

28th June 2022

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held on Tuesday 28th June 2022 in the Baptist Schoolroom at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Steve Hayler, John Moran and George Smith,

Mr. David Green (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence

Cllr, Martin Foley (ECC)

2. Public Representations

Mrs. Goodwin, Steventon End. Mrs Goodwin raised the matter of the lack of a footway at Steventon End particularly from the hill entering the village from Whitensmere Farm to the "Z" bend. There had been an increase of speeding and heavy traffic particularly at peak times which made walking through the hamlet very dangerous with many near misses. She said that this matter would be exacerbated by the proposed building works at Brook Farm. Mrs Goodwin requested that the matter be raised with the County Council for the introduction of a speed limit and a footway. Councillor Moran would investigate and report back.

Mr. Pardue, Church End. Mr Pardue raised concerns about the planning application for 12 Guildhall Way. His main concerns were over the side extension being too close to the neighbouring property and the drainage which, he said, was prone to blocking and which he had had to "rod" in the past to prevent backing up. He requested that the Parish Council object on the above grounds.

Mr. Duke. Byrds and Butlers Farm. Mr. Duke is the owner of the land where the "fishing lake" was being developed at Butlers Farm. The Parish Council noted that the development was not in Ashdon Parish nor does Mr. Duke live in the Parish.

Mr. Duke said that, following discussion with the Environment Agency permission had been granted for an irrigation reservoir on a 12 acre site to enable him to grow root crops. On completion it would be fenced and developed into a wild life site. This would enhance both the environment and provide wild life habitats. He said that no illegal tipping had taken place but that due to representations from a member of the public an enforcement notice had been issued by the District Council and the work was on stop. The matter was currently under review. Mr. Duke offered to meet members on site to discuss the proposal.

3. Short address by Cllr. Martin Foley on County Council matters

Reports on Highways , Covid and other County Council matters had previously been circulated.

4. Short address by Cllr. James De Vries on District Council Matters.

There was no report from Councillor De Vries

5. Declaration of Interests

There were no interests in matters on this agenda

6. Minutes.

Resolved - that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 9th May 2022, previously circulated, be approved (Cllr. Smith)

7. Matters Arising.

i. Playing Fields.

a. Rectory Lane. Installation completed. Invoice received.

Following representations from the public, and discussions with the Chairman regarding the tensioner on the Zip Wire, an order had been issued to Online Playgrounds to fit a new tensioner and carry out other necessary works to bring the Zip Wire up to the required RoSPA standard.

The Clerk reported that a recent application to the District Council for a Community Grant towards a "Birds Nest" swing at Rectory Lane had been successful. Three quotations had been received:-

Wicksteed Leisure	£4,192.30 ex vat (supply only)
Playdale	£5,185.79 ex vat
Online Playgrounds	£3,969.00 ex vat

Resolved - that, Online Playground be asked to supply and install birds nest swing and associated safety surfacing at Rectory Lane Play Field for the sum of £3,969.00 +vat (Cllr.Hayler).

b. Dog faeces and glass at the play areas. Councillor Hayler, the Clerk and members of the public had all reported an increase in the number of broken bottles beer cans and dog faeces in or around the play areas. This was causing great concern for the safety of the children. Councillor Smith would consult Environmental Health as to the best course of action to prevent this very dangerous and anti-social behaviour. (Action Cllr. Smith)

ii Highways. Traffic Management.

a. Water End/Spriggs Lane. Waiting for a report from Councillor Foley. Councillor Smith would chase. (Action Cllr. Smith)

b. Spoil Butlers Lane/Byrds Farm. See Item 2. Report by Mr. Duke.

c. Speeding. Councillor Moran reported that it was hoped to get a 20mph limit throughout the village in addition to that already outside the school. Steventon End would be added to the request following representations by Mrs. Goodwin (Item 2) (Action Cllr. Moran)

iii. Village Hall and White Horse House.

Councillor Hayler reported that bookings were going very well. The floor in the main hall had been refurbished. Broadband had now been connected. The Chairman reported that he had been making enquires into a possible upgrade of

the existing disabled toilet or installation of a new toilet in the corner of the small hall. It had been determined that the passageway from the old hall to the existing toilet was 800mm wide (meets standard) but the doorway was only 750mm (does not meet standard). He had also been in discussion with Fairstone regarding the possible provision of new office space by removing the old toilets and also the upgrade of the fire detection system.

