

## **ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held in Ashover Parish Hall  
**Tuesday 19 MARCH 2024 commencing at 7.00pm**

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### **PRESENT**

Councillors E Willmot (Chairman), R Fidler (Vice-Chairman), S Dronfield, Mrs R Early,  
E Hayward, Mrs L Hunter-Bott, M Thomas

DCC Councillor B Lewis

NEDDC Councillor Mrs H Wetherall

S. Atkinson (Parish Clerk)

Members of the Public – one

### **223/24 Apologies for absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs C Miller, J Cook and J Daykin.

### **224/24 Variation of Order of Business**

There was no change in the order of business.

### **225/24 Declaration of Members Interests and Requests for Dispensation**

Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Mrs R Early and S Dronfield for agenda item 9(k) Nomination of Ashover Parish Hall Trustee. No dispensation requests were made.

### **226/24 Recording and Filming of Council and Committee Meetings**

Members of the Public and Councillors were reminded that:-

The right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the council, committees and subcommittees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014. This is in addition to the rights of the press and public to attend such meetings. Meetings or parts of meetings from which the press and public are excluded may not be filmed or recorded. Members of the public are permitted to film or record meetings to which they are permitted access, in a non-disruptive manner.

### **227/24 Public Speaking**

DCC Cllr B Lewis reported that drainage work was being undertaken at Uppertown and on Milken Lane to alleviate flooding problems. Potholes continued to be a problem and repairs undertaken within budget constraints.

NEDDC Cllr Mrs H Wetherall thanked DCC Cllr Charlotte Cupit for being helpful and responsive to safety issues along the A632 in Ashover Parish. Cllr Mrs Wetherall reported that Community Speed Monitoring at Kelstedge and Spitewinter had been approved by the Police and volunteer training would be undertaken. A dog bin had been requested for location near The Pinfold at Milltown and this would be placed on the Agenda for April.

A member of the public spoke on planning application [24/00146/FL](#).

The next Derbyshire County Council Parish and Town Council Liaison Forum would be held on 16/04/2024. Unfortunately this coincided with the Annual Parish and Ordinary Parish Council Meetings and therefore apologies had been given.

Crime figures for January 2024 were noted.

### **228/24 Exclusion of Public**

Agenda item 11 would be taken in exclusion as it related to employee terms and conditions of employment. *Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 s1*.

### **229/24 Minutes**

It was proposed and seconded that the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held 20 February 2024 are approved as a correct record.

**Resolution: That the Minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council Meeting held 20 February 2024 are approved as a correct record.**

### **230/24 Planning**

Application Number: [24/00063/FL](#)

Proposal: Proposed construction of third holiday let unit.

Address: Overton Park Camp Coach Road Overton Ashover

Applicant: Mr Karl Hayes

Case Officer: Colin Wilson

#### **No Comments**

Application Number: [24/00127/LB](#)

Proposal: Application for Listed Building consent for replacement of two sash windows located on first floor southwest elevation, remove the existing balcony on northwest elevation and replace with a Juliet style balcony and small timber canopy over the front door, replace existing balcony door, installation of steel beam within ground floor ceiling, install two extractor fans on northwest aspect, install gas fire vent and EV charging point on external wall southwest aspect.(Listed Building)

Address: Botany Cottage 1 Overton Hall Coach Road Overton

Applicant: Mr Edward Cole

Case Officer: Steven Wigglesworth

#### **No Comments**

Application Number: 24/00150/FL

Proposal: Retention of existing building for agricultural use, together with the associated hardstanding (retrospective)

Address: Amber House Vernon Lane Kelstedge Ashover

Applicant: Mr Steve Watson

Case Officer: Steven Wigglesworth

**No Comments**

Application Number: 24/00146/FL

Proposal: Section 73 application to vary condition 5 (boundary treatments) of approved planning application 19/00413/FL.

Address: Prospect House Alton Lane Littlemoor Ashover

Applicant: Mr James Day

Case Officer: Steven Wigglesworth

**Materials used facing the adjacent property boundary i.e. breezeblocks, are not in-keeping and Ashover Parish Neighbourhood Plan Policy AP16 does not support the removal of stone walls and this is also covered under legislation:-**

**<https://www.gov.uk/protecting-rural-landscapes-and-features/dry-stone-walls>**

**As this is a deviation from the original application, Members request that inspection reports are sought from the DCC Conservation Officer and DCC Ecologist and also the NEDDC and DCC Tree Officers due to safety concerns for trees adjoining the wall. Members would support environmentally friendly materials being used along the boundary to encourage and sustain wildlife using adjacent ponds.**

Application Number: 24/00153/FLH

Proposal: Single storey front porch extension

Address: 2 Upper Mill Cottages Alton Hill Alton Chesterfield

Applicant: Scott & Helen Macpherson

**No Comments**

### **231/24 Parish Maintenance**

Consideration was given to the provision of a larger litter bin at The Fabric at a cost of £245.28 plus materials and installation by NEDDC. Members received updates from the County Council on flooding at Uppertown and investigations into the drainage along Milken Lane; both these issues were ongoing. BWE Ltd. had undertaken vegetation strimming along rights of way to a very high standard (Minute 212/24). At least three of the five parish bus shelters required some maintenance and the Climate Change/Biodiversity Group were currently investigating the feasibility of 'living roofs'.

