

# ASHPERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Parish Clerk: Mrs J Chester, Mapleside, Ashperton, Ledbury, Herefordshire, HR8 2RZ  
Tel: 01531 670036 website: <https://ashperton.org.uk>

## Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at Ashperton Village Hall on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2019 at 7.30pm

### Present:-

Councillors Rowland Eustace (chairman), Andrew Hammond and John Wyton

### In attendance:-

Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester  
Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

### Members of the Public: 6

The Chairman Cllr Eustace welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### 1. To Accept any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

None.

#### 2. To Record any Declarations of Interest and Consider any Requests for Dispensations

None.

#### 3. Councillor Vacancies – To Note Councillor Vacancies and To Receive any Nominations for Co-Option

After the recent elections there remain three parish councillor vacancies. Nancy Nicklin was proposed by Cllr Hammond and seconded by Cllr Wyton. Mrs Nicklin accepted the position and duly signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interest Forms. Councillors will continue to spread the word about the two remaining vacancies.

#### 4. To Remind Councillors that their Register of Interests Form and Election expenses form should have been returned to Herefordshire Council

The clerk reminded all councillors that it was their responsibility to ensure that their register of interests and election expenses forms have been returned to Herefordshire Council or that they were liable for prosecution and would not be able to take part in parish council meetings. All councillors present advised that their forms had been returned.

#### 5. To Consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> July 2019

The minutes of the meeting held 24<sup>th</sup> July were APPROVED as a true and accurate account and duly signed by the chairman.

#### 6. To Receive a Brief Report from Three Crosses Ward Councillor, Mr Jonathan Lester

Ward Councillor Lester advised that the new Herefordshire Council administration have paused Herefords bypass project. The project is for two sections, the southern link road from Rotherwas to Belmont and a second stretch from Belmont to the A49. The General Scrutiny Committee are concerned that this pause could jeopardise the funding available for the project. A full council meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September will

discuss Climate Emergency, the Youth Justice Plan, Gambling Policy, Travellers Sites Plan and accommodation support for Care Leavers.

**7. Public Participation Session for Local Residents to raise matters relevant to the Parish Council**  
(Please note: Decisions cannot be made on items not on the agenda) *This item to be limited at the discretion of the chairman*

Residents present expressed their strong concerns over the drainage and appearance of the dwellings proposals for planning application 191013 Land North of Ashperton Village Hall. These concerns would be considered when the parish council form their comments 8a ii below.

N.B. The public left the meeting at this point.

**8. Planning: NB: no paper copies of applications are available to view at the meeting unless specified**

a) To Consider Planning Applications referred for comment:

- I. **192073 Tuston Farm House Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RT** Proposed erection of three polytunnels

PC Comment: The Parish Council have no comments to make.

- II. **191013 Land to the North of Ashperton Village Hall Ashperton Herefordshire** , Application for approval of reserved matters following Outline 152041 (Proposed residential development of 10 dwellings(amendment to original application)) for the approval of Appearance, Landscaping and Scale including details to address conditions 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22 & 24)

PC Comment: The Parish Council object to the drainage proposals and the appearance and scale of the dwellings as being totally out of character with the existing properties in the village. They also wish to ensure that the flats/offices above the garages have conditions attached to them so they cannot become separate dwellings. It is also felt that the proposed number of car parking spaces allocated for the dwellings is not adequate.

b) To Note Details of Decision Notices Received from Hereford Council: as per planning record

**9. To Receive an Update on Ashperton Neighbourhood Development Plan**

Herefordshire Council have insisted that the NDP Regulation 16 Consultation Statement is re-written and the Regulation 16 Consultation undertaken again before the plan can proceed to examination stage.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hammond has rewritten the Consultation Statement which Cllr Eustace will proof read before the clerk sends it to Herefordshire Council.

**10. Finance:**

a) To Note Finance Report and Bank Balances

Noted. Bank Balance as at 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019 £10855.01

b) To Consider Adopting New Financial Regulations

A New Financial Regulations template has been sent from NALC for parish councils to consider adopting. The clerk had made the necessary changes to the template to tailor them to Ashperton Parish Council and circulated to councillors to consider.

RESOLUTION: It was agreed to adopt these new financial regulations and they were signed off by the

chairman.

**c) To Consider Parish Precept Requirement for 2020/2021**

The clerk had circulated a draft budget for the financial year 2020/2021. The Parish Council are minded to request a precept of £9000 (the same amount as 2019/2020).

RESOLUTION: A final decision will be made at the November meeting.

**d) To Consider Payments of Outstanding Accounts**

000464: J Chester – clerk salary Aug/Sept (as per contract) and expenses £21.72 (stamps and paper)  
 000465: HMRC – PAYE Aug/Sept – £8.80  
 000466: Autela Group – payroll services Q2 - £47.08  
 000467: Zurich Insurance Annual Subscription - £530.52

All the above invoices were APPROVED for payment and the cheques signed

**11. Highways/Footpaths:**

**a) To Note Weekly Reports from Balfour Beatty Locality Steward – Noted**

**b) To Note any new Highway and Footpath Defects and work for the Lengthsman**

A new metal footpath sign is required for footpath AP11 opposite The Castle.

RESOLUTION: The clerk will ask Balfour Beatty to install the sign as it is on the A417. The clerk was also asked to enquire when the A417 through Ashperton would be resurfaced.

**c) To Consider the provision of a bus shelter at the end of Haywood Lane**

Following requests from parents whose children catch the school bus the clerk has enquired about the possibility of installing a bus shelter and is awaiting a response from Herefordshire Council.

**12. Information Section / Correspondence / Discussion:**

**a) To Review Information and Outstanding Actions**

Reviewed and Updated.

