

**Minutes of Ashford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 21 April 2016 in
the Church Hall at 7.30pm.**

Chaired by: Councillor G Holder	Clerked by: Sue Squire	
Present: Councillors Mrs J Bosley G Holder V Lawson Mrs S Sampson J Symankiewicz District Councillor Mrs A Davis 11 Members of the public	Agenda: - Items raised by members of the public Apologies Declarations of Interest Approval of the Minutes of 17/3/16 Reports Matters Arising Planning & Planning Correspondence Finance Correspondence Matters raised by Councillors / Clerk Date of next Meeting	
		Action:
139.	Items raised by members of the public. Mr Dymond had been in correspondence with the Clerk regarding the Parish Council's response in respect of Application 59662 where it had been stated the Meeting had been inquorate and was therefore not able to come to a decision. On taking advice, it had been ascertained that this was incorrect and that the Councillor's vote who had recommended refusal with the remaining two abstaining, meant that the response should have been to recommend refusal. The Clerk would inform the Planning Officer of this to clarify the matter.	Clerk
140.	Apologies. Councillors Mrs H Bremner, Mrs B Sandwell, County Councillor Mrs C Chugg.	
141.	Declarations of Interest. Councillors Holder, Lawson, Mrs Sampson and Szymankiewicz all declared a Prejudicial Interest in Minute No. 145.1, bullet point two: Planning Application 59288 - Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved except access) for erection of three local needs dwellings & two open market dwellings (amended description and plans) (further amended plans and additional information) at land off of Long Lane, Ashford.	
142.	Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 17 March 2016. Approved and signed as a correct record.	
143.	Reports. 143.1 Police. Not present. 143.2 County Councillor Mrs C Chugg. Written Report received as follows: At Devon County Council we are continuing to work closely with its partner the Clinical Commissioning Groups within the NHS in jointly determining strategies and plans, including assessment of their quality impacts. The broad agenda of joint working is set by the Health and Wellbeing Board and specific initiatives have joint governance including the oversight of the Better care Fund, including those applying to carers, people with disabilities, people with mental health problems and older people with dementia. We are increasingly jointly commissioning services including the recommissioning of personal care with well developed impact assessments looking across organisational boundaries. We are well aware and acknowledge that current legislation and organisation does not always account for the totality of impacts on a person in the place where they live. Hospitals as places of excellent care are one of the areas where operations and procedures will unfortunately take patients away from their local area to be treated.	

	<p>I am still concerned with the Care in the Community move due to the rurality of the area here.</p> <p>Pavement Parking On this issue which has come up a number of times to me recently it is the impact that pavement parking has on pedestrians, particularly those that are vulnerable; the visually impaired, and wheelchair users. Pavement parking can also damage the structure of footways increasing maintenance costs. Current legislation provides only limited scope to act. The D of Transport now permits the making of a TRO and erection of signs to prohibit pavement parking the cost to sign all areas would be astronomical, therefore current signing regulations are not put in place so as a council we do not carry out enforcement activity. Other than for HGV's. At DCC we have been in full support of the Pavement Parking bill. Disappointingly it was withdrawn after its 2nd hearing.</p> <p>Highways</p> <p>As we have had such a mild winter the £100K cut to winter services should not have an effect on the future winter services as the previous winter weather has not caused gritting to be done on such a regular basis.</p> <p>Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service. The role of the fire and rescue service is changing and one of those leading the way is Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority. The financial pressures and demand on public services are increasing but by working better together it is possible to reduce costs and improve the service provided. Some innovative work being undertaken with the Police, where a number of on call fire fighters who are also PCSOs respond to the fire station and crew fire engines, reducing both services while improving emergency cover at the same time. We are introducing a number of smaller fire engines, crewed with fewer firefighters, which both improves emergency response times and are also cheaper. However the modern fire rescue service is not just good at responding to fires, flooding and transport emergencies; it may surprise you that 5,500 calls each year to Devon and Somerset FRS are to heart attack and medical emergencies (25% of all emergency calls). The collaboration between Fire and Ambulance Services at 19 of the Service's 85 fire stations has been saving lives for the past 15 years. It is not just the public that are safer; businesses receive safety training through the Service's highly successful commercial trading company RED ONE LTD, which is focused on meeting customers needs while changing the traditional mind-set of public services. There is clear ambition to improve services further and move forward.</p> <p>143.3. District Councillor Mrs A Davis advised that North Devon Council officer had asked about the Section 106 money should there be a Planning Application. District Councillor Mrs Davis had confirmed that Ashford Parish Council was still interested in open space money.</p> <p>143.4 Councillor V Lawson. Defibrillator check. All in order.</p>	
144.	<p>Matters Arising.</p> <p>144.1 Defibrillator Batteries. Councillor Szymankiewicz had collected these from Barnstaple Town Council.</p> <p>144.2 Conversion of Telephone Kiosk. The Clerk had requested Mr K Payne to provide a quotation for shelving in the telephone kiosk. The figure was £50 + VAT per shelf.</p>	
145.	<p>Planning & Planning Correspondence.</p> <p>145.1. The following Planning Applications were considered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 60823 – Hybrid Planning Application (A) Full Application for the raising of the ground levels, site access works & highway infrastructure to site, (B) outline application for 280 dwellings (Use Class C3); employment (Use Class B1) space of up to 6000 sqm gross floor space; employment (Use Class B2) space of up to 5,500 sqm; storage or distribution (Class Use B8) space of up to 7,000 sqm; restaurant and café (Use Class A3) of up to 300 sqm; (C) all the associated infrastructure including removal of any contamination, 	Clerk

roads, footpaths, cycleways, drainage (including attenuation works), flood defence works, landscaping, public open space, utilities & vehicle parking also including demolition of buildings at former Yelland Power Station, Lower Yelland, Barnstaple.

