

**Minutes of Ashford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 19 October 2017  
in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.**

<b>Chaired by: Councillor G Holder</b>		<b>Clerked by: Sue Squire</b>
<b>Present: Councillors</b>  <b>J Bleach</b> <b>Mrs J Bosley</b> <b>G Holder</b> <b>Mrs S Sampson</b> <b>Mrs B Sandwell</b> <b>J Szymankiewicz</b>  <b>District Councillor Mrs A Davis</b> <b>32 Members of the public</b>  <b>Mr M Kelly, Planning Manager, North Devon Council</b> <b>Mr G Townsend, Strategic Planning Officer, North Devon Council</b>		<b>Agenda: -</b> Items raised by members of the public Apologies Declarations of Interest Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 21/9/17 Urgent items raised at the discretion of the Chairman Reports Matters Arising Planning & Planning Correspondence Finance Correspondence Matters raised by Councillors / Clerk Items for the next Agenda Date of next meeting
		<b>Action:</b>
67.	<p><b>Items raised by members of the public.</b></p> <p><b>67.1 Tarka Park.</b> Today the NDC website still showed the decision would be delegated, despite it being known that District Councillor Mrs Davis was calling in the Application. Councillor Mrs Davis confirmed the Planning Committee will make the decision, as did Mr M Kelly if there is a sound reason for doing so. Mr Kelly explained that whilst the North Devon Council website was showing it as a delegated decision, this is the default setting when all Applications are registered.</p> <p><b>67.2 First birthday party of the telephone box to library.</b> 43 people attended this event on 15 October.</p> <p><b>67.3 Ashfield House.</b> It had been noted that the Enforcement Officer had been asked to visit the property. A resident wanted to ensure this had been done as from the Tarka Trail it looked like a large and increasing development. Details of the enforcement officer's email was advised which confirmed the details following a site visit. It was confirmed the site is monitored and can act on Parish Council's instructions.</p> <p><b>67.4 Light in the library (former telephone box).</b> This is not working. A resident was surprised that less than a year after a new type of light had been installed, a replacement was required. Councillor Bleach advised he had repaired the light and handed the Clerk an invoice for the replacement component. No labour charge had been made.</p> <p><b>67.5 Roads around and in Ashford, Barnstaple.</b> Copy correspondence was read and noted regarding representations made to DCC Highways about a great number of vehicles speeding along the road from Wrafton, Heanton Punchardon, Ashford and Pilton.</p> <p><b>67.6 Report on the Ashford Local Plan.</b> Email received giving support for the Local Plan.</p> <p><b>67.7 Barnstaple Museum.</b> Email received opposing any donation to the Museum.</p>	
68.	<b>Apologies.</b> Councillor V Lawson, County Councillor Mrs C Chugg,	
69.	<b>Declarations of Interest.</b> None.	
70.	<b>Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 21 September 2017.</b> <b>Approved and signed as a correct record.</b>	
71.	<b>Urgent items raised at the discretion of the Chairman.</b> None.	
72.	<b>Reports:</b>	

**72.1 Police.** October 2017 Newsletter received and circulated to Councillors.

**72.2 County Councillor Mrs C Chugg.** Visibility on the A361 – grass cutting of verge. There was no further information on this.

When sending her apologies, Councillor Mrs Chugg advised as follows:

The schools have been awarded an extra £7.5 million which is not a lot, but at least something and it has raised the issue we have been saying all along that we are so poorly funded in the area. The schools will allocate the money between themselves.

The Cabinet at County agreed to forward the improvement plan for the Link Road to government, which is applying for funds of £88million to upgrade the road mainly from South Molton to Bideford.

I have read part of your new plan and I really impressed with the content.

**72.3 District Councillor Mrs A Davis.**

Regarding the Local Government Boundary Commission for England's review of the Warding arrangements for North Devon Council, two proposals had been submitted. The Boundary Commission could still come back with its own proposal.

One of the proposals put forward by North Devon Council included Pilton West being put into the Heanton Punchardon Ward.

The Parish Council and residents will have the opportunity to respond to a further consultation towards the end of the year.

