

15th May 2023

At the Annual Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held at the Baptist Schoolroom on Monday  
15th May 2023, at 7.30pm.

**Present.**

Councillors Mike Elsey, Mrs Michelle Lee and Councillor Mrs. Alice Olley

**1. Election of Chairman for the Civic Year 2023/2024**

**Resolved** – that Councillor Mike Elsey be elected Chairman for the Civic Year 2023/24 (Cllr. Lee)

**2. Election of Vice-Chairman for the Civic Year 2023/24**

This post will be held in abeyance until more Members are present.

**3. Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for Absence had been received from Cllr. Martin Foley (ECC) and Cllr. John Moran

**4. Public Representations.** Mr Chris Pardue reported that the EE mast at Hall Farm was out of action and had been for over a week. Various excuses had been given as to why it was not functioning. Ms. Sheena Dale said that she had been informed that it would be back in action on the 16<sup>th</sup> May

**5. Short Address by Councillor Martin Foley on County Council Matters**

There was no address or report from Councillor Foley in his absence.

**6. Short Address by Councillor John Moran on District Council Matters**

i. Report on the landfill/spoil dumping site at Butlers Lane

There was no address or report from Councillor Moran in his absence.

**7. Declaration of Interests**

Cllr. Mrs. Olley declared a non pecuniary interest in Item 10i. UTT/23/0447/HHF. Fairview, Church Hill in that she is a personal friend of the applicant.

**8. Minutes of the Meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023**

**Resolved** – that the Minutes of the meeting held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2023 be signed as a true record (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

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

i Playing Fields:-

a. Rectory Lane. Equipment. The Clerk reported that the new timber supports for the zip wire would be installed during the May half term to

enable access via the school. The Chairman asked that the timbers removed be taken to the village hall car park for further use.

There was evidence of dogs being taken onto the playing field despite the notice at the bottom of the steps. A new sign "Childrens' Play Area Strictly No Dogs" would be purchased and erected alongside the existing sign.

- b. Lease of land adjacent to All Saints Close. The Chairman reported that he had been informed that this was a rolling lease and could be terminated by either party at the due time.

ii. Highways: Traffic Management (Cllr. Elsey, Cllr Moran)

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

There was no report from Cllr. Moran on matters regarding the Local Highways Panel.

A meeting had been held earlier in the day with Cllr. Foley, Mr. Daniel Jackson (Highways), Cllr. Elsey and Cllr. Moran, the Clerk had also attended. The blocked gullies, the drainage and surface problems at Radwinter Road, and in particular the problems with water flowing down the road and water emanating from the building site had all been discussed. Residents had also attended and made their views known. This was an ongoing problem and had been for many years. Lately the situation had been exacerbated by roadworks and road closure to connect the sewer to the building site. The verges had been damaged and, despite the road being closed, a small number of persons had ignored the closure and had driven through mounting and damaging the verge. The Site Manager had reported this to the Police along with video evidence.

Mr. Jackson would draw up a report and submit his findings to Councillor Foley. Councillor Foley hoped to get Councillor Scott (Essex C.C Highways Portfolio Holder) to visit the site in the near future to try and come to some conclusions as to how best alleviate the ongoing problems and frustrations.

- b. Speeding and Highway Matters
  - i. To receive a report from Cllr. Moran and Cllr. Mrs. Lee on the discussions regarding a 20mph limit through the village and county wide

Cllr. Mrs. Lee explained to the meeting that she was helping with the organisation of a "20's Plenty for Us" scheme throughout Uttlesford. This is a campaign by a group of parishes to try and have the speed limit through villages reduced to 20mph. She recommended that Ashdon join.

**Resolved** – that Ashdon join the "20's Plenty for Us" group of parishes striving to have a 20mph limit (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

- ii. To receive an update from Cllr. Mrs. Lee on the roadworks from Dean Crossroads, Horseheath to Linton

Cllr. Mrs. Lee distributed the up to date information regarding the road improvement scheme at Linton. The Bartlow Road is currently shut with diversions in place. This is an ongoing scheme and major diversions will be put in place in late October/November which will entail diversions via Kentford to Bury St. Edmunds. Routes via Saffron Walden will not be affected

- iii. Village Hall and White Horse House.

The Chairman reported that a meeting had been held at the RCCE with the Village Halls Advisor and RCCE Accountant. The Chairman, Clerk and Mr. Stuart Hastie (Village Hall Treasurer) had attended. All matters regarding the running of the Village Hall were discussed. Subsequently information has been sent through for both the Parish Council and Village Hall Committee to peruse and digest. Future discussions will take place to determine the way forward.

The Chairman reported that discussions with Elliots Electricians regarding the completion of the electrical works and issuing of compliance certificate at White Horse House and Village Hall were tortuous and not much progress had been made.

**Resolved** – that in view of the need to bring the electrical installation to a conclusion for all parties concerned that Rix Electrical be appointed to complete the outstanding works and issue the required compliance certificate (Cllr. Elsey)

- iv. Community Led Housing. Update on the proposed houses adjacent to All Saints Close

The Chairman reported that he was still trying to fix a date for a meeting with the District Council to discuss their plans and the way forward for affordable homes for the people of Ashdon.

- v. Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr. Mrs Lee reported that the village had been crime free. Care should be taken however as there had been a spate of thefts from vehicles in the District.

- v. Coronation of H.M. King Charles III . A weekend of events to suit all ages and tastes had been organised by a Coronation Committee. Events included a cabaret/singer in the Village Hall on Friday, a Village Quiz on Saturday and a Village Fete on Sunday. All events had been extremely well attended and enjoyed by all. Following the Fete a small donation had been made to the school for the use of the playing field for the fete. Cllr. Mrs. Lee suggested that remaining monies could be spent on a wildlife garden for the village.

