

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

909.

22nd AUGUST 2017

A meeting of the Council was held on Tuesday 22nd AUGUST 2017 in the Community Centre at 7.30pm.

Councillors present:- Mr A Ketteringham - Vice-Chairman, Mrs M Helsby, Mrs J Lusher, Mr M Blackman, Mr K Collins, Mr J Leggett & Mr L Ready. Also in attendance Mr F Eagle, County Councillor.

Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Leighton due to other commitments, Mrs M Forsyth due to hospital visit and Mr F Sharpe.

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr Ketteringham took the Chair and welcomed Mr Collins back after his long illness.

The Chairman first offered apologies to the Clerk for the Council not supporting her at the last meeting in regard to the problems over Ashill in Bloom and this has now all been resolved but in future any complaints arising from Councillors or Clerk should be dealt with outside of meeting through the Chairman and Vice-Chairman.

DECLARATION OF INTERESTS – There were none.

The Minutes of Meeting held on 25th July 2017 were taken as read, passed and signed as correct.

As Mr Eagle had another engagement, he gave his report at this point informing that this Parish was one of the best attended meetings in his area.

He is now on different Committees and deals with County Farms saying that these must work for the County and NORSE.

He again spoke about the funding for Highways and several suggestions were made and concerns raised regarding the state of Church Street and the overhanging trees. He confirmed that this needs to be sorted once and for all and requested that the Parish meet with Mr Jacklin and query this and the outstanding jobs, in particular the footway in Dunnetts Close.

He informed that there is a real need for retained Firefighters and anyone interested should get in touch via website.

The Chairman thanked Mr Eagle for his attendance.

MATTERS ARISING

HIGHWAYS - Following Mr Eagle's report, the Clerk was asked to contact Mr Jacklin from Highways and arrange a meeting.

Letter received regarding 'stopping-up' of Hale Road frontage of new houses being built by Mr Rowe. It is not clear what this means so Clerk will get this clarified.

PLAY EQUIPMENT – Check carried out. Mr Leggett reported that there are still 2 broken posts on perimeter and these will be repaired. The swing seats on old swings are beginning to break up so these will be monitored. No quotes received as yet for roundabout. The revised quote for MUGA has been received from HAGS showing this increased to £81,774-00 + VAT. Mr Ready had inspected the work at the Swaffham site and was very impressed with this so it was proposed by Mr Collins seconded by Mr Ready that this be accepted. All agreed and Clerk will now endeavour to get plans to Breckland and grant applied for.

PLAYING FIELD – Mr Barrett has now completed the painting of posts, seats and the marking out. Concerns raised regarding dog fouling and lack of bins. Clerk to contact Dog Warden for posters.

FOOTBALL TEAM – Mr Griffiths explained that the first match had now been changed due to one club withdrawing from league and this will be played away so first match at Ashill will be 24th September. Much discussion took place over the proposed containers to be sited at back of Community Centre for use as storage for Cubs and St John's.

It was finally proposed by Mr Leggett seconded by Mr Ready that secondhand containers be purchased at a cost of £1450-00 each + VAT as even new ones would need to be insulated. All agreed and Mr Ready will get these ordered.

Quotes are to be obtained for connecting electricity to containers and an outside light and for laying a concrete path from Upton Room door to containers and rear door of Community Centre.

The matter of ownership and payment was then discussed and it was agreed that these should remain in the ownership of Parish Council and be included in Asset Register and insured by Council. The matter of leasing will be discussed at next meeting.

WAYLAND PARTNERSHIP – As Mrs Forsyth was unable to attend meeting there was no report but the monthly newsletter is displayed on notice board in Comm. Centre. Mr Otterway will attend September meeting to introduce himself and give information re Partnership.

POLICE - Crime Report – 1 Crime reported in village for May – 1 violence & sexual offence. Request to be made to PCSO Bailey to visit village re drug dealing.

FOOTPATHS – Mr Sharpe had informed Clerk that Nth Pickenham had obtained their map from Ordnance Survey so this will be investigated.

SPEEDWATCH SCHEME - Mrs Lusher reported that 3 sessions had been held which resulted in 22 drivers being reported between 35 – 47 mph. One session held between 5.00 and 6.00pm resulted in 12 being recorded.

COMMUNITY CENTRE – The Chairman reported that there are events arranged right through to Christmas and New Year and fundraising going well.

LYCH GATE – Chairman still awaiting wording for plaque.

SAXON GREEN – The Clerk had become aware from the Electoral Register that the new site had been named as OLD ALLOTMENT CLOSE when in fact it had been agreed by Parish and Bennetts that it should be 'GARDENS'. Clerk to contact Breckland to ask for this to be changed.

LOCAL PLAN – Notification received that Breckland cannot meet the stipulated requirement for the 5 year Housing Land Supply after all and this will mean that development can be allowed outside the settlement guideline.

Local Plan Pre-Submission Publication – details to be displayed in libraries and Breckland offices. Any observations and comments to be made by 2nd October.

