

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 29th September 2021 at 7.30pm

Present:- Councillors Andrew Hammond (Chairman), Rowland Eustace, Eleanor James, Nancy Nicklin and John Wyton

In attendance:- Three Crosses Ward Councillor Jonathan Lester, Janet Chester – Parish Clerk

Members of the Public: 1

The Chairman Cllr Hammond welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. To Receive any Apologies for Absence and Note the Reason

None

2. To Receive Nominations to Fill Councillor Vacancies by Co-Option

Emma Stevens proposed by Cllr Nicklin and seconded by Cllr Wyton. Unanimously supported. Cllr Stevens signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Register of Interests Form.

RESOLUTION: Clerk to advise Herefordshire Council.

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

None.

4. To Consider Approval of Minutes of Parish Council meeting held 28th July 2021

The minutes of the meeting held 28th July 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 Cllr Lester advised that the planning department have a backlog of applications, many unassigned to an officer. Better engagement with agents/applicants is required to comply with paragraph 38 of the NPPF. A cabinet meeting tomorrow will ask for an investigation into the £6m overspend on the Citylink Road project. It is thought that the compulsory purchase payments agreement was left open-ended allowing for further compensation claims to be made. However two of the main people employed on the project have now left. Procedures need tightening up and communication is lacking. At the General Scrutiny Committee meeting the potential sale of Hereford Town Hall was discussed. The natural recipient would be Hereford Town Council but they do not want to take on major repair costs. Herefordshire Council say repairs are about £1.8m but other quotes say more like £5-6m. Repairs are expensive but everyone would like it to remain a public building.

Herefordshire Council are discussing Holme Lacy School and land behind to either build council owned homes or sell to a developer but the scrutiny committee has asked for greater engagement with the local community to gather their views.

Full Council are to meet to discuss the waste management strategy, the mental health after care

arrangements policy, climate change threat and the 2022-23 budget consultation. Herefordshire Council Childrens Services are under an improvement order.

6. Public Participation Session for Local Residents to raise matters relevant to the council

No matters raised

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: **(to be viewed online prior to the meeting)**

None

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

8. Finance:

- a) To Discuss Draft Budget and Precept requirement for 2022-2023

This was discussed at length. The purchase of Speed Indicator Devices may fall in this financial year or next.

RESOLUTION: The Parish Council are minded to keep the precept at its current level and request £9250. Final decision will be made at the November meeting.

- b) To Note Finance Report and Bank Balances

Finance report Noted. Bank Balance 1st September 2021 £14251.20

- c) To Discuss and Decide Insurance Cover and Renewal

The Parish Council insurance policy is due for renewal.

RESOLUTION: The policy had been reviewed and current cover is adequate. It was AGREED to pay the annual fee.

- d) To Consider Payments of Outstanding Accounts

000502: Zurich – Annual Insurance - £544.65

000503: J Chester – clerk salary Aug & Sept as agreed plus expenses Laptop Security £88.36

000504: Autela Payroll - payroll services Q2 - £52.20

RESOLVED: All the above invoices were APPROVED for payment. It was also agreed that when an invoice for the phone box restoration (£600) was received it could be paid straight away.

9. Highways/Footpaths:

- a) To Note any new Highway and Footpath Defects

The clerk has written to the landowner regarding a broken drain/inspection chamber by the kissing gate on Dognall Lane next to the village hall but nothing has been done yet.

AP6 drainage channel – Cllr Eustace has viewed and there is a corrugated drain installed. It was thought that ownership of Ashperton Wood had changed.

b) To Receive Comments on Recent Road Resurfacing through the village

A417 the area within the 30mph zone has been repaired, resurfaced and new road markings. Most feedback received was positive. It was felt that this had slowed down most vehicles especially HGV's but not all. There was concern that there were no cats eyes to guide motorists in the fog.

c) To Discuss Speed Indicator Devices including funding

Quotes for the parish council to purchase a Speed Indicator Device for the village have been circulated. Various types of SID are available at different costs.

RESOLUTION: A solar powered indicator showing your speed and thank you / slow down was the preferred choice. The clerk will obtain costs and liaise with Balfour Beatty re installation locations. The clerk will also explore grant opportunities with the Police & Crime Commissioner.

d) To Discuss Layby Opposite the School and Parked Vehicles Obscuring Visibility

The "grass" verge and drainage channel were reinstated as part of the roadworks.

RESOLUTION: It was decided to plant bulbs in the verge to deter people driving over the verge.

e) To Receive Suggestions for Other Driver Village Awareness Measures

A No parking zone to be marked on road outside the school as a matter of road safety. 30mph stickers for wheelie bins. A new village sign (blacksmith student project/) on the village green. As more houses have been built at the north end of the village it was suggested to extend the 30mph out to include all of those inside the current 40mph zone.

