

DRAFT MINUTES of a Meeting of Ashchurch Rural Parish Council held at the Ray Shill Building Northway on **Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June 2021**, commencing at 6.30pm.

Cllrs In attendance: Cllrs John Hargreaves (Chairman) Tony Davies, Brian Cook and David Garnett  
District Councillor: Mel Gore  
Locum Clerk: Ruth Waller and two members of public

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION:** No comments

**01/ WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:** Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Shurmer, Street and Brown

**02/ TO RECEIVE COMMENTS AND CONCERNS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC:** No comments at this point. Some representations had been received relating to planning matters and Council agreed these would be considered at that point on the agenda.

**03/ ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN AND ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE:** Cllr Tony Davies had been proposed as Vice-Chairman, in his absence, at the Council Meeting held on 24<sup>th</sup> May. Cllr Davies' now accepted this position and the Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

**04/ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:** None declared

**05/ THE MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL HELD ON 24<sup>th</sup> May 2021** were approved as a true and accurate record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**06/ TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR:** None received.

**ACTION:** Clerk to ensure an invitation is sent to Cllr Smith for the next Council meeting.

**07/ TO RECEIVE REPORT FROM THE BOROUGH COUNCILLOR:** Cllr Gore provided a detailed update to Council including the following points:

- The Tewksbury Borough Plan was now in its final stages for adoption and would be submitted to Full Council on October 21<sup>st</sup> before a formal hearing. The new TB Plan would ensure that the 5-year land supply will now be met.
- The Joint Core Strategy was also under review and there would be a public consultation at the end of this year.
- Combe Hill – The application for 95 houses was permitted at the Appeal Hearing.
- COVID Business Grant - a new grant scheme to help business impacted by the extension to Stage 3 of the government's roadmap out of lockdown.
- Tewkesbury Street Plan – The town centre is benefitting from a new multi-million-pound fund that will regenerate historic high streets through Historic England's High Streets Heritage Action Zone (HSHAZ) scheme. This Scheme will include grant programme for the restoration of traditional shopfronts and facades, a grant programme to enable vacant upper floor units to be changed to residential use and initiatives to encourage the regeneration of the Healing's Mill site.
- Junction 10 Consultation: Gloucestershire County Council was successful in its bid to Homes England for funding to upgrade M5 Junction 10. They are now working with Highways England on the Concept for this Junction Upgrade.
- The Garden Town was also discussed and Councillors requested confirmation that Phase 1 had already commenced along with work on the bridge. A meeting had been arranged with

Tewkesbury Borough Council for the 14<sup>th</sup> July to allow further discussion relating to The Garden Town and any potential Enforcement. Cllrs Hargreaves, Garrett and Davies would attend.

**08/ TO NOTE ANY MATTERS ARISING NOT OTHERWISE ON THIS AGENDA:**

- Judicial Review update: Tewkesbury Borough Council have until tomorrow to respond (1<sup>st</sup> July) It will then be decided if it will go to a hearing.

Clerk advised that this agenda item was duplicated later on and that a reorganisation of the whole agenda would take place for the next meeting.

**09/ TO RECEIVE UPDATE REPORTS ON THE FOLLOWING MATTERS:**

- **A46/M5 solution:** No further update available
- **Garden Town:** It was noted that no consultation had taken place regarding the commencement of the bridge building.
- **PC Association update:** Cllr Hargreaves explained that an association of local Parish and Town Councils in Gloucestershire and Worcestershire had been set up to commence a formal challenge to Tewkesbury Borough Council in relation to the Garden Town. To date, about 14 Councils had joined the association.
- **Neighbourhood Development Plan:** See Item 21.
- **Defibrillator:** All defibrillators had been checked. Cllr Hargreaves stated that the defibrillator at Ashchurch Village Hall required new pads and battery.
- **Website:** Council hoped that more information would be available on the website in due course.
- **Working Groups:** Cllr Garnett reported that a Newsletter would shortly be produced.

**10/ UPDATE - REFURBISHMENT OF STREET FURNITURE IN PAMINGTON:** The bench will be updated once the weather improves.

**11/ FINANCIAL REPORTS Financial Reports - Balances and Reconciliation:** No financial report available for this meeting.

**12/ The following payments were approved:**

Payments made between meetings (delegated powers):					
					None
Payments to be Approved:					
Method paid:	Amount	Payee	Purpose	Authority	VAT to be re-claimed
E-payment	£1215.00	Jeremy Brookes	Grass cutting (April)	PHA 1875, s.164	None
E-payment	£1215.00	Jeremy Brookes	Grass cutting (May)	PHA 1875, s.164	None
E-payment	£8,100.00	Richard Buxton Solicitors	Legal Costs (JR)	LGA 1972. s.111	TBC

Payment of the Locum Clerk's Salary for May was agreed, subject to process by PATA payroll.

