

9th September 2019

At a Meeting of Ashdon Parish Council held at the Village Hall on Monday 9th September 2019, at 7.30pm.

Present.

Councillors Mike Elsey (Chairman), Steve Hayler, Philip Player (Vice Chairman) and George Smith

Mr. David Green (Clerk)

1. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs. Victoria Moriarty, Jo-Anne Wheatley and John Thorn. Cllr. Simon Walsh (ECC)

2. Public Representations

Mr. Chris Pardue brought to Members' attention that many charities used agents when fund raising who took a high percentage of the monies donated. He hoped that this would be born in mind if the Council were minded to make a donation as requested under Item i. Correspondence.

Mrs. Sue Smith raised the matter of the removal of the hedge and a semi mature oak tree adjacent to the road at the property on Walden road formally known as Clavis. This was done in the height of the nesting season which had caused some anger and distress in the village. The Clerk had previously reported this to the Planning Department. Mrs Smith particularly made the point that the hedge should be re-planted and not replaced with an "urban" style fence when the site is developed.

Mrs Smith also raised the matter of unkempt footpaths on property at Church End being farmed by Mr. Nigel Howlett (St. Aylots/Newnham Hall). She had written to Mr. Howlett and Highways to no avail. Highways replied that they did not have the resources to clear the footpaths. It was suggested that she ring Mr. Howlett and discuss the matter with him direct. This method of approach having been used in other matters concerning Mr. Howlett had brought satisfactory results.

3. County Councillor's Report. There was no County Councillor's Report

4. District Councillor's Report. There was no District Councillor's Report

5. Declarations of Interest. There were no Declarations of Interests in matters on this agenda.

6. Minutes.

Resolved – that the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 5th August 2019, previously circulated, be signed as a true record. (Cllr. Player)

7. Matters Arising.

- i. Rectory Lane Playing Field. The refurbishment of the equipment had been completed. All was now in good order. The hedges had been faced back.

- ii Highways.
 - a. Weight Limit –Spriggs Lane. Cllr. Walsh would investigate (mins 8/4/19).
Nothing heard to date (Action Cllr. Walsh)
 - b. Speeding. No report on speeding matters in Cllr. Thorn’s absence
 - c. Verge protection measures. Nothing further to report in Cllr. Moriarty’s absence. It was noted that the protected verge at Spriggs Lane had not been damaged in the recent laying of the fibre optic cable. Both the lane and verges had been left in good order.
 - d. Grit Bin and gullies Water End. Two gullies cleared, one gully still required clearing. Replacement grit bin installed complete with grit. Members wished to thank Mrs. Mary Green for her persistence in dealing with the County Council to get the bin replaced.
- iii. Village Hall.
 - a. Sign. Councillor Player to deal with this matter via Uttlesford Rangers.
 - b. WiFi. Cllr. Hayler informed the meeting that the Village Hall Committee had agreed to a one year free trial of the internet being connected to the hall. To be reviewed after the one year trial period.
- iv. Telephone Kiosks.
 - a. Steventon End. Painted throughout. New “telephone” signs ordered. New light to be fitted and electric cabling tidied up. Shelving would need to be installed for a book exchange should residents wish to use the kiosk as such. (Action Cllrs. Elsey/Smith)
 - b. Church End. Waiting for the Wayleave from the District Council.
 - c. Crown Hill. Painted by BT. Requires tidying inside.
- v. Ashdon Village Neighbourhood Plan. Mrs. Melanie Horrigan reported that the Locality Grant of £6,900.00 should now have been payed into the P.C. account, £5,100.00 of which has been earmarked for the landscape character assessment to be carried out by Alison Farmer in the autumn. The Housing Needs Survey questionnaires had been received from the RCCE and were ready for distribution with the Village Magazine. The first consultation event was going ahead on Friday 18th October (6-8pm) and Saturday 19th October (10-12 noon) in the Village Hall. The Web site was now up and running as was the Facebook page. Banners and posters advertising the event would be posted round the village. It was hoped for high turnout and support for this very important village venture.
- vi. Community Led Housing. Progressing with the survey about to be distributed. See Item v. above.
- vii. Ashdon Windmill Trust. Being held in abeyance at this time. Members noted that Cllr. Moriarty had emptied the litter bin at the windmill and had agreed to do so in the future. Members thanked Cllr. Moriarty for her help and dedication in this and other “public spirited” matters around the village.

viii. Village Community Hub.

