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25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Ms. Jane Gray, Mrs. Melanie Horrigan and Mrs. Michelle Lee

Cllr. Martin Foley (ECC), Mr. David Green (Clerk)

**1. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Mrs. Alice Olley and John Moran who had reported that he had contracted COVID was unwell  
that he

**2. Public Representations.**

There were no representations from the public.

**3. Short Address by Councillor Foley on County Council matters**

Cllr. Foley reported that the blanket 20mph limits were being introduced in urban areas only and that Ashdon would not be considered for a 20mph limit. He acknowledged that feelings were very high in the village regarding speeding and that alternative measures should be considered by the Council. The Chairman enquired if permission would be required from Highways regarding the purchase and installation of flashing speed reduction signs. Cllr Foley suggested that a visit from Highways would be preferable to advise on siting, number and the type of signs available.

The Clerk enquired if any progress had been made with his request for a 40mph to encompass Midsummer Hill as the speed of traffic, at times, was vastly excessive and at times dangerous with heavy machinery moving in and out of Goldstones Farm and the new glass blowing workshop to be built to the rear of The Vales with its entrance onto the road.

The Clerk also reiterated that the "depression" in the road adjacent to "Clayes" was getting deeper and could cause a serious hazard to two wheeled vehicles. Cllr. Mrs. Lee would report this again to Highways using "What 3 Words" to give its exact location.

Cllr Foley reported that Ashdon had been designated in the Local Plan as a "Large Village". In view of the lack of facilities including a village shop, Members felt this was not a fair designation and that this could invite extensive development. Councillors Ms. Gray and Mrs. Horrigan were particularly concerned as this was diametrically opposite the views of the village as set out in the Neighbourhood Plan. They would pursue the matter and endeavour to have this designation removed.

Councillor Foley left the meeting at this point.

**4. Short Address by Councillor Moran on District Council matters.**

The following report had been received after the meeting:-

"Apologies I cannot be with you this evening. From the District Council view point it is all about the Local Plan which will be published in draft form early in November. I





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have not heard any leaks at all and if I do I will out of respect for the process not be passing them on. Once the draft is published we enter a consultation period in which the parish council will have time to respond. The plan should be in place and shaping the future of housing in Uttlesford by summer 2024".

**5. Declaration of Interests**

There were no Declarations of Interest

**6. Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023.**

**Resolved** – that the minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> August 2023 be signed as a true record (Cllr .Elsey)

**7. Matters Arising from the above Minutes**

i Playing Fields:-

a. Rectory Lane.

**Resolved** – that:-

- i. a new sign be made to replace the sign stolen from the top of the steps. The script to basically read as per the sign at the bottom of the steps;
- ii. the "rogue" benches be removed;
- iii. the rope to the slide mound be replaced
- iv. that a note be put on the village web site drawing residents attention to the fact that soiled nappies should not be placed in the litter bins at the playing fields and also not left in the long grass  
(Cllr. Lee) (Action Clerk/Cllr Lee)

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to Mr. Andy Everitt regarding levelling and preparing the track down the side of "Ladywell" to facilitate a better entrance for those with limited mobility, pushchairs etc rather than having to use the steps. Mr. Everitt would revert with his ideas and cost.

b. Church Field. Nothing to report

ii. Highways: Traffic Management.

a. Report on decision of the Local Highways Panel. Condition of the gulleys in Radwinter Road, Crown Hill and Water End

The gulleys at Radwinter Road and Crown Hill are still causing concern having been blocked by debris following the recent rain which caused a minor flood at Crown Hill. Councillor Foley had previously reported that he had requested the gulley tanker be sent to the village to clear the drains. The problems in Radwinter Road are ongoing. Cllr. Foley had previously reported that he was endeavouring to get Highways to take some remedial action whilst acknowledging that a major drainage scheme would be required in the long term



- b. Speeding and Highway Matters  
See Item 3. Cllr. Foley's Report. The Chairman would continue to source suitable speed reduction signs with advice from Highways
- iii. To receive an update from Cllr. Mrs. Lee on the roadworks from Dean Crossroads, Horseheath to Linton.  
  
Cllr. Mrs Lee reported that: the A1307 would be closed from 6pm 30/9 to 6am 2/10 for roundabout works and from 6pm 7/10 to 6am 9/10 for completion of the same works.
- iv. Village Hall and White Horse House.  
  
Cllr. Mrs. Gray was compiling a schedule of external works required for the Trustees
- v. Community Led Housing.  
  
