



# Ashchurch Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on  
16 August 2021 at 6.30pm

**Venue** The Devereux Centre, Tewkesbury.  
**Present:** Cllr. J Hargreaves (Chairman), Cllrs. A. Brown, B. Cook, D. Garnett and T. Davies.  
**Attendees:** Clerk/RFO, J. Owen and four members of the public including C. Cllr. Vernon Smith.

- | Minute Ref. | Description   |
|-------------|---|
| 16.8.21.1   | <b>To receive and consider apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate</b><br>Apologies received from Cllrs. Shurmer and Street, also B. Cllr. Gore.<br>The Clerk confirmed the meeting was quorate.   |
| 16.8.21.2   | <b>To receive comments from members of the public – no decisions will be made on issues raised. Items requiring decisions will be added to the agenda for the next meeting</b><br>None received.  |
| 16.8.21.3   | <b>To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below</b><br>None received.  |
| 16.8.21.4   | <b>To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 27 July 2021</b><br>The Minutes of the Parish Council held on 27 July 2021 which had previously been circulated to all members were by <b>AGREED BY COUNCIL</b> and signed by the Chairman.  |
| 16.8.21.5   | <b>To receive the Clerk's Report</b><br>Received the Clerk's Reported as follows:<br><b>Planning Decisions received</b><br>Planning Application 21/00694/FUL – erection of a single storey side extension – Permit<br>Planning Application 21/00394/FUL – erection of a 2 bay oak framed garage – Permit<br><b>TBC Enforcement Officer</b> – dealing with potential breach of planning permission regarding a piece of land on the bridleway beside M5 on Walton Cardiff Lane<br><b>Temporary Footpath Closure</b> - Ashchurch 23 USRN 40102681 AAS23 FP - Ashchurch :73238 From 8 September 2021 to 7 February 2022 – full details available on the ARPC website and notice boards<br><b>Dog bin and notice board at Aston Cross</b> – waiting for update from TBC<br><b>Notice board at Chamomile Road</b> – nothing to report<br><b>Refurbishment of street furniture in Pamington</b> – nothing to report<br><b>Flooding on Natton Lane</b> – nothing to report<br><b>Pamington junction</b> – nothing to report<br><b>Village signs</b> – nothing to report<br><b>Working groups</b> – nothing to report |
| 16.8.21.6   | <b>To receive update report from the County Councillor</b><br>C. Cllr. Vernon Smith reported on the following:<br><b>Pamington Junction</b> – The Improvement team did not support the scheme as it was considered unsafe, even though GCC Highways Manager agreed the scheme at a site visit and C. Cllr. Vernon Smith was going to part fund it. C. Cllr. Vernon Smith had a meeting planned with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) Highways Manager for 7 September 2021 when he would discuss it further. Members asked him to ascertain the detail of why the scheme was considered unsafe.   |

**Work on A38 Eastern Relief Road** would be carried out over the next 11 days, from 7.00pm to 7.00am each night. Emergency work was required due to heat damage to the surface.

**Junction 9 of M5** – he reported on positive talks with the Department of Transport and Highways England, it was hoped it would go out to consultation by end of this year or early next year with work due to commence in 2023.

**The Tewkesbury 2030 Future Projects Exhibition on 18 September 2021** - full details of the exhibition could be found on the Parish Council website.

Cllr. Brown asked C. Cllr. Vernon Smith to raise the issue of temporary traffic light signs on B4077 near Alderton as there were not any roadworks taking place.

The new junction at the end of Fiddington Lane was also discussed.

**16.8.21.7 To receive update report from the Borough Councillor**

No report.

**16.8.21.8 Finance:**

**16.8.21.8a To receive financial report and agree payment list/payments made since last meeting**  
**THE COUNCIL APPROVED** the August 2021 payment list of £3682.93, see Appendix 1  
**THE COUNCIL APPROVED** a further email address for the Deputy Clerk at a cost of £18.00 plus VAT per annum.

There was not a bank reconciliation available as the new Clerk was waiting for Unity Bank to update the mandate.

The Clerk would ask Andrea Pellegram for a break-down of the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP) costs to facilitate claiming against the Locality Grant. **COUNCIL AGREED** the Clerk should apply for the Locality Grant from Groundworks Ltd. and Cllr. Davies offered to assist.

Legal fees for the judicial review were discussed and members were keen for the money received from the other Councils involved to be ringfenced.

Grass cutting was discussed briefly and **COUNCIL AGREED** the church grass cutting should be added to the next agenda.

**16.8.21.8b To authorise staff salary payments due on 31 August 2021**

Due the timing of the meeting, details of staff salaries were not available, **COUNCIL AGREED** the Clerk would circulate details when to hand to enable the payments to be made. After the first payments had been made it would be easier to set-up regular payments moving forward.