Mr M Kelly was present to speak about the Conservation Area.

He explained that Ashford has had the designation of Conservation Area since May 1976. Its description is "to preserve its character and enhance physical environment".

To develop the Conservation Area further, a Character Area Appraisal has to be carried out and it needs to be able to describe that it contributes towards the character of the Conservation Area. A Character Area Appraisal is not in place for Ashford.

In order to defend planning decisions, it would be expected to describe what the character is. To designate an area does not provide a description.

North Devon Council Conservation Officer will prepare an Appraisal which will be subject to full community consultation. It may compliment the Neighbourhood Plan.

**Q:** When will it be done?

**A:** It is a formal document with a 6 week consultation. Preparation will take 6 weeks, a draft proposal is made followed by a public consultation. It is anticipated this will start in January 2018.

**Q:** When she starts the work, would the Conservation Officer engage with us?

**A:** Yes. It would involve an initial meeting with the Parish Council and public for all to be fully informed, go through the formal process and adopt the document.

**Q:** What will be looked at?

**A:** Because the Conservation Area was designated many years ago it was not possible to have a review of the area.

**Q:** How would it work as a property is on the line of the Conservation Area?

**A:** The line may have to be slightly amended and redrawn. This would have to be formally adopted. The setting of the Conservation Area is important and heritage assets would be protected. It is possible to have a bigger Conservation Area.

**Q:** Why were some areas designated as a Conservation Area?

**A:** It is up to Local Authorities to prioritise them. It was not known why Ashford was designated in 1976.

**72.4 Councillor V Lawson.** Defibrillator Check. Councillor Holder advised that when Councillor Lawson sent his apologies, he confirmed that the machine was in working order.

**72.5 Neighbourhood Plan.** Councillor Szymankiewicz advised that further details had been circulated to Councillors ahead of the meeting to study.

The Chairman cancelled Standing Orders for a member of the public to speak.

We need to bear in mind the difference between the Local Plan or emerging North Devon and Torridge Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan.

Standing Orders were reinstated. Councillor Bleach addressed the meeting as follows:

Thank you Mr Chairman

I would like to welcome Mr Graham Townsend the working parties primary contact in the local planning office who has provided excellent guidance over these past months..... and Mr Mike Kelly Head of Planning for being with us this evening.

Before we commence with Jan's over view of the working party activities this past 4 months I think it's appropriate to recognise what Ashford residents have in common and what unites us all....We all;

- Like living in Ashford and care about its future
- Whether we are new comers or born here we have all made significant investments and enjoy living here
- We all enjoy what Ashford offers us...my person interpretation is ..."A Quiet Rural County life style yet close to Barnstaple." Others might have a different view, but whatever that is,.. it's to remain if possible in Ashford.
- So it's not unusual to say that we treasure Ashford it's our home and we want to protect the environment that we know and love

As we all know in the past 2yrs Ashford has been swamped with a number of development proposals – some of those the community felt were inappropriate and were defended by a large proportion of residents giving their comments to the local planning officers via the on-line system, and those elderly residents not confident using computers wrote letters.

Those of us that attended the Rugby Club planning committee meetings were quick to realise that you get just three minutes to have your say, and that if the developer has misrepresented some key facts, you are not allowed further comment, in fact you are not allowed any further involvement in the proceedings.

It also very clear that in all cases developers and planning officers have held many meetings to flush out what is acceptable to the planning officer before it ever gets considered by the planning committee. The large majority of planning applications don't even get to committee because the planning process is in place to favour development against a strict set of planning rules!

When Councillor Jan and I attended the Parish Councillors training in April for "planning" we established that "The Localism Act 2011", introduced by Central Government, formalised a new element in local planning called 'Neighbourhood Planning'.

For the period April 2015 to March 2018 central government allocated £22.5M and recently renewed the fund for 2018 - 2022 The Grant funding is to support local communities in developing their own Neighbourhood Plans. To date, there are now over 400 plans in existence. The maximum amount of grant funding allowable to any Parish is £9,000 although Parishes may spend additional amounts from their precepts to contribute to the funding.