A site meeting had been held with the District Council. Cllrs. Elsey, Ms. Gray and Moran had attended as had the Clerk. A second follow up meeting would be arranged to determine the number, type and layout of the dwellings. The number would ultimately be determined by Highways.
- vi. Neighbourhood Watch. Nothing to report
- vi. Allotments  
  
Mr. Paul Herbert, Allotment Coordinator, attended the meeting and reported that an Allotment Association had been formed and contracts drawn up within the National Allotment Assn. guidelines. A Bank account had been opened and Insurance taken out under the NAA scheme.  
  
Negotiations with the owner were in a state of flux as to what his long term intentions for the site were. If the Council were to take over the allotments a formal agreement would be required and details of funding required for the upkeep. Current incomings were approx. £360.00 and outgoings £150 (hedge cutting). It was noted that there is no water supply.
- vii. Fireplaces Carters Croft  
  
Under investigation by Cllr. Moran. Nothing to report in his absence.
- viii. To consider the possibility of making a donation towards the running of the Community Hub currently being held in the Baptist Chapel Schoolroom.  
  
It was agreed that the "needs" of the Hub should be determined from Rev. Mrs. Brundritt and reported at the November meeting  
(Action Cllr. Ms Gray)
- It was also considered that a policy regarding grants should be formalised. (Action Cllr Gray)
- ix.. Village Christmas Tree  
  
Resolved – that;-





- i. a traditional Christmas Tree be provided and erected in time for the switch on immediately following the proposed Christmas Fayre 2<sup>nd</sup> December
- ii. a new star be purchased at a cost of £125 + vat/carriage (Cllr. Mrs. Horrigan) *Unanimous*
- x. Airport Noise Consultation. Representations submitted

**8. Correspondence**

No matters raised

**9. New Items.**

- i. Condition of the Cemetery Registers and Plans

**Resolved** – that the original Cemetery Book dating from 1874 be restored by David Nichol, Traditional Bookbinder, for the approximate sum of £600.00 (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

**10. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS.**

- i. UTT/23/2066/CLP. Use of property for day care, respite care and convalescent care.  
Great Mortimers Farm, Water End

**Certificate of Lawfulness Since Refused**

- ii. UTT/23/2085/TCA. 2No. Ash- crown reduce by up to 5m and shape. Crown lift to give 2m clearance from roof.  
Waltons Park

**UDC - No Objections**

**11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED.**

- i. UTT/23/1437/DOC. Application to discharge condition (landscaping) and 11 (Biodiversity Lighting design) attached to UTT/21/1754/DFO  
Land to the west of Radwinter Road

**Discharge Conditions in Full**

**APPEALS**

- i. UTT/22/2309/FUL. Erection of 2 no. detached dwellings accessed from the existing access on Church Hill, with associated works.

**Dismissed**

**12. FINANCE.**

- i.. Accounts for payment

The Accounts (Appendix i) were passed for payment (Cllr. Elsey)

In Cllr. Moran's absence the Confidentiality motion was not moved

*OK*

- i. To review the Standing Orders

Cllr. Mrs Gray would update as agreed and submit to the Clerk for discussion and inclusion at the November meeting.

- ii. To review the Financial Regulations

To be reviewed at the November meeting

### 13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA

There were no "Items for the Next Agenda"

The meeting closed at 9.55pm

 Signed  
Chairman

Date 6 Nov 2023

### Appendix i

### ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 21st AUGUST to 25<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023

#### Monies Received.

£

H.J. Paintin. Purchase of grave (Ashes) and memorial re Jim Tilbrook	140.00
HMRC. VAT repayment	3627.01

#### Monies passed for Payment

UDC. Green Waste Skip 2022. 20 x £73.50/hour	1,470.00 Ch.No. 102884.
D.Green. Ink cartridge	33.39 Ch.No. 102885
N.Power. Electricity. August Account	38.44 Ch.No. 102886
MD Landscapes. Village grass. August	1237.32 Ch.No. 102887
CPRE. Annual Membership	36.00 Ch.No. 102888
D. Green. Stamps	12.00 Ch.No. 102889
RCCE Annual subscription	72.60 Ch.No. 102890
T.C. Fixings. Chain & padlock Church Field Play Area	27.66 Ch.No. 102891
Clerks Salary. 6 Months	2,600.00 Ch.No. 102892
HMRC PAYE Clerk's salary	650.00 Ch.No. 102893
Andrew Everitt: Cemetery hedge	440.00
Hedge Churchfield	490.00
Closed Cemetery strim	600.00
War Memorial Hedge	<u>160.00</u>
	1690.00
Andrew Everitt. Strim and clear river bank at Village Hall	1690.00 Ch.No.102894
	400.00 Ch.No.102895

Balances at Bank on 25<sup>th</sup> September 2023:-

