

**Minutes of the Ashford Parish Council Meeting
Held on Thursday 21st November 2024 at 7.00pm in the Church Hall,
St Peter's Church, Ashford**

Present: Cllrs P Hughes (Chairman), J Bosley, K Furse, G Holder, B Kettle and V Lawson

Mrs J Mills, Parish Clerk
Cllr P Maskell, DCC
Cllr R Knight
Members of the public

- 2411/55 **Apologies**
Cllr M Withey
- 2411/56 **Declarations of Interest**
Members were reminded that all interests should be declared at the beginning of the meeting and prior to the item being discussed.
- 2411/57 **To agree the Agenda between Part A and Part B (confidential information)**
It was **resolved** to agree the Agenda between Part A and Part B (confidential information).
Proposed: Cllr Lawson, Seconded: Cllr Bosley, (all in favour)
- 2411/58 **Minutes**
It was **resolved**, to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Thursday 19th September 2024 as a correct record
Proposed: Cllr Hughes, seconded: Cllr Holder, (all in favour)
- 2411/59 **County Councillor Report**
Cllr Maskell's report was read out and will be attached to the minutes.
- 2411/60 **District Councillor Report**
Cllr Knight reminded Members about the Forum meeting to be held at Brynsworthy on 27th November at 6.30pm, for those unable to attend in person they can attend by zoom. He also advised that the Emergency Planning Officer is happy to attend a parish council meeting to discuss flooding and emergency planning. NDC are opening a hub in Green Lanes making the Council more accessible.
- 2411/61 **Public Participation**
A member of the public enquired about the possibility of a safe crossing over the A361, for those using the Tarka Trail. The County Councillor responded advising that a crossing is planned, as part of the safer road scheme from Barnstaple to Ilfracombe, it is at the design stage currently but it is hoped the crossing installation will be a priority.

The County Councillor stated that APC had indicated its support for a crossing, a long time ago

- 2411/62 **To receive Action Points report from the last meeting**
The report was noted,
- 2411/63 **Highways Issues**
Ashfield Lane still not repaired with plannings as APC were advised would be, e-mail to be sent to Steve Short
The flood at Heanton Road was discussed and work is ongoing
- Cllr Hughes spoke about the significant amount of leaves around the area and **proposed** that it would be sensible to employ a road sweeper temporarily at a cost of a maximum of £300, in about a month's time. This was **seconded** by Cllr Holder and all were in favour.
Action Point: Parish Clerk to email re planings and Cllr Hughes to engage a road sweeper.
- 2411/64 **Report from Parish Clerk to include: Payment and Receipts and online banking, also consideration of having a gov.uk email**
The Parish Clerk read two items of correspondence thanking Cllr Hughes for his work around the parish and the installation of the defibrillator. Online banking is progressing.
The gov.uk domain name will be further discussed at the next meeting
It was **resolved** to agree the payments presented:
- | | |
|----------------------------------|---------------|
| M Baker grass cuts Aug/Sept | £120.00 |
| Cllr Hughes reimb P/O paint | £79.86 |
| T Mew hedge cutting | £144.00 |
| Ashford Church Council Hall Hire | £20.00 |
| Parish Clerk salary | £109.10 |
| Parish Clerk salary and travel | £156.35 |
| HMRC | <u>£27.40</u> |
| Total | £656.71 |
- Proposed: Cllr Hughes, seconded: Cllr Furse (all in favour)
- 2411/65 **To consider proposals for the budget and precept**
Having considered the draft budget including earmarked reserves, general reserves and expenditure,
It was **resolved** to accept the budget and the precept in the sum of £5000
Proposed: Cllr Holder, seconded: Cllr Bosley, (all in favour)
- 2411/66 **Planning**
Planning Applications: to consider
78926 and 79302 information sent by email
Members agreed to make no further comments
- 2411/67 **To consider a grant request from Mid Devon Mobility**
Members were unable to support the application at this time
Action Point: Parish Clerk to respond
- 2411/68 **To receive an update on the current situation with the defibrillator**

Members were advised that the heater has been on and the batteries are holding up

2411/69 **To consider views on the practical implications of allowing remote and hybrid attendance at local authority meetings views on possible introduction of proxy voting when an elected Member, due to personal circumstances, may be unable to attend, even remotely.**

It was **resolved** to respond to the consultation advising this council is against both proposals

Proposed: Cllr Bosley, seconded: Cllr Holder (all in favour)

Action Point: Parish Clerk to respond

2411/70 **To confirm the date of the next meeting**
Scheduled for 16th January 2025

Part B

2411/71 **To resolve: that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies(Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting.**

It was **resolved** that under section 1(2) of the PublicBodies(Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr Hughes, seconded: Cllr Lawson (all in favour)

2411/72 **To consider Staff Matters**

It was agreed to place this on the agenda for the next meeting

Action Point: Agenda item next meeting

2411/73 **To resolve to readmit members of the press and public**

It was **resolved** to readmit members of the press and public

Proposed: Cllr Hughes, seconded: Cllr Lawson (all in favour)

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed.....Dated.....
Chair