Mrs. Julia Goodwin (Steventon End) thanked all those involved for their hard work and dedication in making this an outstanding weekend by which to remember the Coronation.

Cllr. Mrs. Lee said that there was some interest in the village to have a Christmas Village Fayre in the Village Hall. This would be discussed when people had recovered from the Coronation exertions.

- viii. Report on the Spring Litter Pick. An excellent event. Attendance a little lower than normal but very worthwhile.

## 8. Correspondence

Various emails distributed to Members. Members had been requested to raise any matters received by email under correspondence. None raised

## 9. New Items.

- i. Allotments. Possibility of renting the allotments

Mr. Malcolm McGoughan, owner of the allotments, had approached the Chairman with a view to the Parish Council renting the allotments from him for the village. To be discussed at the next meeting.

- ii. Opportunity to Co-opt three Members following the recent uncontested election.

Mrs. Melanie Horigan and Ms. Jane Gray had advised the Clerk that they would be willing to be considered for co-option to the Council. Members were delighted to hear that they had come forward. The Chairman would contact them and seek to formally agree to these co-options at the next meeting.

- iii. Removal of chimneys and fireplaces from bungalows at Carters Croft.

Cllr. Mrs. Lee to pursue now the Coronation events had been completed and she could dedicate more time. It was suggested that Cllr. Moran (UDC) be approached to seek his advice and help.

## 10. New Planning Applications.

- i. UTT/23/0447/HHF. Proposed side and rear extensions, replacement roof, and proposed double garage  
Fairview, Church Hill

**The Parish Council were unable to comment on this application due to being inquorate. A separate report will be submitted by Cllr. John Moran including a report from Ashdon Neighbourhood Plan Committee**

- ii. UTT/23/0895/FUL. Conversion and adaptation of redundant barn to 1 no. residential dwelling and cartlodge  
Barn at Spriggs Farm

**No Comment**

- iii. UTT/23/1040/FUL. First floor extension and amendments to existing garage to create 1 no. dwelling  
5. Church Hill

**Object.** The Parish Council objected to this application in that it has not substantially changed from the previous application on this site UTT22/2740/FUL. This application was refused by the District Council in that:-

**“the proposed development would, by virtue of its layout, scale, form, design, appearance, cause significant harm to the character and appearance of the immediate and wider setting. This would appear as overdeveloped site and would fail to be compatible with the surrounding buildings, conflict with Policy S3 and Policy GEN2 of the Uttlesford Local Plan adopted 2005) and the National Planning Policy Framework 2012)”**

- iv. UTT/23/0907/FUL. Upgrade of pumping station infrastructure to comprise larger control equipment kiosk and a wider concrete base in order to improve resilience of the asset in the face of increased incidence of drought and increased demand for water augmentation and transfer  
Pumping Station near Ricketts Farm

### **Support**

#### **11. Planning Applications Determined.**

There were no determinations

#### **12. Finance.**

- i. Accounts for payment.

**Resolved** – that the Accounts, Appendix I, be passed for payment (Cllr. Mrs. Lee)

#### **13. Items for the Next Agenda**

There were no items for the next Agenda

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed  
Chairman

Date

**ANNUAL PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 15th MAY 2023**  
**3rd APRIL 2023 to 15th MAY 2023**

Monies Received.	£
H.J. Paintin. Inscription re Ron Dunkley	30.00
Interest Business Premium Account 5/12/22 - 05/03/23	91.65
Interest Business Premium Account 5/12/22 - 05/03/23	1.33
H.J. Paintin. Interment of ashes David Belsom	35.00
Monies passed for Payment	
RM Design & Print. Coronation sign boards	132.00 Ch.No. 102833
M.D. Landscapes. Grass cutting March Account	422.40 Ch.No. 102834
EPFA Annual subscription	30.00 Ch.No. 102835
D. Green. Telephone/Broadband	22.42 Ch.No. 102836
NPower. Electricity March Account	33.63 Ch.No. 102837
D. Green. Stamps	12.00 Ch.No. 102838
D. Green. Oak post Jubilee plaque	50.00 Ch.No. 102839
D. Green. Ink cartridges	48.79 Ch.No. 102840
Temple Knight. Copier toner	96.54 Ch.No. 102841
Ashdon School PTA Fun Run sponsor. S137	250.00 Ch.No.102842
BHIB Ltd. Insurance renewal 2023/24	1,648.77 Ch.No.102843
MD Landscapes. Grass cutting April	706.86 Ch.No.102844
Mark Martin. Entertainer Coronation <del>Cancelled</del>	285.00 Ch.No.102845
M. Elsey. Deposit Moji Entertainer Coronation	90.00 Ch.No.102846
Mrs. L. Cater. Singer Coronation	300.00 Ch.No.102847
D.Green. Coronation mugs	285.82 Ch.No.102848
Mark Walker. Bouncy Castle Coronation	185.00 Ch.No.102849
Jason Weir. Childrens Entertainer Coronation	285.00 Ch.No.102850
All On Hire. (Jimmy Riddles) Toilets Coronation Fete	456.00 Ch.No.102851
Ashdon Baptist Church. Hire of hall for meetings Jan, Feb,Mar, April	90.00 Ch.No.102852
D. Green. Ink cartridge	30.99 Ch.No.102853
N.Power Electricity. April Account	46.11 Ch.No.102854

Balances at Bank on 15th May 2023:-

Current Account:-	£23,145.90
Saver Account:-	£1,073.70
Saver Account:-	£58,653.31