- iv. To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Plan.

Regulation 16 examination now under way at the District Council.

- v. Community Led Housing. The Chairman reported that, following a meeting with the CEO of the District Council on the 30th May, and a reminder on the 16th June, and supplying him with all details of the proposed affordable housing project at All Saints Close, nothing further had been heard to date.

(Action Chairman/Cllr. De Vries)

- vi. Neighbourhood Watch. Councillor Hayler had nothing to report.

- vii. Celebrations to mark H.M. The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

An excellent weekend of celebrations with a packed out quiz on the Thursday in the Village Hall, "The King's Speech" film on the Friday and rather damp picnic at the school field on the Sunday. In addition a Jazz Event had been held at Pennycroft and a party at Steventon End. Great fun was had by all. The village had been "dressed over all" with bunting with Union Flags flying at the War Memorial and on Crown Hill. Special thanks were due to Victoria Moriarty, Mary Green and Lizzie Green for their outstanding efforts in making the event so successful and to Trevor Miles for his help and expertise with the beacon.

Planting of a Jubilee Oak at the "Fir" trees, Walden Road.

No further response from the District council to date.

Cllr. Elsey had contacted Mr. Bidwell (Beeches Nursery) who would kindly order and donate snow drops for the verge by the bus shelter in the village centre.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Various emails distributed to Members. Members had been requested to raise any matters received by email under correspondence. No matters raised.

9. NEW ITEMS.

- i. Community Grants. See Item 7.i
- ii. Commemoration of the centenary of Ashdon Meteorite 9th March 2023.

Mr. Gerald Lucy, Essex Rock and Mineral Society/Geo Essex, had been in communication with the Clerk regarding celebrating the above centenary. He had contacted the relevant landowners and farmer and had booked the Village Hall for an exhibition. The Parish Council would help with this event. The Clerk would contact Mr. Lucy to determine further details and the help required. (Action Clerk)

- iii. Proposed Shop at the Rose & Crown. The Chairman would contact the owners to request further details and drawings. (Action Chairman)
- iv. Flag Pole Crown Hill. The Clerk had provided a flag pole at Crown Hill for the Jubilee celebrations. This had been well received in the village. Estimates would be obtained for a permanent/semi-permanent flag pole at this site. (Action Clerk)

10. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS.

- i. UTT/22/1051/DOC. Application to discharge condition (hard/soft landscaping) attached to UTT/20/2190 FUL.
Pennycroft, Bartlow Road

Since Approved

- ii. UTT/22/1296/PAQ3. Prior notification of change of use of agricultural building to 1no. dwelling
Barn at Brook Farm, Steventon End

Object. Members concurred that this type of development was not needed and did not help with meeting the housing needs of the village. Councillor De Vries would be requested to have this application called in.

- iii. UTT/22/1297/AG. Proposed agricultural storage building
Brook Farm, Steventon End

Prior Approval since Refused

- iv. UTT/22/1334/DOC. Application to discharge condition 10 (Biodiversity Enhancement Layout) attached to UTT/21/1754/DFO.
Land to the west Radwinter Road

Object. Members supported "Place Services" in that the plans as submitted were not detailed enough, not providing sufficient reasons why this condition should be discharged.

- i. Ongoing discussions regarding the dispersion of water from the site both to the Bourn and Radwinter Road.

Councillor De Vries would be consulted as to what further action could be taken on this very important matter.

- v. UTT/22/1379/HHF. Proposed single storey rear extension
5. Fallowden Lane

No Objections

- vi. UTT/22/1491/OP. Outline application with all matters reserved except access and layout for conversion of a barn to 1no. dwelling
Spriggs Farm

No Comment

- vii. UTT/22/1538/NMA. Non Material Amendment to UTT/21/1754/DFO - Omission of full gable end glazing to rear of plots 1, 2 and 4

Land To The West Of Radwinter Road

No Objections

- viii. UTT/22/1592/HHF. Two storey side extension and single storey rear extension
12 Guildhall Way

Object. The side extension is overpowering and would irrevocably change the character of Guildhall Way. The proposed changes to the front elevation would alter the character of the building in an unsuitable way

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED.

