

Minutes of Ashford Parish Council Meeting held on Thursday, 21 December 2017 in Ashford Church Hall at 7.30pm.

Chaired by: Councillor G Holder		Clerked by: Sue Squire
Present: Councillors J Bleach Mrs J Bosley G Holder V Lawson Mrs S Sampson J Szymankiewicz County Councillor Mrs C Chugg District Councillor Mrs A Davis 16 Members of the public		Agenda: - Items raised by members of the public Apologies Declarations of Interest Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 16/11/17 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
		Action:
93.	<p>Items raised by members of the public.</p> <p>93.1 Water quality. Research has found it is unpalatable due to excessively chlorinated drinking water periodically. South West Water to be contacted for an explanation.</p> <p>93.2 Section 106 Funding. The working party felt there may be merit not to take a premature decision on the location of a possible site to release the funding for an open space facility and make a decision after residents had been consulted in connection with the Neighbourhood Plan.</p> <p>The Chairman advised this had been discussed at the last meeting and various options discussed. One was possibly buying a small piece of land in Mr Clapp's field.</p> <p>Councillors were reminded by a member of the public that Planning Application 59288 was originally to develop the North and South fields. One of the mitigating items against the North field concerned the destruction of a very old hedge and additionally, access into the North Field would be difficult due to the slope of the land. If the Parish Council was to pursue purchasing a piece of the field, Councillors should be wary that it does not become a back door access for further development.</p> <p>Another member of the public supported these comments although liked the idea of purchasing land as open space. They felt there would be merit in seeking the public's thoughts within the Neighbourhood Plan questionnaire but were concerned it would create an access route onto the field which would be a process of developing one of the last few fields within the centre of Ashford.</p> <p>93.3 Concerns from a resident regarding continual reporting of Wyevale Garden Centre issues. It was noted that the items that had been reported were planning conditions not being complied with.</p> <p>93.2 Email of objection in respect of the request for a donation from the Citizens Advice. Under Minute No. 101.2, Councillors decided not to proceed with giving a donation.</p> <p>93.3 Email of objection in respect of Planning Application 59288 Long Lane House and the one adjacent to Ashmead. The resident is of the opinion that there is no need for any more houses and cites that there are 9 properties for sale in Ashford, one of which has been empty for 11 years.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk to reply</p>

	<p>In the Budget it was made official that empty properties will pay extra council tax. Can this be confirmed that the council will do this. The extra money should come to Ashford Council not DCC.</p> <p>When these are eventually sold, there will be at least another 18 or even more cars, depending on the size families, plus any visitors. As is well known we already have problems frequently getting up or down Strand Lane.</p> <p><i>The comments were noted in respect of Application 59288.</i></p> <p><i>In respect of the Planning Application adjacent to Ashmead, the Parish Council had previously responded. North Devon Council had refused the Application and the applicant has submitted an appeal which is being considered by the Planning Inspectorate whose decision will be final.</i></p> <p>On the subject of traffic, there is a large gouge mark of a tyre track on the green leading in to Meadowside. I assume this was caused by a lorry involved in the development along that lane. This would appear to imply poor driving of a lorry or too large a lorry using that route. It could be both. I request confirmation that the damage will be repaired and paid for by the developer and will not involve payment by Ashford Council Tax payers.</p> <p><i>It was not considered that the repair to the damage will involve payment by Ashford Council Tax payers.</i></p> <p>In the same email, the resident had objected to the Planning Application in respect of 94 houses at Chivenor and gives the reasons for doing so: high levels of pollution by cars and light, traffic jams, wildlife and habitat destroyed, flooding.</p> <p><i>District Councillor Mrs Davis had called the Application in and it will be considered by North Devon Council Planning Department.</i></p> <p>The resident continued that In the Budget the Chancellor of the Exchequer said that the priority for developments was to be in Urban areas, not in Rural ones . Yet Planning even a few days ago has allowed yet even more (55) to be built in South Park , Braunton. Who are these houses to be for? The resident was concerned that people from other parts of Devon and the country as a whole would occupy the new builds.</p> <p><i>It was not possible to advise who the purchasers of the homes to be built in South Park, Braunton would be.</i></p>	<p>Clerk to reply to these points</p>
<p>94.</p>	<p>Apologies. Councillor Mrs B Sandwell</p>	
<p>95.</p>	<p>Declarations of Interest. None.</p>	
<p>96.</p>	<p>Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting held on 16 November 2017. Approved and signed as a correct record after District Councillor Mrs Davis' comments under Minute No. 86.4 were deleted.</p>	
<p>97.</p>	<p>Urgent items raised at the discretion of the Chairman. None.</p>	
<p>98.</p>	<p>Reports: 98.1 Police. The latest newsletter had been circulated to Councillors and sent for inclusion on the website.</p> <p>98.2 County Councillor Mrs C Chugg.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Bollards to protect property. DCC Highways had advised these could not be fixed on the road. Pictures of chevron signs had been sent to the householder but were not acceptable as it does not prevent vehicles hitting the property. The resident would take pictures of 	