It was noted that £15,000 donations had been received towards the Legal costs (£5,000 each from Northway and Kemerton Parish Councils). Bredon PC had donated £750 as they had already paid £4250 directly themselves.

Council resolved that the Locum Clerk should have access to the Edge Banking system to ensure payments and bank reconciliations could be made in a timely manner until a permanent Clerk/RFO had been appointed.

**13/ To consider future options for room hire for Council Meetings and agree budget:** Several options were considered including the use of the village hall at Ashchurch, the current room hire and The Devereux Centre, Tewkesbury. The Devereux Centre provided Internet and conference facilities, enabling the Council to commence Hybrid meetings. The cost of the Dunlop Room at The Devereux Centre is £57.75 per month on a rolling 12month contract. Cllr Cook proposed that the Council agreed to a 12-month contract with the Devereux Centre for the hire of the Dunlop Room. This proposal was seconded by Cllr Street and unanimously approved by Council

**Action: Clerk to contact Devereux centre to arrange contract for the monthly booking of this room.**

**14/ To consider initial response to the Community Governance Review 2021:** The consultation period for this Review was until 2<sup>nd</sup> August. Therefore, Council resolved that a working group should be set up to draft a response.

**15/ To review Standing Orders:** Council resolved to update Section 18F (Finance and Procurement) of the Council's current Standing Orders. A more detailed review would take place once a permanent Clerk was in post.

**16/ To review Financial Regulation:** This was deferred until a permanent Clerk was in post.

**17/ To consider and adopt an Internal Controls Policy:** An Internal Policy document had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. Some further amendments had been suggested to the draft Policy. A final copy would be circulated for approval prior to the next meeting.

**18/ To receive update relating to flooding on Natton Lane:** No update available.

**Action:** Clerk to contact GCC Highways to progress this matter.

**19/ To receive an update on the dog bin and notice board at Aston Cross:** Council agreed to purchase a new dog bin and notice board, as per the S106 agreement.

**Action:** Clerk to Contact Tewksbury Borough Council to order both the dog bin and notice board.

**20/ To receive an update on the notice board at Chammomile Road:** No update available.

**21/ NDP: To consider comments received on the Ashchurch Rural Parish Neighbourhood Development Plan 2020-2031 Regulation 14 Draft:** All comments had been collated by the Acting Clerk and forwarded to Andrea Pellagram for examination.

The Parish Council agreed the final Submission Draft of Ashchurch Rural Neighbourhood Development Plan and supporting documents to Tewkesbury Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority under Regulation 15 of The Neighbourhood Planning (General) Regulations 2012.

## **22/ PLANNING – For consideration:**

- i) [21/00694/FUL](#) | Erection of a single storey side extension, two storey side extension and dormer window. | Rose Cottage Aston Cross GL20 8HX: **No comment**
- ii) [21/00451/OUT | Outline application for residential development \(up to 460 dwellings\), a primary school, associated works, ancillary facilities:](#) Council resolved to object to this planning application with the following comments:
  - That the Parish Council is Consulted prior to the decision of the name of the Development name. The Council requests that the name of Fiddington is not used as this will lose the identity of the existing Fiddington. Likewise, when street naming, the use of local village names in street names should also be avoided as this will cause confusion and should therefore be avoided
  - The Parish Council has serious concern regarding the additional pressure on the A46, this development will bring as identified by Tewkesbury Borough Council at the 850 houses appeal. Even with the road mitigation, the A46 is at capacity. It is envisaged that there will be an increase in the region of 1000 vehicles per hour at peak times: an increase of 35%. This will have a detrimental impact on an already struggling local infrastructure.
  - The Parish Council requests further investigation regarding the proposed access to the Garden Centre and retail park. To prevent gridlock, further consideration must be given to establish how will traffic be controlled exiting from the 'new' Fiddington Lane access onto the A46.
  - Fiddington Lane is an amenity used by many walkers, runners, cyclists and horse riders and the Parish Council requests that this quiet lane status should be maintained. Further investigation is needed to ensure traffic will not use the lane from the roundabout to assess Cheltenham and the A38, with the use of a traffic calming scheme, if deemed necessary.
  - Milne Covert is an unspoilt coppice and although it is to be retained, the development will have a detrimental impact on wildlife, especially deer.
  - This development will have a detrimental impact upon the Gloucestershire Way

(PROW) Bridleway which crosses to the north of this development. Further consideration into the impact this will have must be completed.