To reply no comment.

- **59288 – Outline Planning Application (all matters reserved except access) for erection of three local needs dwellings & two open market dwellings (amended description and plans) (further amended plans and additional information) at land off of Long Lane, Ashford.**

Councillors Holder, Lawson, Mrs Sampson and Szymankiewicz declared a Prejudicial Interest, left the room and did not take part in the discussion, decision or voting thereon.

The Meeting was chaired by Councillor Mrs Bosley who closed the Meeting to allow members of the public to view the plans and make representations.

The following response from the Parish Council to be submitted:

This does not preserve and enhance the Conservation Area and involves the removal of a green space within a Conservation Area.

Out of character with other properties in the Conservation Area and the road is out of proportion to the surrounding road network. The high density of out of keeping with other dwellings in the conservation area

The drainage does not address run off from the septic tanks to be positioned on the new property. Should the Planning Authority be minded to approve this then before approval is issued a robust and sustainable drainage solution for both foul and surface water drainage should be submitted to the Planning Authority for approval and based on permeability tests with multiple observations on the ground over time.

Both developments represent transverse cuts across steeply sloping fields often waterlogged. This would present a high likelihood of slippage of the land below the houses and the lands collapse into the road below bearing in mind that both fields end in a cliff.

Highways. The junction with long lane and stand lane is already known to be a substandard junction increasing the frequency the number of vehicles accessing and egressing at this point and does nothing to address highway safety. The property Woolstone Corner is frequently hit by vehicles, 35 times in 15 years, to the owner's knowledge. The parishioners are **alarmed that the statutory consultee (Highways) have already deemed this to be dangerous.**

The parishioners noted that the meeting was not quorate but would urge the Planning Authority to refuse the application.

145.2 Planning Correspondence.

Enforcement – Wyevale Garden Centre. Banners on the side fence had been reported to the Enforcement Officer who had advised that he is not going to pursue the removal of them as they are not facing the main highway.

He is also not going to pursue the two planters on either side of the entrance.

145.3 North Devon Council Enforcement Consultation. It was noted that this

	<p>Council's response had been submitted.</p> <p>145.4 Car being sold near Ashford Fruit Farm. It was noted that the Clerk had reported this via the North Devon Council website and received a reply from the Enforcement Officer who had advised there is already an investigation at this site and the latest allegation will be added to the file. Advice is being sought from the Planning Officer as to whether the display of the motor vehicle constitutes a breach of planning control.</p>																													
146.	<p>Finance.</p> <p>146.1 Balances. NatWest Current Account as at 18/3/16: £10.00 NatWest Business Reserve Account as at 8/4/16: £1,849.41</p> <p>146.2 The following payments were approved and authorised:</p> <table> <tr> <td>Mrs S Squire</td> <td>April Salary net of PAYE</td> <td>£82.71</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contribution towards broadband</td> <td>£ 3.00</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Photocopying</td> <td>£ 9.35</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Postage</td> <td>£ 7.56</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contribution towards petrol (6 months)</td> <td>£35.00</td> <td>£137.62</td> </tr> <tr> <td>HMRC</td> <td>April PAYE</td> <td></td> <td>£ 20.60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Devon Association of Local Councils</td> <td>2016 Subscription</td> <td></td> <td>£ 68.85</td> </tr> </table> <p>146.3. Addition of cheque signatory. The form is to be sent to the Bank by the Clerk.</p> <p>146.4 VAT Reclaim. It was noted that the sum of £404.99 had been credited to the current account by HMRC in respect of a VAT reclaim for the period 01/04/14 – 31/03/15 (£199.02) and 01/04/15 – 31/03/16 (£205.97). Reclaim of VAT is now completely up to date.</p>	Mrs S Squire	April Salary net of PAYE	£82.71			Contribution towards broadband	£ 3.00			Photocopying	£ 9.35			Postage	£ 7.56			Contribution towards petrol (6 months)	£35.00	£137.62	HMRC	April PAYE		£ 20.60	Devon Association of Local Councils	2016 Subscription		£ 68.85	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Ch.No.934 Ch.No.935</p> <p>Ch.No.936</p> <p>Clerk</p>
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147.	<p>Correspondence. Notices and publications received were put on the table to see, read and go in the circulation bag.</p> <p>147.1 North Devon Record Office & Local Studies Centre. Email from the Town Clerk of Barnstaple Town Council giving an update on the present position.</p> <p>147.2 CPRE Devon Best Kept Village. This competition has been renamed 'CPRE Devon Our Outdoors 2016'. Entries are invited to be submitted by 30/6/16.</p> <p>147.3 DCC Highways. The Clerk advised that DCC Highways had offered the sum of £155 per annum in respect of urban grass cutting on the right hand side of the Strand Lane junction.</p> <p>Proposed by Councillor Mrs Bosley, seconded by Councillor Lawson and agreed to proceed.</p>	Clerk																												
148.	<p>Matters raised by Councillors / Clerk.</p> <p>148.1 Councillor Lawson felt that the price for shelving in the telephone kiosk was expensive. Councillor Holder to speak to Mr Payne about this.</p> <p>148.2 Councillor Mrs Bosley commented on large lorries turning into the Garden Centre causing long tail backs onto the main road. District Councillor Mrs Davis would be visiting with a Highway Officer in her capacity of County Councillor for another area and would pursue this.</p> <p>148.3 Councillor Mrs Bosley spoke about the drain in Strand Lane. The outside drain was full and water was running straight down the road and the water is coming from the fields above. DCC Highways to be asked for the drain to be</p>	<p>GH</p> <p>AD</p> <p>Clerk</p>																												