These Minutes are subject to change.

properties that have the type of bollards they have requested.

- DCC has won a national award – ICE (Integrated Care in Exeter). Councillor Mrs Chugg hoped to get a similar scheme rolled out in Braunton.
- Horsey Island, Braunton Marsh. The bank had washed away after remedial work had been carried out. Braunton Marsh Inspectors and the Environment Agency were discussing other preventative measures. As a result of the breach, salt water has entered Braunton Marsh Drainage Board area. Members of the Drainage Board were investigating new gates for the Great Sluice.
- Braunton Library had held its Annual General Meeting. It is one of the most successful libraries in the county.
- Overview & scrutiny Committee were working on the budget. Another £22 million must be saved in the next financial year. Children's Services require a higher budget as children up to the age of 25 years old have to be cared for.
- Braunton flooding and air quality was being investigated.
- Highways – work is being undertaken with new contractors Skanska of a more sensible approach.
- Broadband connectivity is still a problem.
- Education. Devon's schools that had been graded Good our Outstanding were stable. Exclusions have risen in Devon, as has been the trend throughout the country. Interventions were being put in place to prevent this. Fixed Term Exclusions were also high. £7.5 million had been provided in additional funding for Devon schools.
- Work at Riverside to the driveway from the highway to prevent flooding to the property cannot be undertaken until the new year.

98.3 District Councillor Mrs A Davis.

- Tarka Holiday Park Application. The applicant is still considering the statutory consultee responses and will then decide the way forward.
- Local Government Boundary Commission for England Consultation on the Warding arrangements for North Devon from May 2019. The draft proposals received were that Heanton and Ashford would go into one Ward named Braunton South. There would not be a Heanton Punchardon Ward and the new Braunton South Ward would have three District Councillors from Braunton. Responses have to be sent by the deadline of 19/2/18.
- Heanton Parish Council would like Ashford to join them in a TAP (Town and Parish) fund bid.
- The bid for improvements to the North Devon Link Road had been delivered on 18/12/17. It was hoped that a decision would be known by June 2018.
- Planning enforcement. Tarka Holiday Park had been told to remove advertising signs by 31/12/17.

January
Agenda

January
Agenda

98.4 Councillor V Lawson. Defibrillator Check. In order.

98.5 Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Szymankiewicz reported that the working party was making progress with grant funding.

The funding agency had asked for clarification on some issues and had approved grant funding for the household survey, room hire, printing and stationery amounting to £1,698.

The funding agency was keen that the working party should involve a planning consultant. This was sooner than originally intended and as a consequence, a supplementary grant application in the sum of £1,4000 to cover this is to be submitted.

The grant funding process is a multi stage activity and while the locality agency had approved funding, it is then passed to 'Groundwork' who carry out due diligence on the application. This is a formality and takes 10 days. It is assumed the application will be approved.