The Working Party are not requesting precept money from Ashford Parish Council the recommendation is to apply for grant money allocated by and provided by central government.

The rules associated with the development of a NP are such that this plan cannot contradict the emerging North Devon & Torridge Plan. For a Neighbourhood Plan to be effective it will need to reflect what the majority of Ashford residents want to see in terms of how they wish Ashford to develop going forward.

The Neighbourhood Plan once approved by both the local planning department will then need to be approved by a majority vote from the community of Ashford residents only then will it legally become part of the North Devon Plan.

At which point the Neighbourhood Plan provides the detail within the North Devon and Torridge Plan specifically covering Ashford. A Neighbourhood Plan can cover a whole range of topics that the community of Ashford determine are important. That can be road safety on Strand Lane through to type of houses required to support elderly residents wishing to downsize within Ashford.

The working party is a group of like-minded residents that wish the community of Ashford to have their say in shaping Ashford over the coming years.

This group currently 10 personnel and growing fast, is just facilitating the development of the tools to enable the community to have their collective voices heard. It's not their plan!

The government funding application the working party wish Ashford Councillors to agree tonight is for central government grant money to fund the development of evidence based information and a household questionnaire.

It is proposed that this work will be carried out by a specialist company.

Their detailed reports will enable the working party to better understand the demographics of Ashford as well as concerns and desires raised by members of our community. This will enable the working party to establish a frame work of topics for inclusion within a Neighbourhood Plan going forward for further dialogue with all interested parties including major land owners.

If we don't go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan we truly risk not having a say and being dictated to by developers who seek planning approval for profit and self-gain and will not necessarily ask the community of Ashford for their opinions of what they would like.

These Minutes are subject to change.

To put this whole issue in context for you, the North Devon Plan currently does not list a housing allocation for Ashford. However, last month the department of Communities and Local Government (CLG) issued new instructions to planning departments across the country that indicates that a housing allocation will now be issued to all Parishes sometime soon.

Additionally, "North Devon and Torridge Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment - dated 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015 shows that Ashford is a contributor within the emerging plan as a number of fields have been nominated for inclusion for development.

Green means they are suitable building plots ongoing

It's unrealistic to think we can stop development within Ashford, and nor should we, but with a Neighbourhood Plan we can influence the future in terms of what type of dwellings are built, how many and where.

Through dialogue we can insure concerns over traffic speeds and pedestrian safety is both listen to and addressed.

Without a Neighbourhood Plan we don't have a voice and in most cases it will be too late!

Thank you, I'll now hand over to Jan for his briefing to fellow councillors regarding the merits of going ahead with the grant funding I spoke about earlier.

However, before doing so I'll hold up the relevant page I just referred to.

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Comment from Mike Kelly Head of Planning – quote; "John, for clarity the drawing you showed shows fields that have been nominated by **Local Land Owners** that are currently are **Not** included in the emerging plan but have been identified as possible development sites for the future

The Chairman cancelled Standing Orders so that members of the public could speak.

**Q:** How could the Neighbourhood Plan have sufficient strong wording in it so a developer would not attempt to built?

**A:** The Neighbourhood Plan will not carry sufficient weight to say a developer cannot build on a Conservation Area.

Mr Kelly advised that the Neighbourhood Plan becomes part of the formal development plan hierarchy and carries considerable weight in decision making.

If a Neighbourhood Plan is in place, the character will be protected.

In the event of an appeal, the government Inspector will have to have due regard to the weight of a Neighbourhood Plan. A Neighbourhood Plan must have Policies and North Devon Council would help to draft them.

**Q:** What is termed as inappropriate?

**A:** People think that when a Neighbourhood Plan is in place it will stop hysteria and think there will be Policies in the Neighbourhood Plan to stop development.

Mr Townsend informed that a Neighbourhood Plan is as much about what you want rather than do not want. The document could say what the identified characteristics are and this is how it is felt any future development proposal should be judged against. A Conservation Area does not stop development.