#### **Resolution:**

- (i) That the Clerk is authorised to arrange for the provision and installation of a large black bin at The Fabric.**
- (ii) That an outstanding order for repairs to Kelstedge bus shelter is cancelled whilst the feasibility of a 'living roof' is investigated.**

### **232/24 Speed Indicator Devices and A632 safety**

Data had been downloaded and submitted to Derbyshire County Council Highways for analysis. A summary of future data would be submitted to Highways on the second Tuesday of each month and this would also be reported on the Parish Council website. The Police & Crime Commissioner was looking at a Pilot Scheme for Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). A grant for equipment had been requested for a community group of 12 volunteers to undertake speed monitoring at Kelstedge and Spitewinter under the training, direction and insurance of the Police (CREST).

#### **Resolution:**

- (i) That the A632 through Ashover Parish is confirmed as a suitable site for an ANPR Pilot Scheme by the Police & Crime Commissioner.**
- (ii) That a grant of up to £425.00 is made available to the community group volunteering for the CREST initiative, subject to the Parish Council's Grant Awarding Policy/Application being completed. (Local Government and Rating Act 1997 s30).**

### **233/24 River Amber**

An updated response had been received from the Environment Agency via the MP's office (14/02/2024) and a general update had been included in the recent Newsletter (4). Severn Trent would not attend the Public Meeting on 09/05/2024 and this had been challenged directly and also via the MP's office. Whilst Severn Trent had provided a statement to be read out at the Public Meeting, it was considered that this would be out of date by the time of the meeting and therefore an updated statement would be requested nearer the time.

**Noted.**

### **234/24 Health & Safety**

An Incident Report had been completed and a report submitted to Derbyshire County Council following an incident that had occurred on FP142.

**Noted.**

### **235/24 Climate Change/Biodiversity**

The Climate Change Working Group had progressed work-streams, complying with the Environment Act 2021 and Improvement Plan 2023 to "restore nature and improve the environmental quality of the air, our waters and our land." Work was progressing on the 'wildlife corridor', 'living roofs' and liaison had taken place with the Primary School. The cost of a survey by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust was being sought in relation to three woodland copses on common land. Community buildings had been visited with climate change and biodiversity initiatives in mind and this work would continue as requested.

**Noted.**

### **236/24 District, Parish and Town Councils Annual Conference**

Two Councillors had attended the conference held on 23/02/2024 and feedback was positive with the NEDDC Management Team being seen as efficient and effective. Answers to questions put forward to the Leader of NEDDC had been circulated to Members; permission would be sought from NEDDC for the questions/answers to be published as a news item on the website and face book page.

**Noted.**

### **237/24 News Items**

Newsletter No.4 for Spring 2023/2024 had been circulated and posted on the website. The Annual Report 2023/2024 would be collated shortly.

**Resolution: That, once finalised, the Annual Report 2023/2024 is designed, printed and circulated to all households in the parish.**

### **238/24 Anti-Litter Poster Competition**

Over 80 entries had been received from the Primary School Children (Minute 218/24). These had been judged by Leader of Derbyshire County Councillor Barry Lewis on 19/03/2024 along with two Parish Councillors and the Primary School head teacher. A winner in each of the two categories (Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2) had been chosen. The head teacher was presented with the two first prizes comprising a £25.00 gift token for each winner and consolation prizes were provided for all those entered the competition. The head teacher would make these presentations during a school assembly. The two winning entries would be printed as posters and distributed as widely as possible and all entries would be available for the public to view on May Day.

**Resolution: That the winning posters are printed and distributed as widely as possible and a press release issued detailing the competition results.**

### **239/24 Future Projects**

There were no updates on the provision of a chess table under a Government initiative.

