

# 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 29<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.30pm

### Present:-

Councillors Rowland Eustace (chairman), Andrew Hammond, Eleanor James, Nancy Nicklin and John Wyton

### In attendance:-

Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester  
Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

### Members of the Public: 2

The Chairman Cllr Eustace welcomed everyone to the meeting.

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

Cllr Nicklin had previously advised that she would be a few minutes late to the meeting.

#### 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

There remain two parish councillor vacancies. Councillors will continue to spread the word about the remaining vacancies.

N.B. Cllr Nicklin arrived

#### 4. To Consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> November 2019

The minutes of the meeting held 27<sup>th</sup> November were APPROVED as a true and accurate account and duly signed by the chairman.

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

Ward Councillor Lester advised that Herefordshire Councils budget was presented to the General Scrutiny Committee in Nov. It proposed a 4% increase in council tax (2% ring fenced for adult social care). A Capital Projects and Corporate Plan for the next 4 years includes borrowing £100m to build 1000 council houses, £30m for building the Southern Link Road and £39m to purchase electric buses. A meeting will be held on 14<sup>th</sup> February to agree the budget. He also reported that phosphate levels in the Lugg catchment area are too high so planning applications cannot be determined.

**6. 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 concerns about the condition of footpaths and gates/stiles through the parish. Many people visit to walk the parish and residents felt that some stiles and gates need repair or replacing and once weather improves repairs to the footpaths would be required.

Residents also asked when the area in front of the defibrillator would be marked off to stop cars parking in front of the unit.

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

a) To Consider Planning Applications referred for comment: None

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

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

a) To Note Conclusion of Herefordshire Council NDP Regulation 16 Consultation and decide if any response is required.

RESOLUTION: A response would be written and sent to Herefordshire Council and a copy place onto the parish website

b) To Decide Examiner of Neighbourhood Development Plan

The Parish Council had been sent a choice of three examiners from Herefordshire Council.

RESOLUTION: The Parish Council will advise Herefordshire Council that they wish Barbara Maksymiw to be appointed examiner.

**9. Finance:**

a) To Note Finance Report and Bank Balances

Noted. Bank Balance as at 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 £12951.36

b) To Consider Payments of Outstanding Accounts

000470: J Chester – clerk salary Dec/Jan (as per contract)  
 000471: HMRC – PAYE Dec/Jan – £8.80  
 000472: HALC – Annual Subscription - £348.10  
 000473: Autela Group – Payroll Services Q3 - £47.08

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

**10. 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

RESOLVED: Cllr Eustace will assess the conditions of the footpaths and gates/stiles in the parish. A large number of potholes through the village have been repaired but the clerk is to ask Herefordshire Council if the A417 is still planned for total resurfacing. The clerk will also request for the drains through the village to be cleared.

**c) To Discuss Balfour Beatty Management of Verges for Bio Diversity**

RESOLUTION: Councillors agreed to Balfour Beattys proposal that verges on minor roads are cut only in August/September providing that "danger areas" were still cut more frequently.

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

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

Reviewed and Updated.

**b) To Discuss Speed Reduction outside Ashperton School**

The clerk has received correspondence from the Safer Roads Partnership who advised that they would not run a Community Speed Watch programme in the village because the speed camera van is often deployed.

RESOLUTION: The clerk will contact other parishes who have purchased Speed Indicator Devices to ask what benefits, if any, they have noticed from installing them in their parishes.

**c) To Discuss Visibility when exiting Church Lane**

A number of residents have raised concerns over the lack of clear visibility of the A417 in both directions when exiting Church Lane.

RESOLUTION: The clerk will send a letter to all dwellings along the A417 asking for hedges and trees to be cut back to give clear visibility from Church Lane to the school entrance. She will also enquire about a "Concealed exit/entrance" sign to be placed along the A417. The clerk will also arrange a parish walk with the locality steward and safer roads partnerships to view and discuss identified issues.

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

**d) To Discuss VE75 Day**

RESOLUTION: The clerk will ask the church and the school if they have any plans for this event.

**12. Ashperton Village Hall**

**a) To Arrange Date for Bank Mandate Amendments**

RESOLUTION: Proposed signatories will meet on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February.

**b) To Discuss Utility Providers for Village Hall**

RESOLUTION: Cllr Hammond will review providers and contracts.

**c) To Discuss Management of Village Hall**

RESOLUTION: The clerk will place a notice in the parish magazine asking for volunteers to clean the village hall. The village hall website page will be updated by the clerk to include a calendar showing when the hall is booked and "What's On". An electronic booking form will also be added together with booking terms and conditions of hire.

**13. Reports:**

Councillor Eustace had attended the Parish Briefing given by Balfour Beatty.  
Councillor Eustace had also attended the Great Collaboration event discussing climate change.

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

The latest HALC Training diary had been circulated.  
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)**

- Defibrillator
- Footpaths

**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

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

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.33pm

Signed:.....Chairman

Dated:.....

## Information Sheet

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

2020- 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
- Floods and potholes in parish reported
- 2020-2021 Precept requested £9000
- Herefordshire Council Invoiced for hire of village hall as Polling Station

- Safer Roads Partnership contacted ref Community Speedwatch
- Village Hall booking enquiries forwarded on

## GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

- Balfour Beatty – Weekly Locality briefings \*
- Balfour Beatty – Herefordshire Road Closure Notices \*
- Balfour Beatty – Parish Briefing Notes \*
- Balfour Beatty – Managing Verges for Biodiversity \*
- Herefordshire Rural Hub - Dec & Jan newsletters \*
- HALC – Information Corner & Training Schedule\*
- Herefordshire Council – Climate Change The Great Collaboration \*

\* 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	Complete	Village Hall Keyholders contacts to be put on notice
July 2019		clerk	ongoing	board/window Arrange date with bank for village hall
bank mandate				
Nov 2019	10c	RE	ongoing	Footpath AP6 to have a drainage channel installed
Nov 2019	10d	clerk	ongoing	Clerk to place notice in parish magazine re salt/grit storage

## **PLANNING RECORD**

### **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

### **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:** REFUSED 14.10.19

### **192073 Tuston Farm House Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RT**

Proposed erection of three polytunnels

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

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:** GRANTED 11.12.19

### **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.

**HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION:**