**16.8.21.8c To consider quotations for the purchase of laptop and mobile phone for the Clerk and agree actions**

Members discussed the quotations provided by the Clerk for the I. T. equipment and **COUNCIL AGREED** an iPhone and Apple Mac laptop would be more suitable. The Clerk was authorised to purchase the equipment as the Deputy Clerk would be back from leave soon and it would be required to enable both to carry out their roles.

The lack of administrator's password for the current laptop was discussed and **COUNCIL AGREED** the Clerk should try to contact the previous Clerk to see if they could assist.

**16.8.21.9 To consider adopting the General Power of Competence as set out in the Localism Act 2011 and agree actions**

The Council confirmed the eligibility criteria for the General Power of Competence as set out in the Localism Act 2011 and **THE COUNCIL RESOLVED** to adopt the power.

**16.8.21.10 To receive update on A46/M5 solution and agree actions**

This had been covered in the C. Councillor's Report.

- 16.8.21.11 To receive update relating to the Planning Submission of Solar Farm Project and agree actions**  
Cllr. Davies stated that two conditions had been agreed:  
1) the company would update the bridlepath through the development and would trim hedges and maintain it for the life of the solar farm project.  
2) £10,000.00 had been agreed for solar panels to be fitted on the village hall. As it could not be part of S106 Agreement, a separate legal agreement was required and **COUNCIL AGREED** the Clerk should write to the company requesting a copy of their draft legal agreement.
- 16.8.21.12 To receive update on Garden Town and agree actions**  
There was nothing to report as there had not been a meeting since last month.  
Cllr. Davies offered to draft a response to an email received regarding the Terms of Reference etc. Cllr. Brown gave details of an article in the Times relating to increased flooding due to climate change and a new directive, she would circulate to all members.
- 16.8.21.13 To receive update on Gloucestershire and Worcestershire Parish Council Association and agree actions**  
Cllr. Davies stated there was nothing to report currently, he would be taking it further towards the end of September.
- 16.8.21.14 To receive update on defibrillators and agree action**  
The Chairman reported that the village hall defibrillator was back in operation.
- 16.8.21.15 To consider response to the Tewkesbury Borough Council Community Governance Review 2021 and agree actions**  
Members discussed information relating to Wheatpieces Parish Council (WPC) and the fact that 70% of the properties in the Meadows were in Ashchurch Rural Parish Council. **COUNCIL AGREED** the Clerk should arrange a meeting with WPC to discuss. Northway Parish Council had been in contact but **COUNCIL AGREED** that the parish council borders between the two parishes were well defined by the railway line and the A46 and therefore did not warrant any changes. The Clerk would respond to Northway Parish Council. **COUNCIL AGREED** it would include increasing Councillors seats possibly by three when responding to Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC)
- 16.8.21.16 To receive update relating to the Neighbourhood Development Plan and agree actions**  
Cllr. Davies reported that the NDP did not take account of the Garden Town potential development and suggested the NDP would go into immediate review in September. A Working Group would be required, with a Clerk dedicated to the project, working with the Planning Consultant to take it forward, and reporting back to the Council. **COUNCIL RESOLVED** to go into immediate review and would agree the structure at the next meeting.
- 16.8.21.17 To receive update on the Judicial Review on Ashchurch Bridge and agree action**  
Cllr. Davies confirmed that TBC had responded to the Judicial Review and the Council were awaiting a hearing date. The documents were available on the Parish Council website and the Council needed to plan a crowd funding program to cover the cost of legal fees, **COUNCIL AGREED** a social media presence would be fundamental for successful crowd funding.
- 16.8.21.18 To receive update relating to the gypsy site in Claydon Lane with regard to the storage of equipment/vehicles and agree actions**

An Enforcement Notice had been issued and members were keen for the Clerk to obtain an update prior to the next meeting.

**16.8.21.19 To receive an update on Highways and agree actions**

The white lines in Fiddington Lane and the Junction of Seven Bends into Pamington were referred to, both were discussed previously with C. Cllr. Vernon Smith.

**16.8.21.20 To note agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting**

- To consider church grass cutting
- To consider the footpath in Claydon Lane, (by the Gloucestershire Way) ref. the high style, locked gate and fencing
- To consider the water metre for the chicken farm and a culvert and pipe which was smaller than the ditch
- To establish a Planning Committee
- To establish a Finance and General Purposes Committee with a Staffing Sub-Committee
- To receive an update from TBC Enforcement Officer on the gypsy site in Claydon Lane with regard to the storage of equipment/vehicles

**16.8.21.21 Date of next meeting: 20 September 2021**

Meeting closed at 20.45pm

**Appendix 1**

1 Pellegram Ltd. – Inv. No. 372, Neighbourhood planning support March to June 2021 - £3478.00

2 NALC - Inv. No. 1522582417 Training (D. Garnett) from 11 Nov. 2020 - £38.93

3 SLCC Membership for Deputy Clerk - £166.00

**Total Amount £3682.93**

Signed ..... Date .....

Chairman, J. Hargreaves

**These minutes were agreed by Ashchurch Rural Parish Council and signed by the Chairman at the Parish Council Meeting on 20 September 2021**