ALLOTMENTS - The Clerk had met Mr Wyatt from NORSE and quotes now received for spraying and cutting. He felt that it would be a waste of money to spray the uncultivated site and suggested cutting every two months. In the meantime Mr Leggett will cut back the un-let plots and wait until the bill comes in from Mr Dennis for carrying out the first cut. Proposed by Mr Ketteringham seconded by Mr Leggett. The dumping of rubbish on site will be discussed at Allotment Meeting.

ASHILL ESTATE –No news from Mary Ralph from Brown & Co re valuation.

LEASE FOR GAS REDUCTION STATION – No reply received re our request for Lease to be amended.

COMMUNITY CAR SCHEME – The co-ordinator had asked if Parish Council felt that flowers could be given when drivers retire and if Christmas cards should be sent to all drivers. It was felt that this was not necessary and would be difficult to start this now when other drivers had not been given gifts on retirement. Pointed out that this is only a Scheme for Ashill.

STREET LIGHTING – Reported that light in Millfield and light outside 1 Fir Park both require additional work which could take 3 weeks.

ASHILL IN BLOOM – Mrs Helsby reported that the last barrel should be in place shortly opposite School.

TREES ON LIMES & ACACIA – Quote received for £800-00. Agreed to obtain further quote. At this point the Chairman informed that there is a problem with trees in Churchyard. 3 need to be taken down and one needs branch cut off. This will cost approx. £2500-00. As this is considered a matter of urgency it was agreed to get a second quote and whichever is lowest to get work carried out asap. This was proposed by Mr Collins seconded by Mr Leggett. All agreed.

COMMUNITY GARDEN – A public meeting has been arranged for Saturday 16th September in the Community Centre between 10.00am and 12noon to ascertain interest and way forward.

TRAINING AND DATA PROTECTION – Mr Leighton had suggested that a figure be included in the Budget for Training and it was proposed that this should be done when Clerk provides Budget for next year. It was also agreed that Clerk and Mrs Lusher could attend the Employment Training Session at Swaffham on 9th November. Awaiting further date from NorfolkALC for DATA Training.

At this point Mr Collins had to leave meeting.

TELEPHONE KIOSK – The Clerk had now obtained paperwork for the adoption of the Kiosk in Church Street and it was proposed by Mrs Lusher seconded by Mr Blackman that this be adopted at a cost of £1-00. Agreed.

CORRESPONDENCE

Very little general correspondence which included newsletters from Norfolk ALC which had been circulated to Members.

Request from Solicitors for name of Tenant of Ashill Estate regarding an accident in January 2016 on road caused by mud. This has been dealt with.

AT THIS POINT THE CHAIRMAN INVITED QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mrs Hardy expressed thanks for the varnishing of seats.

She also asked if the footways along main street could be widened as now very overgrown by weeds. This request will go to Rangers for next visit.

Mrs Thomas asked if 'gates' were to be sited at entrance to village to warn traffic of speed restrictions but this is something that developers had suggested and will be investigated.

Query re 30mph signs at each end of village – should there be two? Check.

There is an overhanging tree covering the speed sign along Watton Road.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no applications this month but the application for Mr & Mrs Spalding had been granted.

FINANCE

The following Accounts were passed for Payment for AUGUST proposed by Mrs Helsby seconded by Mrs Lusher:-

Car Scheme Payments for Jun. & Jul. £564.19

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Aug.	£120-13
E.ON Power Supply to Street Lights Jul..	£266-30
Jean Sangster & Mrs J Pickard Wages Aug..	Undisclosed
Expenses Aug.	£64-60
NORSE Maintenance Limes & Acacia Aug.	£96-76
NORSE Spraying at Comm. Centre. 1 month	£33-41
James Marshall Strim.C C.Jul.	£50-00
D R Gooding Installation of Concrete Pads at C.C.	£430-00
Ashill PCC 2/3rds Payment for Removal of Tree in Churchyard	£500-00
M P Dennis & Sons Work on Allotments	?
Robert Barrett Painting at Comm. Centre	£910-00
Purchase of Containers	?
Mazars Audit Fee	£240-00
BT Payphones Adoption of Kiosk	£1-00

Current A/C and Reserve had been circulated.

The Clerk reported that the Investment with Hodge Bank was due to end and requested permission to reinvest with them in a 1 Year bond. This was proposed by Mrs Lusher seconded by Mr Leggett. Mr Leighton has still not provided information on the investment fund that pays 6% so no further action can be taken to clarify this fund at the present time but other funds will come up for reinvestment in September to be looked into.

Audit Report – This had highlighted that the documents had been signed in incorrect order and this was noted for next year.

The Clerk informed that the following two areas of land come up for tender in October : Marl Pit Swaffham Road and Former Surveyor's Land Cressingham Road. These will be advertised and discussed at next meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Request for Horn's Corner to be cut back again as view along Swaffham Road obscured. Allotment Meeting 12th October at 7.30pm to be advertised and discuss compensation if holders asked to move to new site.

Mrs Blackman had confirmed that she is willing to do press report when Mrs Peckham unavailable.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING - TUESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 2017 at 7.30pm in
Community Centre.**

The meeting closed at 9.57pm