- i. UTT/22/1098/NMA. Non Material Amendment to UTT/19/2879/HHF - reduction of studio floor area, changing of cladding to external walls to feather edged boarding. Velux rooflights reduced to 3no. Look Out, Canopy and covered area to be constructed as a future phase and minor adjustment to the design of the look out tower
Brights Farm Walden Road Ashdon Saffron Walden Essex

Approved

12. FINANCE.

- i. Accounts for Payment

Resolved - that the Accounts, Appendix 1. be passed for payment. (Cllr. Moran)

- ii. Internal Audit. To review and approve the Accounts for the fiscal year 2021/22 (Appendix ii) and review the Internal Audit

Resolved - that the Accounts (Appendix ii) for the fiscal year 2021/22, the Internal Audit and the Annual Governance Statement be approved (Cllr. Moran)

- iii. To approve the work of the Internal Auditor. To appoint the Internal Auditor for the fiscal year 2022/23

Resolved - that the work of the Internal Auditor be approved and that Mrs. Anne Mangham be appointed to carry out the Internal Audit in the Fiscal Year 2022/23s
(Cllr. Elsey)

- iv. To review and approve the Financial Regulations

It was noted that, due to the change to online banking that advice be taken from the Internal Auditor and the Financial Regulations amended accordingly

- v. To review and approve Standing Orders

It was noted that, due to the change to online banking that advice be taken from the Internal Auditor and the Standing Orders amended accordingly

- vi. To review the Parish Council Insurance Policy

Resolved - that the Council's current Insurance reviewed at the renewal of the premium at the meeting held on the 9th May 2022 meets the Council's requirements (Cllr. Player (since resigned))

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no "Items for the Next Agenda"

The meeting concluded at 9.24pm

Signed. Chairman

Date

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING TUESDAY 28th JUNE 2022
9th MAY to 28th JUNE 2022

Monies Received	£
UDC Precept	21,580.00
HMRC. VAT repayment	879.73
UDC. Neighbourhood Plan	158.25
Fairstone Group (Village Hall Committee). Rent White Horse House	1562.50
Interest. Saver account	5.13
HMRC. VAT repayment	1384.75
Interest Saver Account	0.08
Monies passed for Payment	£
NPower Electricity April Account	44.75 Ch.No.102718
M. Elsey. Toilet Hire. Jubilee	204.00 Ch.No.102719
Playsafety. R0SPA playground inspection	306.60 Ch.No.102720
Philip Player. Travelling expenses 28/3/22, 9/5/22	141.50 Ch.No.102721
D. Green. Jubilee Bunting	255.35 Ch.No.102722
D. Green. Telephone/Broadband	18.64 Ch.No.102723
MD Landscapes. Grass May 2 cuts	818.40 Ch.No.102724
D. Green. Padlock playing field gate	21.96 Ch.No.102625
Ashdon Parochial Church Council. PC share of hedge at cemetery	600.00 Ch.No.102626
Fenland Leisure Products Ltd. New equipment Rectory Lane	22,354.20 Ch.No.102727
Cheque Cancelled	0.00 Ch.No.102728
Victoria Moriarty. Jubilee expenses	95.02 Ch.No.102729
D. Green. TC Fixings. Parts playground maintenance	25.80 Ch.No.102730
NPower. Electricity May Account	43.08 Ch.No.102731
MD Landscapes. Grass June 2 cuts	783.60 Ch.No.102732
Ashdon Village Hall Committee. Hire of hall for Jubilee functions	72.00 Ch.No.102733
M.A.Ager. Manufacture new War Memorial gates	3084.00 Ch.No.102744
Ashdon Baptist Church. Hire of hall 3 meetings	60.00 Ch.No.102745

Balances at Bank on 28th June 2022:-

Current Account:-	£24,474.75
Saver Account:-	£1,071.36
Saver Account:-	£67,497.32

The Clerk noted that the invoice for the new War Memorial gates had been received for payment. The gates had been made in Ashdon by local craftsmen to the highest standard. He was authorised to order a bronze plaque to be fitted to the gates to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee at a cost of £130.00 +vat. He would also investigate the possibility of holding a short service of commemoration/dedication at a date to be determined with the Baptist Minister, Deputy LL and RBL in attendance.