

# ASHCOTT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Interim Meeting Held on 15<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at 7pm in Ashcott Village Hall

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**Present:** Mrs J Lawrence (Chair), Mr I Bagg, Miss E Smith, Mr A Howe, Mr R Linham, Miss V Arnold

Public: 5

Mrs V Young (Clerk)

**1) Apologies** – John Corsan and David Huxtable had both sent apologies. Apologies also received from Clare Pennack regarding SIDs

**2) Declarations of Interest** – Councillor Lawrence declared an interest in item 6 regarding the lengthsman contract. Councillor Howe declared an interest in items 5a and 5b due to being the applicant of 5a and a neighbour of item 5b.

**3) SIDs (Speed Indicator Devices)** - Apologies had been received from Clare Pennack and highways had indicated that the posts would be installed at the end of May.

**4) Miles & Hurman** - Mark Davey, chairman of the trust, updated the meeting with regards to the planned provision of affordable housing in Ashcott. This was moving ahead and all the homes would be affordable for renting. Outline permission for 10 affordable units being sought. These would be for rented accommodation.

## **5) Planning Applications for Consideration**

A) 01/19/00003/LR Full Planning Permission

Location: Little Thatch, 24 Ridgeway, Ashcott, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 9PP

Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension to rear (North East) elevation.

Councillor Howe, being the applicant left the room whilst the application was discussed and voted on. The application was unanimously supported as it was felt that it was in keeping with the current property.

Councillor Howe returned and was informed of the result

### B) 01/19/00005/ Full Planning Permission

Location: 3A Station Road, Ashcott, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 9QP

Proposal: Erection of a detached dwelling and garage.

Councillor Howe refrained from the vote having declared an interest by virtue of its location.

The application was unanimously supported and it was felt that it was sympathetic to the plot.

### C) 01/19/00006/SH Full Planning Permission

Location: 3 Bath Road, Ashcott, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA7 9RB

Proposal: Variation of Condition 2 of Planning Permission 01/17/00007 (Erection of 14 dwellings with associated access road, parking and garaging, on site of existing glass house, storage building and domestic garage (to be demolished), formation of new vehicular and pedestrian access and closing up of existing access points to amend the design of house and garage of plot 9.

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It was noted that the work for this amendment was already underway. The dormer windows looks directly onto/overlooks the neighbours. Velux windows might be slightly more acceptable as an alternative. The mature trees that were to have been left have been taken down and the lack of landscaping was objectionable. The council unanimously opposed this application due to its visual prominence due to the height. It was far too intrusive and it was unsightly and out of character with the surroundings.

Additionally noted that the District Council were to be made aware of the frequent breeches of the s106 agreement including working on Sunday's where the contractors have been allowed to go in.

**6) Parish Lengthsman.** The meeting was closed to the public.

Councillor Bagg took the chair and Councillor Lawrence did not take part in the discussion or vote.

The quotations and other information from the 3 applicants regarding the post of Parish Lengthsman were reviewed. The applicant that the council unanimously chose was to be contacted to confirm if he was still interested in the job. The position would be reviewed within the first year. Pay was to be from March this year as there was some catching up work to do.

One of the first tasks was to be the seating of the Bench at The Batch.

The meeting re-opened to the public.

Councillor Lawrence took the chair.

**7) Neighbourhood Plan** – noted that there had been another issue of a misinterpretation of the 'reserve sites' mentioned in the neighbourhood plan. These being SHLAR sites from the District Council's previous local plan, rather than preferred sites in the neighbourhood plan. To be discussed once the new council was in place.

**8) Planning Applications Decided** - 01/19/00002 – 10 Taunton Road, Erection of a single storey extension to rear (North East) elevation – Granted

**9) Approval of the minutes** - The minutes of the meeting of 18<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were approved as a true record with minor amendment.

It had now been agreed to go ahead with the sign. Arien signs to be contacted with regard to a quotation.

## **10) Financial - Items for Payment.**

Noted that the 1<sup>st</sup> instalment of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) would be received shortly and it would have to be decided how it could be spent and it was confirmed that there was a time limit on the funds. This and the Neighbourhood Plan which suggested that some funds were used for an independent traffic survey through Ashcott and the main roads through was to go on a future agenda (June if possible).

The following payments were authorised.

Clerk Wages and Expenses - £616.46

Mark Pittey - £124.80

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## **11) Items of Report/Business for next meeting/Annual Accounts/Audit Arrangements**

The request for funds from the School PTA had been circulated. – It was felt that it was not appropriate at this time to use funds for something which is used by such a small, specific group within the Parish. It was felt that it would be more appropriate if the County Council were to offer funds. Similarly there were various grants that the Parish Council were unable to apply for that were administered through the District Council. The secretary of the PTA to be put in touch with appropriate officer at SDC.

Members of the council would continue to monitor the earth works at Hempstitch Hill.

The Council reviewed the draft accounts and confirmed that the exemption certificate could be signed.

The internal audit arrangements with Richard Young were confirmed.

It was to be reported to Highways that the A39 near The Batch appeared to be sinking.

It was noted that the elections were on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 for the Parish Council and District Council.

There being no further business the meeting closed 8.55pm.