

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES - AUGUST 2022

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 23rd AUGUST 2022 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK)) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), 10 Members of the Public & the Clerk Jean Sangster. Mr F Eagle (FE) attended later.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr K Collins (KC) & Mr L Ready (LR)
The minutes of last meeting held on 26th July 2022 had been circulated and were passed and signed.

AK gave an update on the fire problems and the Wellbeing Evening. He thanked the Brethren for all their help providing food for the evening. He advised that the Trustees had had a very good meeting with Norfolk Community Foundation and some sound advice on how to deal with the funds received. Their initial thoughts are that an interim payment be made to all the homeless and Trustees had spoken with some people who lost their gardens and others who had donated and they were all in agreement that the funds should go to those people who lost their homes. Offers of help with gardens and form filling have also been received. The Swaffham Rotary Club had collection buckets on their stall in the Market Place on behalf of the fire victims and this will be added to the funds which stand at the present time at approx. £33,000.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Concerns again expressed regarding the Uphall Lane footpath and the lack of signage and also the rail for bridge at top of Ashill Estate. Clerk confirmed that the Highways are dealing with rail and AK still to see farmer.

Resident offered to re-varnish the seat on the common which was gratefully accepted.

Also reported that verges left uncut in Millfield and clerk will report this to NCC.

Concerns expressed regarding the rebuilding of cottages on The Green and it was felt that we must ensure that the frontage is rebuilt as it was.

REPORT FROM MR EAGLE

He confirmed that Ashill would be top of the list for a 'Swift Tower' and will be looking at various sites for this.

He expressed thanks to the Swaffham Mayor for providing the 'Fairground' attractions at the Community Centre recently which had been very well attended.

He commented on the future of the village with regard to the Local Plan that is undergoing review and advised that villages will have to consider being self-sustaining with more local businesses and employment.

He will investigate the lack of footpath signs that NCC had failed to supply.

With regard to the TROD, he suggests that next year he includes this with the cutting of the verges that comes out of his budget.

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – All potholes to be reported as per last month now that road has been resurfaced.

Also, to report the state of Common Road.

Play Equipment – Monthly check awaited. Date to be arranged for working party to carry out painting of goal posts and old swings, the work to roundabout and check seats. Anyone wishing to volunteer to help, please contact Andy Thomas Tel: 01760440201.

The broken seat has been removed and this prompted much discussion regarding 'Memorial Seats' which resulted in an agreement that any future benches must be of sustainable material and as the old benches fall into disrepair the plaques be placed in one central place.

It was agreed the Clerk could now apply for a grant for new swings from the Breckland Inspiring Communities fund.

Playing Field – Request for tennis court to be used as overflow car park for Fete on 4th September and JLg will remove net. RL still to obtain quote for Dog Sign. No reply from TRELLE re crack in driveway.

Police – Following a conversation with the Police Inspector, the Clerk advised that he wished the Parish Council to arrange the meeting with Highways regarding traffic calming and then the Police could support the Parish. Clerk to arrange meeting.

Speedwatch – No further problems with SAM2. All info from Speedwatch sessions sent to members and Police.

Footpaths – Warden requested that Clerk chase up Waymarkers.

Community Centre – Youths have been kicking footballs against back wall and broken gutters which will be repaired. Advise that action will be taken against anyone found damaging the Comm. Centre.

Ashill Estate – No further news regarding the drainage of this land.

Car Scheme – No response to advert for co-ordinator.

Notice Board for Community Centre – This will be installed on Monday 29th August.

Dunnetts Close Development – Further details had been submitted to Breckland but no response.

Swaffham Road Back Land – Breckland had advised that the sale had gone ahead but we have heard nothing back from residents.

Wayland Partnership – No Meeting held.

Community Assets – Reply now received that as this is partly a dwelling this cannot be included as a Community Asset.

Allotment Rents – Annual rents are due in October and Clerk suggested that these be collected by 13th October. Most holders pay by direct payment so Clerk will advise details via email or payment by cheque direct to her.

Community Resilience Plan – Draft plan received that could be adapted for an Emergency Plan for the village. It was agreed to form a Working Party and the Clerk will book hall and place notice in Ashlnk. Request for Mobile phone numbers to be displayed and Clerk will amend notice for board.

Hedge in Dunnetts Close – Clerk requested this be cut back but no reply received from Victory so will report again.

Flagship Land in Dunnetts Close – This is the former garage site which is being sold by auction. One resident of Old Allotment Close had requested that Parish Council consider buying this and residents would turn it into a Community Garden. A discussion about this area followed and majority voted against Parish purchasing this but the public raised several queries about the area of land to be sold and access so Clerk to contact Flagship for verification.

Funfair – This had proved to be a lovely afternoon thanks to the Mayor of Swaffham and letter of thanks to be sent.

CORRESPONDENCE OF NOTE

Newsletters from NorfolkALC circulated to Members

George Freeman MP requesting support against National Grid's lack of consultation over their plans to install pylons along coast.

Clerk to write to MP regarding the concerns of residents that are unable to obtain NHS dental treatment.

Community Energy Campaign – Request for support.

Civility & Respect Pledge – National Assoc. of Local Councils request Councils to register and sign the Pledge. Council will discuss this further at next meeting.

PLANNING

3PL/2022/0666/VAR - Approved for Variation on plans at Milton Lodge Fir Park.

3DC/2022/0027/DOC – Discharge of conditions 9 & 10 Complete

3PL/2022/0569/HOU – Permission granted for extension and conversions at Badgers, Hale Road.

Accounts due for payment for AUGUST were passed & signed.

Members agreed to continue with the external Audit arrangements as before.

APPOINTMENT OF REPRESENTATIVE ON ASHILL WELFARE TRUSTEES

It was agreed that Mr R Leighton continue in this position for next 4 years.

RE-OPEN TO PUBLIC

Reported that the parking problem in Church Street is improving and that visitors to White Hart are allowed to use land owned by Mr Tufts.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

It was suggested that now water low in pond that this would be a good time to clean it and request for help to be advertised.

It is noted that a second entrance is being used at the new site in Hale Road and Members to monitor this site and access.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING –TUESDAY 27th SEPTEMBER 2022 AT 7.30pm
IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE.**