

# ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1145.

22<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2023

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> AUGUST 2023 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chairman, Mr R Leighton (RL) Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr J Leggett (JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mr J Pearson (JP), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), 5 Members of the Public, the Clerk Jean Sangster.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr A Howell (AH), due to work commitments & Mr F Eagle

The minutes of meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2023 had been circulated and were passed and signed as a correct record.

There were no additional Declarations of Interest.

## REPORT FROM DISTRICT /COUNTY COUNCILLOR

None this month.

## OPEN TO PUBLIC

A Parishioner reported that the trees have been broken off along Sw, Rd. and dumped in ditch which will cause an obstruction. Agreed to speak to landowner.

Drains have been inspected by a Parishioner and reported that many grated drains are blocked and kerb off-lets obstructed. Clerk to report again to include the one in driveway to 53 Woodlands.

## MEETING CONTINUED

### **Matters arising from last meeting**

**Highways** – The planks have been installed across ditch in Uphall Lane but no safety rail. This will be checked.

Other matters raised at meeting with Jack Griffiths to be questioned again as path along frontage to Woodlands has been cleared and hedges trimmed but rubbish still not taken away and dumped on bank. JG had requested that if this happened to report to him.

Other matters that have not been dealt with are :- Boundary to Woodlands along Watton Rd and Ch. St. One resident advised Chair that he has always been told that hedge and trees are Highways and Clerk will raise this with JG.

There has been no action to TROD and gulleys have not been dug out on verge opposite Millfield. Clerk has found details of areas of grass that were handed back to NCC to maintain in the village and will query amount they would pay if Parish Council took this on. Clerk to get quote for work.

**Play Equipment** – Monthly Inspection was carried out. Matting still to be placed under old swings but height required has not been confirmed. Tennis Court in need of spraying but no specification for netting surround as yet. The question of surround for roundabout was again raised as no further quotes have been received. AS suggested that another piece of equipment be purchased and include the safety surface for roundabout in invoice so that it is covered as a capital project. The Financial Officer was not happy about this and suggested that no action be taken until the question is raised with the Training Officer and this was agreed.

**Playing Field** – VOLUNTEER WORK – This had been arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> September but Football Team have a match booked so would not be possible to carry out the work whilst children and spectators in vicinity so re-arranged for Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Notice to be displayed and put this on Facebook.

Clerk requested that 'KEEP CLEAR' be repainted in front of field entrance gate especially now that the matches were to start. JP and AT to get this done. AS reported that trees in copse need sleeves removed. As Mr Fletcher is not keen to carry on as Warden agreed to seek replacement.

**Container for storage** – The work has been completed apart from lighting and Cubs and St John's have now cleared the changing room. Keys have been cut for Cubs and paperwork issued for signing. Clerk to hold one key. Thanks were expressed to all who had helped to get this project completed.

**Police** – Nothing to report this month.

**Speedwatch** – Nothing to report.

**Footpaths** – dealt with earlier.

**Community Centre** – Fete to be held on 3d September at 11.00am. Request for removal of tennis net to enable additional parking was made but Councillors felt that this should not be taken down having just got it repaired so only half court will be used.

**Ashill Estate** – Reported later.

**Wayland Partnership** – No meeting.

**Emergency Plan** – Leaflets delivered with Ashlink but there had been no response to this from Public.

**Food Bus** – Time changed again.

**Old Allotment Close** – Email from resident requesting that when meeting with Maintenance Company held residents be invited to attend. Clerk to reply that Company had not arranged a date and to suggest that residents should direct their request to them as they are paying for this maintenance. Also suggested that Council find out who is responsible for the pipe that runs across Green.

**At this point the Chair OPENED meeting to Football Team.**

They requested permission to site another compound area for storage of goals to west side of Community Centre. Concerns raised regarding cutting of hedge and distance from building so agreed to meet on site to discuss this further. Fixture list supplied. Chair CLOSED meeting.

**Gas Installation** – The Chair had received another update from resident of Millfield regarding the use of the verge for storage but no date has been given for this to be removed.

JL had contacted CADENT personally regarding her concerns about the depth of the high pressure main to front of her property. This had prompted a Senior Engineer measuring and placing signs on verge which indicated that the main runs very close to road and is in fact only 350mm in ground in some places. He has classed this in his report as RED. Clerk had also contacted CADENT and received three calls in reply assuring her that the matter is being discussed as Urgent and she will get back to Clerk as soon as they have decided what they can do.

The Clerk felt that as this is a matter of urgency, the Council should give them until end of month for a definite reply on their proposals and if not received then this matter should be reported to MP and Press. This was agreed,

**Allotments and Land to Rent** – Rents are due on 9<sup>th</sup> October and Clerk has placed notice in Ashlink. Also the Marl Pit and Former Surveyor's Land is due for Tender for next 3 years so this has been advertised as well. Tenders to be delivered to Clerk by Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September.

**Training for all Councillors** – Reminder this has been arranged for Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 7.00 – 9.00pm

## CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated

NorfolkALC – New Website. Details of logins.

Breckland – Notification of Pilot Fund for Local Towns and request for ideas. Nothing for Villages. Clerk had asked FE if Breckland were providing Matched Funding this year and he had replied not at moment.

Complaint received from Groundscape who had provided a quote for village maintenance at beginning of year. He felt that we had provide incorrect information re cutting machinery and Clerk to reply that next year we will give a detailed specification of requirements.

Email from Mr Billy Ewan regarding his planning application to build 4 large dwellings on land in Sw. Rd. which had been refused. He would like to meet Councillors to put forward his intentions for the site and Clerk will advise that he could attend next meeting and speak during the open part of the meeting.

## PLANNING APPLICATIONS

**3PL/2023/0785/F** - Demolition of existing main dwelling and erection of new dwelling on same site at The Old Hall, Cressingham Road for Mr J Williams. Return with No objections.

**3PN/2023/0015/UC** - Prior approval for proposed change of use of agricultural buildings to 5 dwellings at Greengate Farm Cressingham Rd. Return with no objections.

Breckland Validation List – Request for comments online will be advertised.

FINANCE

**PAID Direct Debit** - SWALEC payment for Power supply JULY £278.78

The following accounts due for payment for AUGUST 2023 were passed for payment proposed by JLg seconded by JP:-

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Aug.	£150-03
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Aug.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Aug. + 19.5hrs ) Expenses Aug	£133.15
Anglian Water (WAVE) Supply to Allotments	£119.32
M P Dennis & Sons Hedge Cutting	to be advised
John Walker Electrical Services Wiring of Containers	£277-00

However this prompted the question of Allotment Holders paying for water separately and Clerk was asked to check out other suppliers and discount possibility.

- B) Current A/C details and copy of bank statement circulated for verification.
- C) Reserves & Investments – Clerk advised that some are due for reinvestment in October and requested that AK and AT meet her to discuss these.
- D) AUDIT – Queries have been raised and Clerk has now submitted further documents.

**THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC**

Clerk had contacted Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service but no reply received.  
Parishioner advised of cost of roundabout surfacing.

**ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

AB reported that there is a lot of condensation in the Defibrillator box and JLg will check this out as could have been switched off.

No response received from Estate Agent regarding the Hale Road site.

**EXCLUSION OF PRESS & PUBLIC**

The following resolution was passed:-

“That under Section 100(A) (4) of Local Government Act 1972, the Press & Public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on Grounds that it includes the likely disclosure of confidential information”. To Discuss Allotment Site.

Date of next monthly Meeting is TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023 AT 7.00PM IN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Meeting closed at 9.37 pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_