

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1142.

25th JULY 2023

The monthly meeting was held on Tuesday 25th JULY 2023 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm

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

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Shepherd (AS), due to other commitments

The minutes of meeting held on 27th June 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

This was given later.

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Question of ownership of wooden seats around the village was raised as these are in need of staining. The Chair advised that these are the responsibility of AVA but could be included in repair list for September. JLg to check if AVA happy to pay for material. JP suggested that a list be made of all seats/benches in the village showing who is responsible.

A request for the 'SLOW' sign to be moved from present position to the Woodlands as problem with speeding vehicles and this will be organised.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Following the problems raised last month the Councillors had met with Mr J Griffiths from Highways to discuss these. The parking outside School was one issue but unfortunately the Head Teacher was out on a School visit that day. However JG explained there is very little that can be enforced and it is down to parents to act responsibly and Head Teacher will be requested to send out letters once again at start of new term.

Ch. St. and Woodland hedges and trees were again discussed and ownership and responsibility for these is to be investigated further with NCC. Until ownership can be established action cannot be taken but if it is found that the residents are responsible for maintenance of the hedges and trees, NCC Highways will send letters to this effect.

Gates for entrances to Village to be investigated further due to gas main.

TROD Sw. Rd – JG suggested that this could be a project for the next Partnership Scheme to have it widened and tarmacked. He will price this and let us know cost.

The 'grips' outside bungalows opposite Millfield are to be dug out as they were missed when work to rest of them through the village was carried out.

Grass Cutting within the Parish was raised and JG explained that due to financial cutbacks and NCC taking over this maintenance from Breckland, this is only carried out 4 times in one season. He informed that some Town Councils have now taken over the arrangements for cutting and it was agreed that this Council will wait until they see how this works with Swaffham.

He is to get inspection carried out of 'hump' in Watton Rd. and flooding issue outside Green Hedges following rain.

A copy of the report of this meeting is to be kept on file.

Road Closure from 1st – 4th August in Hale Rd. and the closure of Ch. St. will not be for another 6 weeks.

AT this point Mr Eagle arrived and questions were put to him as follows:-

Highways and costs which he explained. NCC had to make savings across all Wards and Social Care was costing more and more due to the fact that this region has far more elderly people than youngsters. Member of Public very concerned that drains and gulleys are not being

cleared and this causes the potholes. RL felt that the lorries carrying straw should be made to cover these to prevent the straw blocking the drains and that jetting would be better carried out in September. FE requested that if you see any of the 'Zone' signs still on display that these are taken down.

He thanked everyone who attended the Proms evening and he felt this went very well.

Play Equipment – Monthly Inspection was carried out. Remedial work is required to multi-play, bolts loose on new swings which will be reported to installers, tennis court fencing needs attention. Clerk to obtain quotes for this work. Tennis net has been repaired.

The Clerk is awaiting further quote for work to roundabout but RL will contact Inspector regarding the use of sand and also the height of old swings as AT has acquired some rubber matting to be placed under these. However the Clerk had received letter from Insurance Company regarding safety measures and advised that Council should consider carefully the use of sand.

Volunteer work is arranged for Sunday 24th September when remainder of work to equipment will be carried out.

Playing Field – Cutting much better and Football Team happy. Request from them for sponsorship boards to be displayed and it was felt these should be around pitch at time of playing and not on fence in front of play area.

The question of cutting grass in village was again raised and Clerk to ascertain which areas NCC are responsible for as TTSR are now offering this maintenance service. JP suggested that we obtain map of areas owned by NCC/BC/PC.

Container for storage – The divided container nearest hedge has now been insulated and is awaiting rewiring work to be carried out. Cost of this is estimated at approx. £300-00 so discussion followed as to the rent to be charged to St John Ambulance and Cubs who have each been paying £2-50 a week for changing rooms. It was therefore agreed to charge £1-25 each a week to be invoiced half yearly in advance for £32-50 each. RL felt that no charge should be made for hiring these but was not supported in this. Keys have been cut for Cubs.

Police – SNAP meeting held 4th July very poorly attended with no Chairperson so PC Justin Johnson gave information and is to request a reminder to Tractor drivers not to speed through village.

Speedwatch - Mr Street advised that due to road works and closures there would be no sessions in July and August.

Footpaths –The work to crossing in Uphall Lane has yet to be carried out. Report of dog being injured on one of the paths will be followed up and path inspected.

Community Centre – Guttering has been broken again.

Ashill Estate – Reported later.

Wayland Partnership – Minutes of this meeting have been circulated.

Emergency Plan – Arrangements have been made for printing of leaflets and distribution.

On-line training in how to use a Defibrillator is as follows :-

<https://www.firstaidforfree.com/online:-automated-external-defibrillator-aed-course/> All that is required is to register to login.

Food Bus – This is still not being well supported.

Gas Installation – The Chair had received an email from resident of Millfield regarding the use of the verge for storage. Residents feel that this is not the correct place for this although they have been advised that NCC gave licence for this and is second time the site has been used At this point the Chair OPENED MEETING and one Millfield resident requested action be taken to prevent this happening again. He had been told this will not be removed until September when originally he was told 7th July. MEETING CLOSED to Public and Clerk to deal with this.

Village Shop – This is now re-opened.

Training for all Councillors – Reminder this has been arranged for Tuesday 12th September 7.00 – 9.00pm

Other Matters - Hedge in Dunnetts Close now cut back. Complaint re Bonfires – first thought to be on Allotments but could be in residents gardens but reminder that these should not be left burning overnight and can only be lit between sunrise and sunset.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated
Breckland notified of Mobile Deployable Surveillance Cameras available. Suggest that could be used in Common Road where fly-tipping continues to be a problem.
Norfolk County Farms – Hedgerow restoration Scheme.
Keep Britain Tidy – Call for more funding for parks and green spaces.
Power for People – Energy Bill Committee – details circulated.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

3PL/2023/0463/F – Application for two bedroom self-build house at land Adjacent School House Watton Road has been approved.

FINANCE

(A) Accounts

PAID Direct Debit - SWALEC payment for Power supply JUNE	£306-90
URGENT A/C's Paid George Tufts & Son Ltd Insulation for Container	£399-06
Defib Store Ltd New Battery and Pads	£324-00

The following accounts due for payment for JULY 2023 were passed for payment proposed by JLg seconded by AB :-

K & M Lighting Services Maint St Lights Jul.	£150-03
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Jul.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jul. + 20hrs)	
Expenses Jul.	£105-89
Pride Press Ltd Printing of Emergency Plan Leaflets	£116-00
Mr A Thomas Reimburse for Matting	£40-00

- B) Current A/C details and copy of bank statement circulated for verification.
- C) No change to Reserves & Investments this month.
- D) AUDIT - Confirmation of receipt of documents.

THE MEETING WAS AGAIN OPEN TO PUBLIC

Clerk was asked to contact Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service regarding the result of investigation into the fire in the village that occurred a year ago.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk was asked to contact the Estate Agents who are dealing with the new properties being built in Hale Rd next to Seaview to ensure that they are aware of the conditions that are stated in the Breckland decision notice regarding occupation that should not occur until the car parking area and footway are in place.

The question of access through the former Flagship garage site to rear of Dunnetts Close had been raised with the Chair and Clerk by resident who had been told that this is now private land with no pedestrian access and this was confirmed.

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 22nd AUGUST 2023 AT 7.00PM IN COMMUNITY CENTRE.

Meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed

Date

