**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 14th November @ 7.00pm in the Green Room, Ashton under Hill**

Members and Officers present: Cllr Smith (Chair), Cllr Hague, Cllr Cope, Cllr Wood, Cllr McIntyre & Cllr Rowley

In attendance: Clerk, Cllr Darby & 1 member of public

Apologies: CC Hardman

1. Declarations of Interest:

a) Register of Interests: Councillors are reminded of the need to update their register of interests.

b) To declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

c) To declare any Other Disclosable Interests in items on the agenda and their nature.

d) Written requests for the council to grant a dispensation (S33 of the Localism Act 2011) are to be with the clerk at least four clear days prior to a meeting.

Councillors who have declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, or an Other Disclosable Interest which falls within the terms of paragraph 12(4) (b) of the code of conduct, must leave the room for the relevant items.

Failure to register or declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest may result in the commission of a criminal offence.

1. Minutes from September 17 meeting were approved as true and accurate

The time allocated is at the discretion of the council/chairman. Residents are invited to give their views and question the parish council on issues on this agenda, or raise issues for future consideration at the discretion of the chairman. Members of the public may not take part in the parish council meeting itself. This period is not part of the formal meeting; brief notes will be appended to the minutes as an aide memoire.  *1 member of public*

1. District Councillors report – As always, I have been most concerned with planning matters, both as a member of *Wychavon’s planning committee and the South Worcestershire Joint Advisory Panel. There are two major issues.*

*Cheltenham Gloucester Tewkesbury Joint Core Strategy. The inspector has now produced her final report and the three District Councils have to vote on whether to approve her final amendments. These include the provision of 500 houses at Mitton in Wychavon District. Once this strategy has been finalised the developers are likely to submit a planning application to Wychavon.*

*The government has produced a consultation document ‘Planning the Right Homes in the Right Places’ which proposes a standard method for determining the number of houses needed by each planning authority. This has the advantage of saving a great deal of debate with developers at the start of each plan making period, and thus time and cost, but in Wychavon’s case would increase the number of houses we would have to find by about 100 units a year. Since we have a recent plan only approved in 2016 we can rely on its numbers until 2021 but will need to accommodate new numbers from then on. We therefore will have to start work on a new plan very soon, given that the process takes several years and that it is very dangerous to allow the plan to become out of date.*

*The JAP approved the SWDP Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document.*

*Willow Cottage – have made complaints to Wychavon, will follow up*

1. **Progress reports:** for information / discussion and comments if necessary
   1. Social Centre – Fundraising ongoing to pay for the new playground. Problem with dog poo on the playing field, notices will be put up. Currently the SC apply for an annual grant of £2500, it was agreed that if this is not enough then they need set their budget and to apply to the Council for a larger amount.
   2. Bredon Hill Conservation Group

Meeting 11th October. Lots raised at meeting which will affect the SWDP, significant increase in properties.

Ashchurch MOD site – At the last meeting of the BHCG (Bredon Hill Conservation Group) it was stated that the availability of the MOD site at Ashchurch for future housing development had been delayed, and when a release date was reached, it would likely indicate that not all the site would be available. Exactly how much is still pending. It was also suggested that an interim site on the MittonBank could be an acceptable alternative option with a consideration for 500 to 1000 new homes.

* 1. PACT

It was agreed to extend the Smartwater project through to mid January in order to get more responses.  The PC to canvass local events as follows.

* + Christmas Fair Sat 18th Nov ACTION SH
  + Coffee morning/WI/Busy Fingers ACTION DC
  + Lunch club 1st Dec ACTION NM
  + Contact police to establish any reducing cost scheme dependent on uptake. ACTION KR
  + Produce copies for all councillors and put forms at pub and first school. ACTION SS
  1. Lengthsman, clerk has advertised for a new Lengthsman, no applicants as of date of meeting
  2. Vehicle Activated Sign ACTION SS

Reports of speeding received on the Groaten. Agreed that the chair would respond to the complainants.

* Seek advice from the County Councillor for the next steps and feed back on 20mph project.ACTION SS
* Contact residents in the Groaten regarding cutting back of hedges. ACTION ME
  1. Flooding, no issues
  2. Highway – reported damage on Beckford Road by Groaten turning
  3. Training – booked for the end of November

* 1. Trees in the Parish , it was agreed to place an order with Jenny Hague to attend to the trees on the Groaten. A further quotation is required for larger trees as well as a 5 year care package to tend/ report on trees twice yearly.
* mix of trees agreed.
* NMc to speak to Beldams farms to take care when cutting hedges, SH to provide contact details.

* 1. Communications
* KR to grow email list.
* Jane Barker to help KR with village website.
* Jane Barker to take over comms in KR absence during holidays

1. **Planning application notifications**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| [**17/01479/HP**](https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=91860) | Hollymount Elmley Road Ashton Under Hill Evesham WR11 7SW | Demolish store outbuilding and erect replacement building with extension to provide annexe accommodation and garage to existing dwelling. | Withdrawn |
| [**17/01439/HP**](https://plan.wychavon.gov.uk/plandisp.aspx?recno=91820) | 3 Gorse Hill Ashton Under Hill WR11 7SP | Extension, porch & rendering | Approved |

* 1. Willow cottage, awaiting action from Enforcement team to ensure that the building has been made safe and maintained. ACTION SS

1. Finance – bank statements have not been received
   1. To agree bank balances

Current Account balance as at 21st August 2017 - £10,586.92

Savings Account balance as at 21st August 2017 - £ 3,318.24

* 1. The budget for 2018/19 was agreed
  2. Payments agreed

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Wychavon Sport | Junior Table Tennis | £ 6.00 |
| Grant Thornton | Audit | £ 120.00 |
| M English | Wages & Expenses | £ 506.89 |
| Baldwins | Internal Audit & PAYE | £ 180.00 |
| M Cole | Lengthsman | £ 101.60 |
| S Hart | Bredon Hill Conservation Sec | £ 30.00 |
| British Legion | Wreath | £ 15.00 |

* 1. New Homes Bonus proposal ACTION SS
* 89 agreed proposal
* 4 disagreed

It was agreed that we draw down NHB funds money for footpath when requested by Highways. It was agreed to find out how far in advance monies can be drawn down, before they are spent, as the playground project will not start until Spring 2018                                       ACTION SS

* 1. Social Centre Grant application

The ASC have requested a change to the wording on policy Grant application.  As these are standard documents it was agreed that they cannot be changed.  SS to advise Tom Archer, and suggest he contacts ME if any further clarification required.     Action SS

1. **Correspondence for Information:** To note the attached appendix of items which have been circulated or will be available for inspection at the meeting. (OR a list of items will be available at the meeting.)
2. **Clerk’s report on Urgent Decisions since the last meeting.**
3. **Councillors’ reports and items for future agenda:** Councillors may use this opportunity to report minor matters of information not included elsewhere on the agenda and to raise items for future agendas.

* Truck stop have fridges outside, not fly tipping, Wychavon won't collect but will encourage owners to remove.

1. Date of next meeting: 9th January 2018 at 7pm. The meeting closed at 8.20

………………………………………………..(chair)

……………………………………………..(date)