- The Parish Council requests further consideration for affordable housing, doctors', dentists and secondary school places if this application is permitted.
- iii) [21/00516/FUL](#) | Redevelopment of MOD Ashchurch including demolition, refurbishment and erection of new buildings. | DSDC Ashchurch Camp Ashchurch Road GL20 8LZ: **Comments had already been submitted to this application.**
- iv) [21/00394/FUL](#) | Erection of a 2-bay oak framed garage. - Meadow View Aston Carrant Road Aston-On-Carrant Tewkesbury GL20 8HL: **Council resolved to request that, if permitted, a Condition was attached to this application stating the garage would be for residential use only.**
- v) [21/00095/CONDIS](#) | Application for approval of details subject to condition 42 (Shuttle Bus Service), of the planning application ref number 17/01203/FUL | Land South Of The A46 And North Of Tirlle Brook, Ashchurch: **Council resolved to respond to this application stating that this planned Bus Service was a restriction in the proposed service as it is not 7 days a week. Therefore, Council would request to keep the original proposal of a 7-day service.**
- vi) [18/0059/FUL](#) - Construction of an agricultural outbuilding (Retrospective) Claydon House Farm Claydon Tewkesbury Gloucestershire GL20 7BH: Following the Clerk's advice, **Council resolved to request that a condition was attached to this application in that it remained for Agricultural use only.**
- vii) [21/00552/FUL](#) - Erection of a single storey rear extension. - 19 Cinnamon Close Walton Cardiff Tewkesbury Gloucestershire GL20 7FN: **No comment**
- viii) [21/00616/FUL](#) Demolition of existing attached garage. Erection of two storey front and side extensions. - Applewood Aston Cross Tewkesbury GL20 8H: **No comment**
- ix) **To consider a Response, if any, to the Consultation for a Community Hall in Bishops Cleve:** Council resolved to comment that the Council was in favour of more community hall such as this.
- x) **Any update relating to the GARDEN TOWN:** An update had been provided during Cllr Gore's report.

For Noting:

- i) [20/00712/APP](#) - **Approval** of reserved matters (appearance, layout, scale and landscaping) comprising Phase 2 West of Outline planning permission ref: 17/01203/FUL (as varied by 20/00017/NMA) for the erection of a Garden Centre and associated works - Land South of The A46 And North of Tirlle Brook Ashchurch Road Tewkesbury Gloucestershire
- ii) [21/00031/CONDIS](#) - Application for approval of details subject to condition 12 (Written Scheme of Investigation) of the planning application ref number 17/00520/OUT - Land at Fiddington Ashchurch: **Discharged.**
- iii) [21/00048/CONDIS](#) - Application for approval of details subject to condition 13 (Ecological Constraints and Opportunities Plan (ECOP)), of the planning application ref number 17/00520/OUT - Land at Fiddington Ashchurch: **Discharged**
- iv) [21/00571/AGR](#) - Replacement of existing barn with new building used to store hay, feed stuffs, small machinery and other equipment needed for the animals. – Walton Cardiff Manor Walton Cardiff Lane Tewkesbury GL20 7BL: **Non-Intervention**

**23/ To discuss update relating to the Planning Submission of Solar Farm Project at Claydon Farm and agree next actions:** The bridleway had been amended and now meets with Councils' approval. Concern was raised by Cllrs regarding access to Wildlife at Solar Farm  
**Action: Clerk to write to Adam Withers regarding the proposed legal agreement for the £10,000.**

**24/ HIGHWAYS. To receive update reports on the following:**  
a) **Grass Cutting:** It was noted that although the verges had been cut, they would require recutting again in July.  
b) **Pamington Junction:** Council agreed the following action:  
**Action: Clerk to request update from Gloucestershire Highways.**  
c) **Village Signs:** Village signs were agreed for Walton Cardiff Village and Fiddington.

**25/ TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE RELATING TO THE CHURCHYARD CAPACITY:** An update on this is expected from the Diocese on the 14<sup>th</sup> July.

**26/ To receive an update report from Rural/Market Town Group:** Cllr Garnett reported that he had contacted Rural Network but with no success.  
**Action: Cllr Garnett to contact Rural Network again.**  
**Action: Clerk to forward any email Correspondence from Rural Network to all Councillors.**

**27/ To consider any CORRESPONDENCE received, and agree response if any:** All Correspondence had been circulated to Cllrs via email prior to the meeting. No responses required unless specified on this agenda.

**28/ TO NOTE ANY OTHER BUSINESS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION:**

- To discuss refurbishment and future use of the telephone box on Fiddington Lane. Three quotes for the work would be provided by Cllr Cook.

**29/ The DATE OF NEXT MEETING was agreed as Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at the Devereux Centre.**

**30/ TO RESOLVE TO INVOKE (LGA 1972 100A (2) TO EXCLUDE THE PUBLIC AND DISCUSS THE FOLLOWING ITEM IN CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS:** Council resolved to exclude the public from the final item and the meeting was closed at 9pm.  
As the final item was relating to staffing matters, the Clerk also left the meeting at this point.

**31/ To consider applications for the position of permanent Clerk:**

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_