Resolved – that negotiations continue and advice be taken from relevant sources in the setting up and provision of a village hub. (Cllr. Hayler)

ix. 75th Anniversary of VE/VJ Day 2020. Members to revert with their ideas at the next meeting

x. Superfast Broadband. No update in Cllr. Thorn's absence. It was understood that the installation of the cables in the village was on track

xii. Neighbourhood Watch. Cllr. Hayler reported that there were 50 people signed up to the Neighbourhood Watch Web page. Fast dissemination of information was the main concern if and when the need arises in the village. This is necessary when fake "operatives" are in the village to make other residents aware of potential problems.

xiii. Site for the planting of 9 in no. Birch trees. At the suggestion of Mr. Andy Everitt (Tree Surgeon) these will be potted up for planting next year when they are of a more suitable size.

xiv. Grass Cutting Contract. Nothing heard from Cllr. De Vries. To be pursued via officers at UDC.

8. CORRESPONDENCE

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

i. Essex & Herts Air Ambulance Appeal for funds. To be held in abeyance until the next meeting.

ii. EALC A.G.M. and EALC / Essex County Council joint Conference 2019. Thursday 19th September, Dunmow. Cllr. Player to attend.

9. NEW ITEMS

i. School liaison. The Chairman had written to Mr. Simon Rance the new Headteacher to request a meeting and establish communications between the school and Parish Council.

ii. Footpath representative. Cllr. Moriarty would take on this role.

10. NEW PLANNING APPLICATIONS

i. UTT/19/0709/HHF. Proposed extension to existing barn, alterations to garden room and alterations to the original dwelling, including insertion of a window and internal alterations.

Moss Cottage. (amended application)

No Comment

11. PLANNING APPLICATIONS DETERMINED

- i. UTT/19/1487/FUL. Construction of 2 no. double garages and change of use of land from agricultural to C3 dwelling. (Conversion of an agricultural building into 2 no. dwellings as previously approved under ref. UTT/18/1258/PAP3Q)
Barn at Woodstones Farm, New House Lane

Conditional Approval

12. ACCOUNTS for PAYMENT

The Accounts (Appendix i) were approved for payment (Cllr. Player)

13. ITEMS FOR THE NEXT AGENDA .

- i. Village Handyman (Cllr. Elsey)

The meeting closed at 8.38pm.

Signed Chairman

Date

Appendix i

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 9th SEPTEMBER 2019
6th AUGUST 2019 TO 9th SEPTEMBER 2019

Monies Received		£
Andrew Cohen Ass. Rent White Horse House		1550.00
HMRC. VAT repayment 1/4/19 – 30/6/19		1711.03
Monies passed for Payment		
Ashdon Neighbourhood Plan Steering Committee		500.00 Ch.No. 102431
M.D. Landscapes. Grass July Account 2 x cuts		763.20 Ch.No. 102432
E.ON. Electricity Account. July		83.53 Ch.No. 102433
D.Green. 8 months telephone/broadband		64.50 Ch.No. 102434
D. Green. Ink Cartridges		35.00 Ch.No. 102435
D. Green. Stationery		3.96 Ch.No. 102436
D. Green. Stamps		14.64 Ch.No. 102437
D. Green. 6 months salary to 30/9/19		2,288.00 Ch.No. 102438
H.M.R.C. PAYE Clerks salary		572.00 Ch.No. 102439
Anne Mangham. Internal Audit Fee		190.00 Ch.No. 102440
Haward Horological. Reset school clock following power cuts		75.00 Ch.No. 102441
M.D. Landscapes. Village grass August. 2 cuts		628.00 Ch.No. 102442
D. Green. Broadband/telephone		17.99 Ch.No. 102443
X2 Connect. "Telephone" signs x 3 Steventon End kiosk		66.72 Ch.No. 102444
RM Design & Print Ltd. Neighbourhood Plan printing		264.00 Ch.No. 102445
Andrew Everitt - Cemetery hedge	£400.00	
War memorial hedge	£320.00	
Brambles & hedge at Playing Field	<u>£75.00</u>	795.00 Ch.No. 102446
E.ON. Electricity August Account		83.53 Ch.No. 102447

Balances at Bank 9th September 2019

Current Account	£12,266.05
Savings Account	£1,069.30
Savings Account	£19,426.60

