

**Ashton Parish Council
Minutes of the Meeting
Held at Ashton School @ 7.15pm
11th November 2009.**

Members of the Parish Council Present

Bernard Day – Chairman
Jeremy Roy
Andrew Fowler
Jamie Watters
Yvonne Hardman
Keith Whitburn
Ginny Wareham - Clerk

1. Welcome.
2. Apologies – Terry Turvey, Jamie Watters, Martin Wilson (District Councillor)
3. Public Time – There were three members of the public present, Dave Farrand, Kevin Pickering and Alan Humphrey.
4. Minutes from the Previous Meetings: Andrew Fowler wanted to let the Parish Council know that in 11.AOB point viii was incorrect and that it should have read “More PC meetings should take place in the spring/summer to make use of the amenities.

The minutes of the 9th September 2009 were agreed by the Parish Council as a true record. This was proposed by Keith Whitburn and seconded by Yvonne Hardman. These were previously circulated.

5. Matters arising from those minutes:

The Christmas tree - Andrew Fowler thought that we would only be able to rig up temporary lighting this year and next year we would hopefully get a permanent cable in. Bernard Day is to look at the Christmas tree on the weekend of 21/22 Nov and is hoping to get this FOC.

The pole goes into the ground about 4-5ft and hopefully can get into place by the end of Nov. Andrew Fowler via John O’Meara will find out more.

Yvonne Hardman is going to speak to Ian and Bex to see if they would contribute towards the lights.

Carols around the tree were suggested to take place on Sat 12th Dec at 6.00pm
Ginny Alecock and Bernard Day got the 2 benches from Bell Plantation.
Ginny Alecock to do a rough costing for the playground to put on the lottery form.

Andrew Fowler spoke to Alan Humphrey who suggested that for the gate to close on the spring then this would have to be a very strong spring and in fact be dangerous.

Wooden sign replacement will be looked at to see whether it can wait until the next budget year or if it is dangerous. The railway bridge is being resurfaced in Nov 09. The blind bend is being sorted before Christmas as are the school lines.
The HGV is ongoing with the freight department.

6. Millennium garden maintenance. David Farrand has run for 8 years and wants to hand it over. He and his wife have maintained and paid for this themselves. It has been suggested that we ask professional services to quote for the cost to maintain and landscape the garden. David Farrand has agreed to write a specification for this. There is damaged to the stone wall which needs mending. David Farrand agreed to talk to Pete and Kim but this would cost. The village sign need washing at least once a year but has not been washed once in 8 year. Bernard Day did say he would wash this.

Ongoing from the conversation David Farrand wanted to thank the PC for the donation cheque of £100. He has being producing the newsletter for 17 years and an issue is printed around every 6-8 weeks. It costs around £30 per issue and 150 copies are produced. David Farrand does get the occasional outside donation but not much (£50). David has had a shortfall this year which was covered by himself. The church, PC and ASPA have all agreed to donate around £100 to ensure there is not shortfall and will increase the donation if necessary.

7. Clerk's contract conditions and pay. The clerks pay has increased and needs to be backdated to April and as the Clerk has been here for one year she can move up one point on the pay scale. Both were proposed by Jeremy Roy and seconded by Bernard Day.

8. Street Lights: Keith Whitburn and Terry Turvey did a really comprehensive survey of the street lights. The outcome was highlighted in the survey but basically a lot needed replacing. Ginny Alecock is to send a copy of the survey to Doug Millard to get his advice on what can be done. It was also suggested that we should approach the council to see how they can help.

9. Bonfire: This went really well and the school raised over £1800.00. Many thanks to those who organised it.

10. Lease of the playing field. Go ahead and renew.

11. Accounts for paying

	Net	VAT	Gross	Chq No	Description
Eon	76.72	11.51	88.23	100448	Maintenance for 1/4 end Sep 09
Eon	226.16	11.31	237.47	100449	Electricity Charge for 1/4 end Sep 09
G Alecock	223.05	0.00	223.05	100450	Salary & Expenses
Bernard Day	300.00	0.00	300.00	100451	Mowing of the Playing Field
Bernard Day	650.00	0.00	650.00	100451	Mowing of the Churchyard
TOTAL			<u>1498.75</u>		

VAT Repayment

New Bal

Bank Balances

Community Account	30/10/2009	2743.30	1244.55
Tracker	30/09/2009	7494.40	7494.40
Playground	30/06/2009	160.43	160.43

I suggest that there is no balance transfer as the interest rate is so low that ie 1.07 is not worth the phone call

Proposed by Jeremy Roy and seconded by Yvonne Hardman.

12. Planning

S/2009/0725/FUL Granted
54 Stoke Road Ashton
2 storey rear ext

S/2009/0764/FUL Withdrawn and resubmitted
Paddock Attached to plat 8 Vale Farm
Change from paddock to accommodate stables, market garden & orchard

S/2009/1018/FUL GW Needs to chase
61 Stoke Road, Ashton, Northants
Detached Dwelling

S/2009/0500/P GW needs to chase
8 St Michaels Court, Ashton,
1st floor extension over garage

13. Confidentiality. The issue was raised that some parts of what are said in meetings are confidential and should not be relayed outside the room. Various issues were discussed such as they should be nothing that is confidential said in the meetings. Bernard Day mentioned that there are some matters which are confidential and if confidential matters need discussing they need to go to the clerk 5 days before the meeting. Andrew Fowler advised he has a copy of the standing orders which the PC should adhere to and these were published in Dec 2007. It was mentioned by Keith Whitburn that the PC needed private time in a meeting and there were proper structures to have public and private time. The meeting at this point started to get a bit heated and Keith Whitburn/ Ginny Alecock said they would look into finding out what the latest information could be obtained from the council. This would be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

14. AOB:

i) Jeremy Roy spoke to the necessary people about reducing the speed limit in Ashton to 20mph and that it was unlikely that the whole of Ashton could be a 20pmh zone. Zones would have to be chosen and phased in slowly ie the school and blind bend.

ii) Mike Northall sent an email to Ginny Wareham asking is we would like to see the plans for the rugby club. It was suggested that we hold the March meeting there and they can attend the meeting and advise us.

iii) Litter Picking. Observations were that we should have more PC members on the litter pick. Next meeting will be in Jan on Sat 16th Jan 2010.

iv) May pole. We should think about moving forward on this.

v) Speed watch. The 1st 2 weeks went well. I car was over 41 and 6 were 35pmh+. There was sickness in the 3rd week and the clocks changed so only 6/10 were done. The average speed was 23.8pmh.

15. Date of next meeting 13/01/2010 7.15pm at the school.

The meeting closed at 8.55

ACTION POINTS

O/S from 9th Sept 09

Christmas Tree and lights

Andy and Bernard

From 11th November 2009

AVN – Minutes to go through to Dave Farrand

Ginny

Copy of street light survey to Doug Millard

Ginny

Look into updated standing orders/ info on PC

Ginny/Keith