10. Information Section / Correspondence / Discussion:

a) To Review Information and Outstanding Actions

Noted and updated.

b) To Discuss and Decide Phone Box Restoration

A quote for the phone box restoration was agreed and it is hoped work will be completed soon. Thanks were expressed to Cllrs Hammond, Eustace and Wyton for removing the inserts in preparation for sand-blasting and repainting bringing down the cost of the restoration. Volunteers were requested for cleaning off the rust and painting of the inserts.

c) To Discuss Maintenance of Defibrillator

The company who previously gave the defibrillator an annual service have proved to be unreliable so an alternative is sought. Cllr Hammond has contacted Hereford Heartstart for advice and they said it can be done by a group of volunteers. The expiry dates of batteries and pads needs checking and to ensure the power supply is connected.

RESOLUTION: The clerk has noted the expiry dates and councillors will carry out regular weekly checks.

d) To Discuss Herefordshire Council Budget Consultation

Councillors were asked to reply to the consultation individually.

e) To Discuss Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebration

RESOLUTION: A letter drop will be carried out to request ideas of what residents want the village to do and to also ask for volunteers.

11. Ashperton Village Hall

- a) To Discuss Village Hall Safeguarding - deferred
- b) To Discuss Future Booking Conditions and Safety Measures for the Hall - deferred
- c) To Discuss Village Hall Improvements - deferred

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

- Councillor Vacancies
- Speed Indicator Devices
- Village Hall Safeguarding
- Village Hall Improvements
- Platinum Jubilee Celebration

13. To Confirm Dates and Times of Next Scheduled Meeting –

Wednesday 24th November 2021 at Ashperton Village Hall at 7.30pm unless otherwise advised

Meeting closed 21.55pm

Signed:..... Dated:.....

Chairman of the Parish Council

Information Sheet

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

Wednesday 24th November 2021

Wednesday 26th January 2022

Wednesday 30th March 2022

Wednesday 25th May 2022

PARISH CLERK UPDATE

Road defects reported to Locality Steward / Herefordshire Council via website

Website updated

VAT claim submitted

Village Hall Annual Return sent to Charity Commission

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

Balfour Beatty – Locality briefings *

Balfour Beatty – Herefordshire Road Closure Notices *

Herefordshire Rural Hub – Aug & Sept newsletters *

Herefordshire Council – Talk Community Covid19 updates *

Herefordshire Council – Leaders Newsletter *

HALC – Information Corner & Training Diary *

West Mercia Police – Aug & Sept Newsletter *

Hereford & Gloucester Canal Trust – link to Wharfinger magazine *

* 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
Nov 2019	10c	RE	ongoing	Footpath AP6 to have a drainage channel installed
Jan 2020	6	All	ongoing	All footpaths to be checked and repairs made as required
Jan 2020	12c	clerk		Put notice in parish magazine asking for volunteer cleaners for village hall
Sept 2021	10c	AH		Contact Hereford Heartstart for advice on defib maintenance

PLANNING RECORD

[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:

[200614 – Land adjacent No1 The Ryders, Church Lane, Ashperton, HR8 2SP](#) – Proposed new dwelling (Re-consultation as plans and supporting documents amended)

PC Comment: Members of Ashperton Parish Council have considered the above application and, taking account of representations from Ashperton residents, the consensus is that no further development off Church Lane should be permitted unless the visibility to the right at the junction of Church Lane with the A417 has been substantially improved. That visibility is effectively restricted to the width of Church Lane itself. Although there are already a number of properties off Church Lane any further development would materially increase the use of the junction resulting in significant incremental detriment to highway safety contrary to Core Strategy policies and to the policies of the National Planning Policy Framework.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION: GRANTED 16.4.2021

[P202367/V - 1 The Ryders, Ashperton, HR8 2SP](#) Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the provision of a twin mobile home (not operational development) within the garden of the residential property for use as additional family accommodation (not material change of use). **ADVICE ONLY PC NOT CONSULTED**

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION: Granted 14.9.2020

[P202984 - Land adjacent The Ditch 44 Ashperton Road Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire](#) , Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 10 & 11 attached to planning permission 182827 **ADVICE ONLY PC NOT CONSULTED**
[P211614/XA2 Ashperton Holiday Park The Coach House Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2SE](#) Application for approval of details reserved by conditions 4 8 & 9 attached to planning permission 172069.

PC Comment – Cllr Hammond advised that the planning permission has lapsed so this application should not be validated. The planning department at Herefordshire Council will be advised.

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION: Granted 16.6.2021

[P212403FH - Drews Orchard Ashperton Ledbury Herefordshire HR8 2RY](#), Proposed single storey extension and a garden studio.

PC Comment: The Parish Council have no objections

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION: GRANTED 17.9.2021

[212011 – Little Tuston, Woodend, Herefordshire HR8 2RS](#) Proposed change of use of existing annexe to a separate C3 residential dwelling

PC Comment: The Parish Council have no objections

HEREFORDSHIRE COUNCIL DECISION