

ASHFORD PARISH COUNCIL.

**Minutes of Ashford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 15th October
2020 at 7.30pm.**

The meeting was conducted remotely, via Zoom.

| | |
|--|---|
| Meeting Chaired by Councillor P Hughes. | Temporary Clerk – Katherine Cole. |
| <u>Councillors Present:</u> Mrs. J. Bosley. Mr. D. Hall. Mr. P. Hughes. Mr. G. Holder. Mr. V. Lawson. Mr. M. Moss. Mrs. S. Sampson. District Councillor Mrs. A. Davies. 12 Members of the public were in attendance. | <u>Agenda:</u> 1. Representations from the public 2. Apologies for absence. 3. Declarations of interest. 4. Approval of minutes relating to the meeting held on 17th September. 5. 5.1: Balances to be provided. 5.2: To authorise payments 6. Planning. 7. The proposed email network. 8. The telephone box in Strand Lane. 9. Items to discuss. 10. Reports: 10.1: County Councillors Report. 10.2: District Councillors Report. 11. Date of next meeting. |

| <u>Item</u> | | <u>Action</u> |
|--------------------|--|----------------------|
| <u>1</u> | <u>Representations of the public:</u> The Chairman invited comments from members of the public - no comments were offered. The Chairman read an item of correspondence, from a parishioner, expressing their concern regarding holiday | |

| | | |
|----|---|---|
| | <p>homes in the Parish. Councillors were invited to comment, and the following points were made:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The sense of community currently enjoyed by the residents of Ashford was acknowledged. 2. The potential change of dynamics that increased holiday homes would bring to the parish was noted. 3. The Parish Council cannot dictate the purposes properties are used for when sold (ie. Air B&B, second homes). 4. It was agreed that the verbal response given at the meeting was sufficient” | |
| 2. | <p><u>Apologies for absence:</u> Apologies were offered from County Councillor Chugg.</p> | |
| 3. | <p><u>Declarations of interest:</u> Councillor Hughes and Councillor Sampson declared an interest regarding the proposed footpath. (Item 6.1). Councillor Hall also declared an interest owing to his position with ORS (Email network) as well as being a Trustee/Board Member of CPRE. (Item 7).</p> | |
| 4. | <p><u>Approval of minutes:</u> Councillors were asked to confirm that the minutes of the meeting held on 17th September are an accurate account of events. Councillor Hall requested that one change be made. The minutes were then approved unanimously. The minutes of the Extraordinary Planning meeting to be confirmed at the November meeting.</p> | |
| 5. | <p><u>Financials:</u> 5.1: The Clerk raised the query that no bank statements, or any bank correspondence, has been received from the Bank. Draft figures to be sent to Councillors with account balances. 5.2. The following invoices were due to be paid: Data Protection Fee: £40. CPRE Membership - £36. Payments were both authorised unanimously.</p> | <p><u>Clerk</u></p> <p><u>Clerk</u></p> |

| | | |
|----|--|--|
| | The Clerk confirmed that she is planning to enrol Ashford Parish Council on HMRC Basic Tools to deal with wages and employment. There were no objections. | |
| 6. | <p><u>Planning:</u> There were no applications to be considered.</p> <p><u>6.1: Councillor Holder in conjunction with DCC Cllr Chugg to discuss the possibility of a footpath from the Bus Stop to the Caravan Site.</u></p> <p>The Chairman cancelled Standing Orders, and Councillor Holder took the Chair.</p> <p>Councillor Holder provided background information on the current situation, which is causing concern for pedestrian safety.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the owners of land earmarked to create a footpath have been contacted. Engineers are prepared to draw up a scheme and plan of works for the project. The owners of the caravan site have been approached to offer some financial support for the project.</p> <p>Funding was discussed and it was stated that APC was not being asked to fund this project but to indicate support for it.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the road traffic risks to pedestrians have increased owing to the bus operator refusing to stop on the dual carriageway on either side. The risk increases during the holiday season owing to visitors to the area. It was noted that the bus service is well used. A letter had been sent to the Clerk from a parishioner which was read at the meeting. A reply would be sent advising that the points were noted.</p> <p>Standing Orders were reinstated.</p> <p>Councillors were asked to show their support for pursuing the proposed footpath. Councillor Hall proposed and Councillor Moss seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. Councillor Hughes resumed as Chairman.</p> | |
| 7. | The Proposed Email Network: The Chairman confirmed that various templates are being considered for a privacy policy. It is a complex issue, that is being looked at | |

| | | |
|-------------------|--|--|
| | <p>closely. There is a template on the ICO website which, with some adaptations, offers a solution.</p> | |
| <u>8.</u> | <p>The telephone box, Strand Lane: The Chairman pointed out that there are detailed topics relating to the future of the telephone box, and there are several decisions to be made within the community as to the best way forward. The proposed Email network was seen as an ideal means to gain public opinion and community support when in place, which was agreed by Councillors</p> <p>A member of the parish confirmed that he has spoken with Western Power regarding the electricity supply to the kiosk, and disconnection will not incur a fee.</p> | |
| <u>9.</u> | <p>Items to discuss: 9.1: It was confirmed that the Clerk's vacancy has been advertised on the DALC website, and that it had been decided against advertising with SLCC.</p> <p>9.2: The Chairman confirmed that the seat at the Church will be repaired. The work is being completed on a FOC basis, by a local company who are extremely busy.</p> <p>9.3: Dog fouling – There has been no further evidence since the previous meeting. A response is due from the Dog Warden, who has been asked to carry out some investigations.</p> <p>9.4: Amenity Land- There has been an exchange of emails with NDC regarding the matter. It was agreed that the Expression of Interest form needs to be specific, as S106 funding is involved. The EOI form should be completed after a Community Consultation process has been carried out. (Ashford Parish Council to organise a Community Consultation event, when the new email network is operational).</p> <p>District Councillor Davis confirmed the appropriate contacts at NDC reference S106 Funding.</p> | |
| <u>10.</u> | <p>Reports: County Councillor Chugg has sent through a detailed report – to be circulated.</p> <p>District Councillor Davis provided a report at the meeting.</p> | |
| <u>11</u> | <p>Date of the next meeting: The date of the next meeting was confirmed as Thursday, 19th November 2020 at</p> | |

| | | |
|--|--|--|
| | 7.30pm. The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 8.40pm. | |
|--|--|--|