reports: for information. (Items raised for decision will appear on the agenda for the next meeting.)

Report by District Councillor Adrian Darby to Ashton under Hill PC 10 November 2015

Planning.

Your clerk sent me an email on 12 October asking me to look into this the application W/15/01918 by Mr Nicklin at the Pig Barn, The Groaten, saying that the Parish Council was not happy about it. Unfortunately it had already been signed off for delegated approval on that very same day. The Parish Council had not submitted any objection so far as I could see on the website. I had already raised an issue on this application in August to make it clear that the caravan should be removed, but I could not see any other planning reason to justify taking it to committee in the absence of any parish council objection.

W/15/01894 Barn at Paris. Change of use of Barn to Live/work unit. I have told the officer that I wish to see the response of the Cotswold Conversation Board before deciding on whether to ask for this to go to committee.

Apart from these two specifically Ashton applications I have been involved in various others in my capacity as Heritage Champion.

Appeal at Worcestershire Hunt Kennels. I am not sure whether I told you that I would be appearing at the planning appeal in August into the refusal for 90 houses at the Worcestershire Hunt Kennels. This was because one of the refusal reasons was the harmful effect on biodiversity, namely a traditional hay-meadow LWS. The outcome is still awaited but the effect on the Local Wildlife Site turned out to be irrelevant because the appellants modified their plans to reduce the impact on the important area of grassland.

ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

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Application for 100 acre solar farm at Strensham near the Grade one listed church. This was approved at the last planning meeting in spite of my speaking against it in my capacity of Heritage Champion.

Appeal against non-determination by Tewkesbury Borough Council for 550 houses at Land off Aston Fields Lane Northway. This appeal is open for representations to arrive within six weeks of 26 October 2015. I will be making a representative as Wychavon District Councillor, essentially repeating the points I made against the original application. The Parish Council might wish to do the same if it objected originally.

General Wychavon News

At their last council meetings Wychavon and Malvern Hills resolved to share their senior management teams, following their earlier decision to share a chief officer. This has the advantage of saving some salary costs while making the top jobs more attractive to candidates by giving them increased responsibilities.

5. Planning

Decisions

W/15/01918 The Pig Barn – approved

W/15/02437 Graham House non material amendment to app W/15/01202 – refused

W/15/02584 Graham House amendment of permission W/15/01202/PP – PC had no objections

Current application

W/15/01894 Paris Barn, change of use – barn to live/work unit – no objection

W/15/02572 Honeysuckle Cottage – alterations to exist first floor bedroom and roof construction – no objection

6. New Homes Bonus

Looks like storage container & marquee are the clear winners. With benches and white gates close behind.

7. Phone box door has been removed, needs new wooden frame

FM

8. Finance

- Cheques for payment approved

M English	£ 481.49
Wychavon DC – Elections	£ 937.72
OHL	£ 9.04
Grant Thornton	£ 150.00

- Bank balance

Bank balance as at the 21st October £10,544.06

Savings- £ 3,3134.32

Total cash assets for the PC as at 21st October 2015 = £13,858.38

- It was agreed to increase the precept, further meeting of the Finance Committee (All members) to be held to agree on the budget. This is after The Clerk confirms if a referendum is likely to be called for an increase of that size. In addition it was agreed to review likely expenditure for the coming year from ASC and

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Churchyard Maintenance, plus send out notification to the village via the Newsletter of likely increase, for comment.

9. Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.
 - Cllr Cope & Hague to send in Declaration of interest to Wychavon ASAP
 - Cllr Cope & Hague to take identification to HSBC in Evesham

10. 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.
 - Next year's Ashton Open Gardens weekend will be Saturday 11th and Sunday 12th June 2016. The theme for the weekend will be Happy and Glorious to commemorate the 90th birthday of Queen Elizabeth II. Following the success of the event this year £5,425 has been distributed between St Barbara's, The Social Centre, The two Schools, The Guides and the WI.

11. Date of next meeting: Tuesday 12th January at 7pm. The meeting closed at 9.25pm

.....(chair)

.....(date)

PUBLIC NOTES

Members of the public attended the meeting to request that the council continue to support both the Social Centre and the Church. They stated that both organisations could not run without this funding and requested that the council increase the precept in order to afford this. It was agreed to put a note out to residents advising them on the increase in the precept.

David Finch asked Cllr Darby about the planning application at the entrance to the Groaten

Mr Fletcher stated that trees in the Groaten need attention every two years, both sides of the hedge. He was also concerned that we have lost two trees in the parish and requested a second opinion be sought when felling trees.