**Noted.**

### **240/24 Car Park Access**

The Ashover Community Medical Centre Ltd. Trustees and Ashover Parish Council had agreed that a legal document would be drawn-up, at no cost to the Parish Council, to confirm that access onto the Milken Lane Car Park would continue in perpetuity and free of charge.  
**Noted.**

### **241/24 Clerk's Report**

The Clerk's report, including Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) newsletters and correspondence received had been circulated to Members. A 'Nomination form from a local group for a trustee to the Ashover Parish Hall CIO' had been put forward by Cllr C Miller, who was prepared to continue as the Parish Council representative on the Parish Hall CIO. This required signature by a 'Proposer' and 'Seconder' from the Parish Council and the completed form had to be returned to Ashover Parish Hall by 12/04/2024.

**Resolution: That Cllr R Fidler (Proposer) and Cllr Mrs L Hunter-Bott (Seconder) sign the nomination form and that this is submitted to Ashover Parish Hall CIO.**

### **242/24 Section 137 and other grant applications**

Consideration was given to S137 grant applications from The Home Produce Club, NEDDC Chair's Charity Appeal for Ashgate Hospice and Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre. The May Day Event Community Group would be seeking other grants, but requested funding to support immediate costs.

**Resolution:**

- (i) **That a S137 grant of £100 is made to The Home Produce Club.**
- (ii) **That a S137 grant of £100 is made to the NEDDC Chair's Charity Appeal for Ashgate Hospice.**
- (iii) **That a S137 grant of £100 is made to Derbyshire Children's Holiday Centre.**
- (iv) **That up to £800 grant is made available to the May Day Event Community Group via The Ashover Parochial Church Council. (Local Government Act 1972 s144).**
- (v) **That funding transferred from 'contingencies' to cover the grants.**

### **243/24 Review of Fees and Charges for 2024/2025**

Members considered fees and charges relating to the Cemetery, Hard Courts and Allotments.

**Resolution:**

- (i) **That Cemetery and Allotments fees remain unchanged.**
- (ii) **That Hard Courts hire and floodlight cards are increased by £1.00 to £6.00 and £4.00 respectively.**

### **244/24 Councillor Audit**

The Councillor Audit had taken place on 07/03/2024. It had been noted that the Police and Crime Commissioner's office had erroneously made a payment of £1500 to the Ashover Parish Council account. This had now been rectified and funds returned.

**Noted.**

### **245/24 Monthly Financial Report**

A budget appraisal and report/reconciliation from the computerised accounts detailing account balances, cheques/transactions issued/authorised and cheques received and any outstanding receipts considered. The report was put forward for signature by the Chairman. Details of any cheques signed or for signature by authorised Councillors and BACS invoices were confirmed.

**Resolution: That the Financial Report for February 2024 is confirmed and signed by the Chairman and that any cheques/BACS authorised by designated signatories, are confirmed.**

DATE	PAYEE	GOODS/SERVICE	TOTAL (£)
01/02/2024	WM Nurseries	Flower Planters & Maintenance	960.00
01/02/2024	Muktubs	Cemetery Soil Skip	156.00
01/02/2024	Employees	Salaries/Allowance/Mileage/Reimburs	1911.08
01/02/2024	WM Nurseries	3 yrs flowerbeds. Contract end.	960.00
01/02/2024	Shed Grounds Maintenance	Flowerbeds maintenance (January)	109.90
01/02/2024	Shed Grounds Maintenance	Cemetery maintenance (January)	681.60
01/02/2024	Coeval	SIDs installation & commission	996.00
06/02/2024	S Atkinson	2x £25 Vouchers Poster Competition	50.00
09/02/2024	Shed Grounds Maintenance	Cemetery maintenance (February)	681.60
09/02/2024	Shed Grounds Maintenance	Flowerbeds maintenance (February)	109.90
12/02/2024	NEST	Pension contributions	99.67
12/02/2024	Water Plus	Allotments water Dec 23 – Jan 24	13.46
13/02/2024	Coeval	SIDs traffic management system	949.20
20/02/2024	Festive Lights Ltd.	Christmas Tree lights & cables	283.84
20/02/2024	AD & JH Hardwick	Reimburse S137 AF&BG insurance	213.00
20/02/2024	Eon	WC electricity Nov 23 – Feb 24	128.04
22/02/2024	Water Plus	WC water Jan-Feb 24	65.63
29/02/2024	Ashover Parish Hall	Room hire	42.00
29/02/2024	Employees	Salaries/Allowance/Mileage/Reimburs	1722.24
29/02/2024	Water Plus	Allotments water Jan-Feb 2024	17.69
29/02/2024	The Safe Shop Ltd.	Post Box	34.28

#### **246/24 Exclusion of the Public**

**Resolution: That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, to exclude the press and public from the meeting in accordance with the Public Bodies(Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, s1, in order to discuss the item.**

#### **247/24 Review of Salaries and Wages**

Salaries and Wages were reviewed and would be implemented with effect from 01/04/2024.

The meeting closed at 08.55pm