**b) To Discuss Broadband in the village.**

Cllr Hammond had attended a recent Fastershire meeting and understood that Airband were going to write to all properties in the village advising what Broadband they could provide. However residents present stated they had not received any letter as yet.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hammond will contact Airband.

**c) To Discuss Public Green Spaces Grant.**

Herefordshire Council had sent the clerk details about the Public Green Spaces Grant of up to £2000 available to qualifying projects. It was felt that the village green maintenance may benefit and purchase of a mower may qualify.

RESOLUTION: The clerk will make an application.

**d) To Discuss Tree Stump Falling onto Pavement and Phone Kiosk**

Cllr Eustace has spoken to the owner of the tree and asked for it to be removed. A contractor has been contacted by the house owner but the work has not been carried out to date.

**e) To Discuss Phone Box Restoration**

Deferred. It was felt that this would need to be addressed in the spring when weather conditions would be more suited.

**f) To Discuss Village Green Car Parking and Maintenance**

It was reported that the leaving of cars on the green no longer seems to be a problem. Maintenance of the Green deferred pending outcome of 12c above.

RESOLVED.

**13. Reports:**

Cllr Eustace attended the Parish Council summit on 20<sup>th</sup> September. The clerk had received the power point presentation slides from this event which had been circulated to all councillors.

**14. Training / Meeting Dates:** To note any forthcoming training and meeting dates

The next parish council summit is due to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2020.

**15. To Raise Items for next scheduled Parish Council Meeting (no discussion)**

- Precept 2020/2021
- Smartwater
- Speed reduction outside Ashperton School
- Safer Roads Partnership Van Frequency

**16. To Confirm Dates and Time of Ordinary Meetings for the ensuing year**

All held at Ashperton Village WI Hall at 7.30pm unless advised otherwise

2019 – Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov

2020 – Wed 29<sup>th</sup> January, Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March, Wed 27<sup>th</sup> May

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:.....Chairman

Dated:.....

## Information Sheet

**DATES OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS – (all held at Ashperton Village WI Hall at 7.30pm unless advised otherwise)**

2019 – Wed 27<sup>th</sup> Nov

2020 – Wed 29<sup>th</sup> January, Wed 25<sup>th</sup> March, Wed 27<sup>th</sup> May

**PARISH CLERK UPDATE**

- Road defects reported to Locality Steward / Herefordshire Council via website
- Website updated
- NDP Support work undertaken
- 2020/2021 Draft Budget Prepared
- Financial Regulation amended

**GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- Balfour Beatty – Weekly Locality briefings \*
- Balfour Beatty – Herefordshire Road Closure Notices \*
- Herefordshire Rural Hub - Aug & Sept newsletters \*
- HALC – Information Corner & Training Schedule\*
- HALC – New Financial Regulations \*
- Zurich Insurance Policy \*
- Herefordshire Council – Public Green Spaces Grant \*
- Herefordshire Council – Children & Young Peoples Showcase \*
- Herefordshire Council – PC Summit Fri 20<sup>th</sup> Sept \*
- Fastershire – Community Meeting \*
- Engagement West Midlands – Water Abstraction Authorisations \*
- West Mercia Police – We Don't Buy Crime / Smart Water \*

\* Circulated to Cllrs.

**OUTSTANDING ACTIONS** - These are the consolidated actions outstanding after the last meeting:-

Meeting	Minute	Action	Status	Comments
Sept 2017	9.2	RE	Ongoing	Contact Cricket Club re installation of footpath gate
Aug 2018	12c	AH	Ongoing	Village Hall Keyholders contacts to be put on notice board/window
July 2019		clerk	ongoing	Arrange date with bank for village hall bank mandate – try to rearrange for 8 <sup>th</sup> October at 11.30am/noon

**PLANNING RECORD**

**182827 Land adj. The Ditch, 44 Ashperton Road** Proposed new build cottage style building

**PC Comment:** PC no objections

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION** GRANTED 15.10.18

**183941 – The Hopton Arms Public House, Ashperton, HR8 2SE**

Proposed change of use into two semi detached dwellings complete with ancillary amenity space and external garden areas, on site parking for both new dwellings, on site turning heads and suitable reformed access drive into application site

**PC Comment:** The Parish Council strongly object to this application. A letter outlining these objections will be formulated and forwarded to the planning department.

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION** – REFUSED 28.3.19

**184628 – Land to the South West of Holmlea, Ashperton, HR8 2RZ**

Outline planning application for 2 dwellings on land south west of Holmlea. Amendments to the existing access to improve highway safety.

**PC Comment:** The Parish Council object to this application. A letter outlining these objections will be formulated and forwarded to the planning department.

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:** REFUSED 10.6.19

**P191013/RM - Land to the North of Ashperton Village Hall Ashperton Herefordshire**

Application for approval of reserved matters following Outline 152041 (Proposed residential development of 10 dwellings(amendment to original application)) for the approval of Appearance, Landscaping and Scale including details to address conditions 3, 5, 7, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 21, 22 & 24)

**PC Comment:**

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:**

**P190682/F - The Ditch, Building Plot 2 44 Ashperton Road Ashperton Nr Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RY**

Proposed new build detached dwelling

**PC Comment:** The Parish Council object on the grounds of overdevelopment of the site

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:**

**P190646/FH - Croft Orchard Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RY**

Proposed double bay oak frame carport extension to existing garage

**PC Comment:** The Parish Council have no objections

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:** GRANTED 18.4.19

**P190452/FH - Walnut Tree Cottage Woodend Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RS**

Proposed alteration to existing rear extension to extend first floor over

**PC Comment:** The Parish Council have no objections

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:** GRANTED 11.4.19