A planning consultant met with two members of the working party who will ask for a formal proposal of how the consultant can help up to the end of March and beyond March to be able to see the total picture. The planning consultant funding has to be taken out of the maximum £9,000 funding that can

	<p>be applied for.</p> <p>Progress is being made on a number of other items. Work has been done on getting a structure of the household questionnaire into a Neighbourhood Plan document and preparation work is being done on a consultation with residents in the coming months. It is hoped that good progress will be made in the first three months of the new year.</p> <p>Councillor Holder had been invited to a steering group meeting but was unable to attend. He would be invited to the January meeting.</p> <p>Councillor Bleach spoke about a government grant process and it had been identified that some of the capital items to be funded are now allowed. A company 'Awards for All' supports this. Councillors were in agreement for the grant to be progressed.</p>	
<p>99.</p>	<p>Matters Arising:</p> <p>99.1 Life Support Training. No responses had been received expressing an interest in attending a training event. However, 5 people present indicated they wanted to attend.</p> <p>A date was fixed for the training to take place which was Wednesday, 17 January. With a maximum of 10 places, 5 were available. The details to be put on the website and anyone interested should contact the Parish Clerk.</p> <p>99.2 Section 106 Funding for open space. There was nothing further to report in terms of funding and the meeting was reminded that the funding could be used to purchase land. The item to be on the next Agenda with regard to the purchase of land. The Chairman had noted the comments made by the public at this meeting. Councillor Szymankiewicz felt there should be a consultation with the residents.</p> <p>99.3 Snow Warden. It was noted that an item had been included on the website asking for volunteers. The details had also been circulated via the Ashford Communication network. Mr S Bunce and Mrs E Wozniak had volunteered both of whom were appointed.</p> <p>The Emergency Plan to be reviewed at the January meeting.</p> <p>99.4 2018 Meetings. It was noted that the Church Hall has been booked throughout the year.</p> <p>99.5 Bonfires. It was noted that North Devon Council Environmental Health Department had been advised of problems experienced.</p> <p>99.6 School Bus Pick Up Point. It was noted that representations have been made to DCC which were being investigated and a reply would be sent in the new year.</p> <p>99.7 Benches at Meadowside. It was noted that an item had been included on the website asking for volunteers to refurbish the benches. No offers had been received. It was noted there was no view from the seats due to the high growth of foliage and cutting back of this had been previously investigated and could not be done due to the bank being very steep. It was further noted that stock in the adjoining field needs to be fenced for their safety.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk to book Hall</p> <p>January Agenda</p> <p>Clerk to advise DCC</p> <p>January Agenda</p>
<p>100.</p>	<p>Planning & Planning Correspondence.</p> <p>100.1 Planning Applications:</p> <p>- 64193 – extension to dwelling – Foxglove, 2 Meadowside, Ashford. It was resolved to recommend approval.</p> <p>- 64085 – Reserved Matters Application for erection of dwelling to include appearance, landscaping, layout & scale (Outline Planning Permission 59288 for erection of one open market dwelling) – land off Long Lane, Ashford.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	<p>It was resolved to recommend approval.</p> <p>- 64224 – erection of one single storey building comprising four industrial units (use Classes B1, B2 and B8) – land at Chivenor Business Park, Chivenor. Ashford Parish Council is being consulted as an adjoining Parish. It was resolved to recommend approval.</p> <p>100.2 Planning Correspondence.</p> <p>100.2.1 Application 64000 – Outline Application for residential development for up to 94 dwellings (all matters reserved) – land at Chivenor Cross, Chivenor. Copy correspondence was noted from District Councillor Mrs Davis requesting that this Application is called in to be considered by Committee.</p> <p>100.2.2 Notification of Planning Appeal. Outline Application for erection of one dwelling (all matters reserved) – land adjacent to Ashmead, Strand Lane, Ashford. The Appeal will be determined on the basis of written representations. If the Parish Council wish to make comments or modify/withdraw previous representations, these should be sent to the Planning Inspectorate by 28/12/17. No further comments were made.</p> <p>100.3 Planning Enforcement.</p> <p>100.3.1 Byways. A communication from the Enforcement Officer which noted the removed hedge bank at the above property had been reinstated and the access that had been created is now closed. The hedge bank has been planted with tree saplings and hedge plants. The Enforcement Officer will return to the site at the end of summer 2018 to check that the plantings have taken and grown up sufficiently to provide cover.</p> <p>100.3.2 Wyevale Garden Centre. It was noted that the Enforcement Department had been advised of the sale of compost in the car park, taking up disabled spaces in the process.</p> <p>100.3.3 Wyevale Garden Centre. Copy correspondence was noted from the Enforcement Officer regarding unauthorised advertisement adjacent to the A361. The correspondence noted that advertising requires consent from the Local Planning Authority, adding that it has dealt with unauthorized advertising regarding the business at this location on several occasions. The Local Planning Authority consider that advertising at this location is a dangerous distraction to road users, is not sympathetic to the visual appearance of the area and not justified taking account of the proximity to the business advertised. Any future breach will result in consideration being given to bringing a prosecution against the company without further notice.</p>							
<p>101.</p>	<p>Finance.</p> <p>101.1 Balances. NatWest Current Account as at 20 November 2017: £10.00 NatWest Business Reserve Account as at 8 December 2017: £3,924.89</p> <p>Budgetary figures for November 2017 were circulated to Councillors.</p> <p>101.2 Councillors considered a request for a donation from Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice. A copy of the latest set of accounts had been provided to comply with criteria laid down for Parish Councils to follow. Councillors decided not to proceed.</p> <p>101.3 The following payments were approved and authorised:</p> <table data-bbox="215 1937 1037 2016"> <tr> <td>Mrs S Squire</td> <td>December Salary net of PAYE</td> <td>£82.71</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contribution towards broadband</td> <td>£ 3.00</td> </tr> </table>	Mrs S Squire	December Salary net of PAYE	£82.71		Contribution towards broadband	£ 3.00	<p>Clerk to advise</p> <p>Clerk</p>
Mrs S Squire	December Salary net of PAYE	£82.71						
	Contribution towards broadband	£ 3.00						

