

# ASHTON UNDER HILL PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk to the Council: Michelle English

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## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November @ 7pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill

Members and Officers present: Cllr Hewitt (Chair), Wood, Rowley, Barker & McIntyre

1. The Chair welcomed Cllrs, there was one member of the public
2. Apologies: Cllr Cope and Michelle English - Clerk
3. 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, none
  - 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

*The Chair reminded the following Councillors that they still needed to submit their declaration of interest to Wychavon: N McIntyre*

4. Public Question Time – A resident of Long Carrant Park attended to seek advice on the progress of alterations to the road in front of entrance to Long Carrant Park. Cllr Hewitt assured them that the PC has been in regular contact to check when works will begin but has had no response from contractors (Keir). Works have been approved. The resident reminded council that there have been numerous accidents outside the entrance due to a blind summit; entrances & exits to the garage, antique centre & static caravan site, all of which are located roughly opposite Long Carrant entrance.

5. The minutes of the Sep 2019 Parish Council Meeting had an amendment to item 6i (Handrail installation). Cllr Hewitt to amend and sign.
6. No District and County Councillor's reports forwarded for the meeting.
7. Progress Reports
  - a. Social Centre – no report.
  - b. Bredon Hill Conservation Group – October meeting. One of the items covered concerned the proposal for implementation of a speed limit around the Hill on connecting roads between villages. 40-50mph was suggested. Ashton PC support this proposal and Chair will write to Cllr Hardman (County Cllr) at end of November. Next meeting 2nd April 2020 at 7.15 Elmley Castle. New chair James Maude. Action SH
  - c. PACT – meeting with West Mercia still to be arranged after two postponements. Action KR
  - d. Lengthsman – Stonecroft hedge and 22 Elmley Roads have been cut back. Lengthsman to be asked to undertake a regular litter pick soon.
  - e. Vehicle Activated Sign arriving this week and SH will test, before installing on the Groaten. The existing one will be kept and will be moved around the village on a regular basis. Action SH
  - f. Flooding - Regarding the flooding issue outside the Moat House, Cllr Hardman has requested Highways to investigate more thoroughly. Action SH
  - g. Highways & Byways - The following street signs are damaged and replacements requested: Bakers Lane, Elmley Rd & Willow Close. The repair of the pavement from Wood Lane to Elmley end of the village has been approved but no date set yet.
  - h. Trees in the Parish. Two ash and two hornbeam trees have been removed and we await replacements for replanting in Dec/Jan.
  - i. Communication – Discussion as to how we can find out about new arrivals to village with a view to sending a 'welcome pack' with information about website, facebook, newsletter, group email, details of clubs & events etc. KR to investigate. Action KR

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- j. Neighbourhood Plan - In the light of the latest South Worcestershire Development Plan, where considerable housing development is planned, and where it was specifically stated that NPs will be taken into account; it has been decided to begin a Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Barker will contact residents who have expressed an interest in helping. Action JB
  - k. Broadband gaps - Cllr McIntyre to firstly contact OpenReach/BT to see if the drop out problems can be resolved. If this fails, she will approach Airband Community Network to discuss and possibly arrange a presentation from them. Action NM
  - l. Phone box - to be used for books & as an information point. Quotes to be obtained for shelving unless volunteers can be found in the village. Footpath team will also be approached and asked. Action KR/NM
  - m. Speeding signs - It was agreed to display children's 'Reduce your speed posters' and to ask First School if more could be produced so that they can be 'rotated' in order to remain eye catching to motorists. KR to obtain a quote to enlarge & laminate existing posters. Action KR
  - n. Footpaths - Cleared two fallen trees that were blocking footpaths above Ashton Wood house. Have received new gate from WCC to be installed at the far top corner of the Bredon Gate field on way to cherry orchard. This will replace broken stile. New signs / waymark posts have installed in field behind cricket pavilion to define path for owner after sheep worrying incident. Agreed to install handrails on the footpath between Chandler's End and Gorse Hill.
- 8 Planning application notifications. None received.

### Planning decisions

19/02214/RM - Amendments to Bredon Gate development regarding re-siting of hedging and trees to be sent to Wychavon Planning. These are that the new hedging and trees be semi mature and of native species.

- 9. Finance
  - a. Bank balances as at 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019
    - Current account       £ 20, 950.27
    - Savings account -     £ 3,325.93
  - b. Cllr Hewitt to prepare budget for next financial year before next meeting. Action SH

Ref	Payee	Description	Net	VAT	Total
1	Brian Arrowsmith	Lengthsman Sep	£ 168.00	£ -	£ 168.00
2		Lengthsman Oct	£ 168.00	£ -	£ 168.00
3	W Collins Tree	Tree care	£ 300.00	£ -	£ 300.00
4	L Stewart	Wages	£ 225.40	£ -	£ 225.40
5	M English	Wages	£ 287.70	£ -	£ 287.70
6	PKF	Audit	£ 200.00	£ 40.00	£ 240.00
7	Royal British Legion	Memorial Wreath	£ 18.00	£	£ 18.00
8	Gardens by Jenny	Verge Mowing	£ 1960.00	£	£ 1960.00
	TOTALS		£ 3327.10	£ 40.00	£ 3367.10

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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).
  - a. A request was made for us to consider the dropping of kerbs on Elmley Road at the junction of Cornfield Way, to assist prams and disability scooters . This will be requested via Highways. Action SH
  - b. A complaint was made about the perceived mess at The Pig Barns, requesting enforcement action to resolve. There are no enforcement issues to action, as there are no planning contraventions. A request will be made to tidy the area, and perhaps provide screening via evergreen shrubs to the road.
  - c. A request was made for an up to date photograph of the Councillors. Unfortunately one Councillor was unwell and new Clerk not yet engaged, so this is delayed until January 2020 meeting.
  - d. A report was made that 4 trees instead of 1 had been cut back from in front of Bredon Gate development. This is in line with the revised plans for the pavement redirection. This is the revised plan, so no planning breach.
11. Clerk's report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting
12. Councillor's 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.
  - a. New Parish Clerk- Michelle English, who has been our clerk for 9 years, is emigrating to Australia. We wish her well with this new adventure in her life and warmly thank her for all her support over the years. Unfortunately, the newly appointed clerk resigned at short notice and we have not been able to engage a replacement yet.
  - b. Suggestion made by JB regarding installing traffic calming at entrances to village to slow vehicles entering. SH to investigate. Action SH
13. With nothing further to discuss, the meeting closed at 8.50pm. The date for the next meeting was confirmed 14<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

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Signed  
Chair

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Date