Members of the public commented as follows:

- If we don't have a Neighbourhood Plan, then the default document is the Local Plan. The Local Plan does not mention Ashford. The advantage with a Neighbourhood Plan is that it can be focused to the Parish. It becomes a document that sits under the Local Plan. It's about writing a Neighbourhood Plan that says if there is going to be development and it helps to define where it may be and what is acceptable to the community.
- It is accepted that we will get some development but a Neighbourhood Plan can help us say what we want, not want developers want.
- Ashford Parish Council have done a very good job keeping development low.
- There are two empty houses in Ashford and no development has been done on them.

Mr Kelly advised that in some cases, North Devon Council has taken enforcement action in situations like this where landowners have been contacted and new permissions negotiated.

If there are sites that are unsightly, they can be reported via enforcement to try and encourage owners to do something with the properties.

It would be necessary to demonstrate that those sites are detrimental to public amenity.

At one of the sites, it was advised there was an odour like that of oil. This should be reported to North Devon Council Environmental Health Department.

- Many Dorset villages have their own Neighbourhood Plan. There is a Local Plan but the Neighbourhood Plan does give the people in the village an extra layer of consultation.
- It is really exciting for the village to be working with the Planning Department. What are the benefits of the Neighbourhood Plan other than planning?  
**A:** The process will include a questionnaire to every household and will include other questions.
- In the Neighbourhood Plan, it is not only Policies but how we would like to see the village evolve and develop over the next 10 years and the aspirations for that.
- Regarding Section 106 money, the Neighbourhood Plan helps the village spend money.  
**A:** A Neighbourhood Plan does not affect Section 106 Agreements as they are individual developer contributions. The Section 106 Agreements used to be for the Parish and could be for another site. North Devon Council would always work with the local community regarding a Section 106 contribution and the funds do not go into a community pot.

North Devon Council was awaiting a government announcement regarding CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy), its regulations and use of the Section 106 agreement. If there is a Neighbourhood Plan and a development is liable for CIL, the Parish would receive 15% of any CIL collected. If there is a Neighbourhood Plan in place, the contribution increases to 25%. With the likely amount of development in Ashford it does not give an incentive for a Neighbourhood Plan but it will enable how future development funds and provides for facilities.

Standing Orders were reinstated.

Councillor Szymankiewicz reported as follows:

- **Thanks to**
  - Working Party (WP) Team – huge amount of talent and hard work
  - Graham Townsend (attending 2 meetings and giving huge amount of guidance and advice PLUS letter of support in report)
  - Martin Parkes (Devon Communities Together on grant application)
  - Andrea Davis and Caroline Chugg for encouraging comments about the report.
- Working Party formed by Ashford Parish Council (APC) at June meeting to progress the feasibility of Neighbourhood Plan (NP) for Ashford.
- Team of 10. Led by John and myself, as Parish Councillors, and 8 dedicated hard-working residents.
- WP has reported progress to APC every month, so kept you up to date

Last week I sent you 4 documents for tonight's meeting.

Feasibility report plus the tender from consultancy ORS, AND the grant application form plus project planner. From these you will have seen.....

- **Three main achievements**
  - Letter of Designation,
  - Initial consultations with residents
  - Identifying the evidence-base required for the plan.
- **Letter of Designation**
  - Straightforward and confirmation received on 27 July
  - Confirms that APC is the appropriate body to progress a NP
- **Initial consultations with residents ('light engagement')**
  - To inform residents about Neighbourhood Planning and access a wide range of community views.
  - **Young Families.** To engage both residents and children in thinking collaboratively about Ashford, its needs and how it might develop in future – and in this it was eminently successful. Results of our artistic youngsters can be seen here
  - **'Focus on Ashford' Quiz.** This was primarily a social event about the village and nearby places, with the opportunity of informing people about the proposed NP, and inviting their comments in response. This too was a success.
  - You will have seen the comments and feedback in the feasibility report.
  - Total of 36 people
  - Full consultations will take place in next 4 months.
- **Identify the evidence-base required for the plan.** In consultation with Graham, we have focussed on 4 pieces of work that need to be undertaken.

- Demographics
- Housing
- Roads
- Environment

- The scope of work is set out in the report, together with details of the consultancy chosen. Happy to answer any questions later.

**Funding (main purpose of this agenda item)**

- To carry out this work and the cost of consultations requires funding.
- As you are aware, there is funding provided by central government, exclusively to support the development of NPs.
- Government recognises how much people care about their neighbourhoods and how important these plans are.
- The government has provided £22 million for the 3 years up March 2018, and a further £23 million for the 4 years beyond that, exclusively to help communities like Ashford develop their neighbourhood plans.
- The maximum grant is currently £9K, and up to £15K in special circumstances.
- The funding we require to carry out the work described amounts to £6486.50+VAT
- You have a copy of the completed grant application form. The actual submission of the application is an on-line process but the information is on the document you have. There are 3 minor technical modifications, having no bearing on the funds required or their use. Can come back to this later

**SO, TO BE ABSOLUTELY CLEAR, THERE IS NO COST TO THE PARISH COUNCIL**

**Before finishing,**

- REMIND YOU. Developing a Neighbourhood Plan is a very rigorous process. Before a neighbourhood plan is formally adopted by the local authority 5 key stages have to be completed:
  1. A draft evidence-based plan must be developed following due process involving all relevant interests
  2. An inclusive consultation must be conducted with residents and business in the parish about the draft plan.
  3. The local planning authority must approve the draft and confirm that it does not conflict with the Local Plan
  4. The draft plan must be subject to an independent examination by an Inspector
  5. Final **AND MOST IMPORTANTLY**, the plan must be approved in a formal **REFERENDUM** of the electorate of the parish.

**IT IS THE ELECTORATE OF ASHFORD THAT DECIDES on whether to have a Neighbourhood Plan or not.**

This is a very democratic process.

**FINALLY**

We are all aware that some Councillors do not support a NP.

To them I say, it will be your right to vote against the plan in the referendum if you wish.

BUT refusing the grant application now is DENYING the residents of Ashford their democratic rights.

Thank you.

**Councillor Szymankiewicz proposed that the application proceeds for democratic rights.**

Councillor Holder read the following statement:

"The decision to vote this application for grant funding lies on a knife edge. It's a great shame that we are even voting on it at all.

At a special meeting held to inform both Heanton and Ashford council members of the merits on having a Neighbourhood Plan earlier this year. The resounding recommendation was "that it was not worth Ashford doing one, the existing planning procedures offer enough controls for a parish of our size". The words of Graham Townsend and Steve Crowther.

But here we are. We have two councilors with a supercilious approach and their own agenda. They didn't even attend that meeting but seem hell bent on having a Neighbourhood Plan.

On their steering committee of eight they have the founder and current chairman of company B. without his considerable expertise I am sure we would not have this document in front of us.

These Minutes are subject to change.

It is a very divisive document too. Are they stupid to put in so many derogatory comments about the Parish Council? Or are they skilled at what they do, pressing the right buttons to get the result they are after?

Incidentally, the Parish Council has never been run behind closed doors, we always meet on the third Thursday in the month, the agenda goes on the notice board a week in advance and ever since we have had a parish website meetings and minutes have been posted on there too. Quoting ill informed parishioners is not very clever.

I am surprised to hear that the Ashford quiz night last week, which was heavily publicized, only managed to attract 20 people. Was that eight committee members plus partners and two more couples? That's less than 10% of the village. Which leaves 90% without any interest or appetite for a Neighbourhood Plan.

It leaves me with a very difficult decision, damned if I do, and damned if I don't.

It seems a hell of a lot of work for a few people and well done them for their efforts. However my concern is that it does not reflect the views of the vast majority of the village. It is also a dreadful waste of £9k of taxpayers money.

I am also uncomfortable with the fact that a member of the working party is the chairman of company B, who they wish to appoint. We need to refer this to the ethics committee of North Devon Council before this is finalized".

*At this point, Councillor Szymankiewicz advised that regarding a conflict of interest, as long as there is documentary evidence that the individual had no part whatsoever and there is no issue going to a more expensive company, a problem does not arise.*

Councillor Holder continued:

"If we do proceed with this funding for a Neighbourhood Plan, I think it must be a condition of this council that we see the full details of the terms. We cannot find ourselves liable to any unforeseen expenses. That has been made clear on several occasions.

As Chairman of this parish, it is my duty to make sure that the groundswell of opinion held at any meeting is duly taken into consideration, even if I don't agree with it".

Councillor Mrs Sampson read the following statement:

"It would not be honest of me to justify the huge expenditure of up to £9000 that would be of very little or no benefit to Ashford.

Initial meeting with Mr Townsend attended by myself, Jane, Geoff and Sue, he clearly stated that Ashford was too small an area for it to be worth while.

Planning applications over the years have always been successfully dealt with by the Parish Council as it stands. Recently there have been two larger applications which were fought and they were eventually both withdrawn, I think this tendered to scaremonger residents as to what might happen in the future. I understand that the Planning Department will take into consideration a Neighbourhood Plan but still probably have the last say. Example, about two months ago a South Devon Neighbourhood Plan with green play area and walk was overturned by Planning Department for building.

In the Grant Application, page 6, (23) it states the investigation proposal of a development in the area, isn't this what we are trying to preserve the village against? Within the village I believe there is only one green space in a conservation area.

Some years ago an application was put in for a pub, the result was a very definite rejection by the village, worrying about the consequences, similar to which the residents are now concerned on the Tarka Planning. There was also a Post Office which closed and no enthusiasm to open another.

It was mentioned there would be no costs to Ashford Parish Council. Purchase of two cameras? (road speeds) page 19 of Feasibility Study.

I have spoken to a number of Ashford residents and parish councilors from other areas who either are not interested or do not think it is necessary to go to such extraordinary lengths. Ashford has not yet been fully consulted (by way of questionnaires) so the outcome is still very much in question. Having read the possible questionnaire, I believe the answers required are very intrusive on private lives and business's and not at all relevant to the plan. I understand the answers are confidential but if you are able to target those that have not completed the questionnaire, where is the confidentiality?

This is, in the main a retired community, under 300 residents. 100 houses, and as results show only 22 attended the Quiz Night, is this lack of interest?

Road safety is paramount and anything we can do to avoid danger is first on the list but there again our hands are tied by Highways expenditure (accidents caused by dangerous drivers!)

These Minutes are subject to change.

	<p>Please consider the pros and cons before agreeing to spend this large sum of money which could be used for a more suitable case".</p> <p>Councillor Szymanakiewicz responded by reiterating that by progressing a Neighbourhood Plan, it would not cost the Parish Council money and he could not see the concern about funding. He added that the important thing was that residents decide on it, not the Parish Council and if it is decided not to proceed with an application for grant funding, as a Parish Council, we are denying the democratic rights of the electorate if they want a Neighbourhood Plan, added that we are elected and represent the residents. If the residents do not want a Neighbourhood Plan, they will decide it and will be proved right.</p> <p>Although Councillor Szymankiewicz was not able to attend the meeting when Mr Townsend and Mr Parkes (Devon Communities Together) were present together with some Heanton Parish Councillors, it transpired there was a different understanding on the events of the meeting. By Mr Townsend's actions, he has given a lot of support and would not have done this if he considered there was no merit in proceeding. Between June and October, 10 members of the public in Ashford have worked towards this particular position and considered all the arguments were supportive of having a Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>Councillor Bleach was disappointed that some Councillors held a rigid view and felt that to refuse it lacked commitment.</p> <p><b>Councillor Bleach seconded the proposal.</b></p> <p><b>Vote: In favour: 3</b> <b>Against: 3</b></p> <p><b>The Chairman used his casting vote in favour. The proposal was carried.</b></p>	<p>JS/ Working Party</p>						
73.	<p><b>Matters Arising:</b></p> <p><b>73.1 Grass Cutting – verge in the Meadowside area.</b> Councillor Holder advised that the land was in the ownership of J K Holdings.</p> <p><b>73.2 Police Newsletter.</b> It was noted this has been sent for inclusion on the website.</p> <p><b>73.3 Dog Fouling.</b> The Clerk brought stickers to the meeting for placing at the strategic areas where problems are being experienced.</p> <p><b>73.4 First Aid Course.</b> Councillor Lawson has been requested to supply some dates when he could deliver this. Deferred to the November meeting.</p> <p><b>73.5 Section 106 Funding for open space.</b> Following enquiries, Councillor Holder advised that a land owner was in agreement to set up a dialogue and he was waiting to hear from another landowner.</p> <p>The Clerk advised that North Devon Council had confirmed the 106 funding can be used to purchase land.</p> <p><b>73.6 Road Closure at Strand Lane between 13 &amp; 15 December.</b> A diary note had been made to flag this up nearer the time.</p>	<p>More stickers to be brought to the Nov Meeting</p> <p>November Agenda</p> <p>November Agenda</p>						
74.	<p><b>Planning &amp; Planning Correspondence.</b></p> <p><b>74.1 There were no Planning Applications to consider.</b></p> <p><b>74.2 Planning Correspondence. There was no Planning Correspondence to consider.</b></p>							
75.	<p><b>Finance.</b></p> <p><b>75.1 Balances. NatWest Current Account as at 20 September 2017: £10.00</b> <b>NatWest Business Reserve Account as at 20 September 2017: £4,333.16</b></p> <p>Budgetary figures for September 2017 were circulated to Councillors.</p> <p><b>75.2 The following payments were approved and authorised:</b></p> <table data-bbox="215 2094 1053 2154"> <tr> <td><b>Mrs S Squire</b></td> <td>October Salary net of PAYE</td> <td>£82.51 *</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contribution towards broadband</td> <td>£ 3.00</td> </tr> </table>	<b>Mrs S Squire</b>	October Salary net of PAYE	£82.51 *		Contribution towards broadband	£ 3.00	<p>Clerk</p>
<b>Mrs S Squire</b>	October Salary net of PAYE	£82.51 *						
	Contribution towards broadband	£ 3.00						

	<p>Photocopying £ 10.40  Contribution towards petrol expenses (6 months) £ 35.00  <b>HMRC</b> October PAYE <b>£ 20.80 *</b>  <b>Ashford PCC</b> Hire of Church Hall for 6 months (includes price rise from 1/9/17) <b>£ 92.50</b>  <b>Mr S Wightman</b> Invoice No. 030. September 2017 grass cutting <b>£156.88</b></p> <p>* 20p difference in total from that noted on the Agenda due to HMRC software calculations.</p> <p><b>Invoices received since the Agenda was published. None.</b></p> <p><b>75.3 Neighbourhood Plan Grant Application.</b> To approve the submission of the grant application from the Parish Council. Covered under Minute No. 72.5.</p>	<p>Ch.No.006  Ch.No.007  Ch.No.010  Ch.No.009  Ch.No.008  Voided</p>
76.	<p><b>Correspondence.</b> Notices and publications received were put on the table to see, read and go in the circulation bag.</p> <p><b>76.1 Presentation by a representative of the Museum of Barnstaple and North Devon.</b> A request had been made to visit the Parish Council and talk about the new extension, bring artefacts and request a donation for the shortfall in funding. Councillors decided not to proceed.</p>	<p>Clerk to advise</p>
77.	<p><b>Matters raised by Councillors / Clerk.</b></p> <p><b>No items had been sent for inclusion to comply with the Smaller Authorities Transparency Code.</b></p>	
78.	<p><b>Items for the next Agenda.</b> Those identified from these Minutes.</p>	
79.	<p><b>Date of next Meeting:</b> Thursday, 16 November 2017 in the Church Hall at 7.30pm.</p> <p>The meeting ended at 9.25pm.</p>	
<p><b>Summary of Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Minutes of 21 September 2017</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Proceed with a funding application to progress a Neighbourhood Plan</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Payments</b></li> </ul>		
<p><b>These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.</b></p>		
<p>Signed: Chair of Ashford Parish Council:</p>		<p>Date:</p>