	<p>Photocopying £ 14.35</p> <p>HMRC December PAYE £ 20.60</p> <p>£100.06 £ 20.60</p> <p>101.4 Grass Cutting Tenders. One quotation had been received. Efforts were continuing to be made to obtain two further quotations. A contractor previously requested to quote has responded that they are too busy.</p> <p>Councillor Holder advised that he would meet Mr C Beer on site with a view to a quotation being provided. Mr Beer's workforce would need to be Chapter 8 trained and he was willing for them to do this.</p> <p>101.5 DCC P3 Summary of Expenditure – April 2017 to March 2018. The form had been completed by the Clerk in preparation for submitting by 12/2/18. The Footpath Officer, Councillor Lawson, has received the Annual Footpath Survey Forms to be completed and returned by 12/2/18.</p>	<p>Ch.No.015</p> <p>Ch.No.016</p> <p>GH</p> <p>Clerk to send to VL</p>
102.	Correspondence. Notices and publications received were put on the table to see, read and go in the circulation bag.	
103.	Matters raised by Councillors / Clerk. No items had been received for inclusion under the Smaller Authorities Transparency Code.	
104.	Items for the next Agenda. As identified from these Minutes.	
105.	Date of next Meeting: Thursday, 18 January 2018 in the Church Hall at 7.30pm. The meeting ended at 8.43pm.	
Summary of Decisions:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Minutes of 16 November 2017 ➤ Planning ➤ Payments 		
These Minutes are agreed by those present as being a true record.		
Signed: Chair of Ashford Parish Council:		Date: