

# NEWBOLD PACEY AND ASHORNE PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 3 JANUARY 2007

**PRESENT: Councillors:** P Cook (Chair), S Bolton, C Thornton,  
J Cooper,  
**District Cllrs:** D Close, R Wright

and 3 members of the public.

### **1. Public participation**

There were no matters raised under this item.

### **2. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr Cook declared an interest in item 7.c relating to the grants for the Churchyard and the Village Hall.

Cllr Thornton declared an interest in item 7.c relating to the grants for the Village Hall.

### **3. Apologies for absences**

Apologies were received from Cllr's Griffith and Butterworth.

### **4. Approval of minutes of previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2006 were unanimously accepted as a true record of proceedings.

### **5. Matter arising from previous minutes**

#### **a. The Square**

There was nothing further to report on this item.

#### **b. Village Plan adoption and actions.**

Cllr Wright informed the Parish Council that the District Council had commented on the inclusion of the statement in the plan relating to further development in the village not being considered. District Council do not support this view but Cllr Wright felt that if this was the view of the residents that it should remain within the plan.

Cllr Thornton proposed the adoption of the village plan by the Parish Council, this was seconded by Cllr Bolton and the motion was carried.

#### **c. The Holloway**

Cllr Cook read the meeting a letter received from the County Council which stated that they felt the Holloway was fit for purpose. The Parish Council felt that the path was, at present, a danger to the public following the recent bad weather and the Clerk was requested to send a follow-up letter with photographs to outline the concerns and ask for further repairs. Cllr Close suggested requesting the County Cllr become involved and set up a site meeting with the County Footpath Officer. This was agreed.

*Clerk to write to County Council and contact County Cllr.*

The Clerk was also requested to send a thank you letter on behalf of the Parish Council to Mr J Beale and Mr D Cook following their hard work in laying down stone on the path by the Church.

#### **d. Parking on verges**

Cllr Cook requested that this item be included in the next Village Hut news in order to remind residents not to park on the verges.

#### **e. Phone Boxes**

Cllr Bolton requested that a letter be sent to BT regarding the state of the phone boxes as no action had taken place as yet. This was agreed.

#### **f. Roads**

Cllr Bolton commented that the B4087 now had a sign warning motorists of the uneven road surface but had still not been scheduled for repair. The Clerk informed the Parish Council that this stretch of road had been included on the five year plan.

Cllr Cook observed that the potholes in the village had been repaired twice but the temporary filling had come out again. The surveyor had indicated that the road is to be resurfaced in May but Cllr Cook felt the Highway Agency should be informed again and volunteered to do this.

*Cllr Cook to contact Highways.*

### **6. Planning**

#### **a. New Applications**

- i. 06/02848/LBC- Alterations to male WC- Ashorne Mgmt College, Ashorne. No representations sent.
- ii. 06/03112/TREE- T 1 Eucalyptus- fell. No 2 The Green, Ashorne. No representations sent.
- iii. 06/03393/TREE- T1- Beech- fell. Ashorne House, Ashorne. No objection subject to inspection.
- iv. 06/03503/FUL- Alterations to Field View, Ashorne.  
The Parish Council were concerned as to the overlooking of The Cottage from the Juliet balcony on the first floor.  
*Clerk to send comments to SDC.*

#### **b. Decisions out of committee**

None

#### **c. District Decisions**

- i. 06/02848/LBC- Alterations to male WC- Ashorne Mgmt College, Ashorne. Granted.  
Decision noted.

### **7. Finance**

#### **a. Approval of payments**

The Parish Council agreed to following payments:

1.	3/1/07	E Spencer - Expenses	£20.54
2.	3/1/07	St George's Churchyard annual grant	£241.50
3.	3/1/07	WCC- The Hut printing	£8.00

It was also agreed to pay the Clerk's salary for Nov and Dec in accordance with the amount budgeted in the 2005/06 precept.

The Clerk also informed the Parish Council of the following receipts:

1.	E-on- Wayleave	£16.94
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#### **b. 2007/08 Allotment rental review**

Cllr Cook proposed the annual rate for a full allotment be raised to and set at £13.00, this was seconded by Cllr Thornton and the motion was carried. Cllr Thornton also proposed raising the large grazing section rental by £25 per annum, this was seconded by Cllr Cooper and the motion was carried.

**c. 2007/08 budget approval**

The Parish Council became non-quorate with regards to the proposed grant for the Village Hall and it was therefore decided to contact the two Cllrs not present to request their vote on the matter. Subject to approval being gained for the Village Hall grant Cllr Bolton proposed the budget as set out be accepted and this was seconded by Cllr Cooper. The closing date for comments regarding the Village Hall quote was set as 25/1/07.

**d. 2007/08 precept approval**

Based on the above budget Cllr Bolton proposed a precept of £4500 and this was seconded by Cllr Cooper. The motion was carried.

**8. District Councillor's report**

Cllr Wright reported that the budgeting process was currently underway at District Council. At this stage it would appear that pressures on the finances will mean either a significant increase in Council Tax or a reduction in services provided. Government guidelines so far indicate a 5% increase would be acceptable.

Enhanced powers are to be handed to Parish Councils however there has been very little communication or consultation to date and this is a concern as the new powers could be in effect from mid- February.

Cllr Close informed the Parish Council that he had attended a site meeting with Gary Fisher to look at the fencing surrounding Ashorne House. Mr Fisher had indicated that under current planning law nothing could be done to prevent such fencing being erected. Cllr Close requested that a letter be drafted between himself and the Parish Council and sent to the Department of Environment requesting a change in planning law. This should also be copied to John Maples MP, WALC and NALC. This was agreed. Cllr Bolton requested that the Parish Council view the draft before it is finalised. This was agreed.

*Clerk to draft a letter with the help of Cllr Close and circulate to PC.*

Cllr Wright informed the Parish Council that he had spoken to Gary Fisher with regards to Middle Cottage and the indications are that the work done so far does not violate planning law. The rooflight and front windows are acceptable in UPVC. Mr Lavercombe has also asserted that no permission is needed for the extension to the rear of the property as there was a construction there prior to 1947 and it therefore falls under his permitted development rights. Cllr Wright believes however that District Council will invite Mr Lavercombe to submit a planning application for the work and that the onus is on him to prove beyond doubt that the construction was prior to 1947.

Cllr Cook asked Cllr Wright to explain the planning law relating to guttering and drainage over someone else's land. Cllr Wright stated that new laws indicate that they may not overhang boundary lines.

**9. County Councillor's report**

There was no County Cllr present therefore there was no report under this item.

**10. Police report**

There were no police officers present therefore there is no report under this item.

**11. Correspondence**

A list of correspondence was produced and dealt with.

**12. Matters of interest**

**a. Tree planting**

Cllr Cook, on behalf of Mrs Griffith, reminded all Cllrs about the tree planting in the village garden on Sunday 21st January at 3pm and requested that all Cllrs attend to show support.

**b. Allotments**

Cllr Cook informed the Parish Council that she had received a request for a half allotment from Mrs Trinder but that at present none were available. Cllr Cook mentioned the allotment held by Mrs Dyson had not carried a crop for approximately five years. Cllr Bolton asked whether Cllr Cook would be prepared to speak to Mrs Dyson and ask her to give up the allotment. Cllr Cook agreed.

**c. Parish Plan actions**

Cllr Bolton expressed concern that actions printed in the village plan were not being looked at and requested that this item be added to the next agenda. This was agreed.

**13. Date of next meeting**

The next meeting is to be held in the Newbold Pacey and Ashorne Village Hall on Wednesday 7th March 2007 at 7.30pm.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.