

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 20 October 2022 at Ash Village Hall,
The Street, Ash, TN15 7HB commencing at 7:45pm

Present:

Cllr M Brown
Cllr Mrs Brammer
Cllr Mrs Clucas
Cllr Mrs Connell
Cllr F Cottee
Cllr S Fishenden
Cllr I MacLeod
Cllr M Manley
Cllr V Ngwenya
Cllr Miss Sapiets

In attendance: Alison de Jager – Parish Clerk
Cllr Penny Cole – Sevenoaks District Council
Miss S Brine – New Ash Green Village Association

8476/22 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Mrs Clark and Mrs Hobbs (meetings) Cllr P Nightingale (work) and Cllrs S Glover and J Scott (family commitment). Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that the apologies and reasons for absence are accepted. SECONDED: Cllr S Fishenden and AGREED.
Cllr D Brazier, Kent County Council and Cllrs A Pett and Perry Cole - Sevenoaks District Council also sent their apologies.

8477/22 Declarations of Interest

- a. Declarations of Interest – Cllr F Cottee declared an interest in item 5g as a member of the Green Man Recovery Group.
- b. No changes to the Register of Interests. Members were reminded that any alteration or new interests must be registered with the Monitoring Officer within 28 days.

8478/22 Dispensations

Cllr M Brown PROPOSED that a dispensation is granted to Cllr F Cottee to enable him to participate in any discussion of item 5g.

8479/22 Minutes

It was RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 29 September 2022 be approved and signed. PROPOSED Cllr Mrs Brammer SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Clucas and AGREED.

8480/22 Planning

- a. Applications
SE/22/02612: Netherfield, The Street, Ash, TN15 7HB – Amendments to SE/21/02347. Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that the Parish Council does not object to this application. SECONDED: Cllr Mrs Clucas and AGREED.
- b. The decisions, as set out in Appendix A to Agenda A/10/22 were RECEIVED and NOTED.

- c. Appeals
None at time of Agenda.
- d. Enforcements
None at time of Agenda.
- e. It was NOTED that the meeting of the Planning Committee meeting of 07 October 2022 did not take place as there were no applications for consideration.
- f. Local Plan – it was NOTED that Sevenoaks District Council is currently preparing a Local Plan for Sevenoaks District and will cover the period up to 2040. The regulation 18 consultation will be held from 16 November 2022 to 11 January 2023.
- g. Having been given a dispensation on this item, Cllr F Cottee updated members on the current situation with the site of the Green Man Pub. Cllr Mrs Brammer PROPOSED that the Parish Council submits an outline planning application to Sevenoaks District Council to rebuild a pub on this site. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley and UNANIMOUSLY AGREED.
- h. it was NOTED that a nomination form has been submitted to Sevenoaks District Council for the Royal Oak Pub to be considered an Asset of Community Value.

8481/22 Finance

- a. The current financial position and accompanying reports were NOTED. Cllr V Ngwenya reported that the remaining 50% of the precept has been received from Sevenoaks District Council with General Reserves at just over 8 times monthly running costs. Openreach have done their survey and advised that a dedicated line could be installed. Room Hire will go over budget this year as we will be hiring more meeting rooms. Following the success of the Summer Scheme a budget of £1,000 from the Youth Provision Reserves has been agreed to run the Half Term scheme. The final payment has been made for the LED lighting and this has pushed the Refurbishment & Maintenance over budget. As agreed, additional funds will come from General Reserves.
There is a Sports Centre Management Committee meeting on Monday, and Cllr Ngwenya NOTED that the finances are not as healthy as needed, with the Centre having less than one months running costs. The remainder of the grant from the Parish Council will be transferred next week.
- b. The cheques signed since the last meeting were authorised. PROPOSED: Cllr Mrs Brammer SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.
- c. It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Finance Committee will be held on 08 November 2022.
- d. The Quantitative Tree Risk Assessment reports for the Burial Ground and Ash Church were RECEIVED. Quotations will be sought for the next meeting.
- e. Cllr Mrs Clucas PROPOSED that the renewal of the annual subscription to Kent County Playing Fields Association in the amount of £20.00 is AUTHORISED. SECONDED: Cllr F Cottee and AGREED,

8482/22 Sports Centre

- a. It was NOTED that the next meeting of Sports Centre Management Committee will be held on 24 October 2022.
- b. Cllr M Manley advised that usage has continued to increase in September for gym and class usage, but there has been a decline in Racket sports. We have 8 new gym members since the September meeting. Focus will be made on retention of members. The new classes timetable has been running since 5th September and we will continue to adapt according to popularity. We are using

outside instructors for some of the classes. Unfortunately, we have not heard anything back from David Harcourt of Swale Community Leisure since our meeting but we will chase. The Parish Council supported Basketball sessions have been a success but there has been low uptake on the Teen Gym sessions. We will continue to promote these on social media. A class will be run for members of Milestone Academy staff and paid for by the school as part of their well-being initiative.

8483/22 Barnfield Park

- a. No report

8484/22 Northfield

- a. The minutes of the meeting of the Northfield Management Committee held on 28 September 2022 were NOTED.

8485/22 Burial Ground

- a. The minutes of the Burial Ground Committee held on 13 October 2022 were NOTED.
- b. An additional five grave spaces have been marked out in the old part of the Burial Ground. The water butts have been attached to the Church downpipes and are full.

8486/22 Youth

- a. Kent County Council youth workers continue with detached work in New Ash Green and Sevenoaks District Council's Community Safety Unit have engaged the Kenward Trust to do detached work around the misuse of alcohol and drugs. The Youth & Community Centre have agreed that the youth club can re-start when KCC feel that the young people are ready.

8487/22 Climate Change

- a. No report.

8488/22 New Ash Green Village Association

- a. It was NOTED that there has been no forum meeting since the September Parish Council meeting.

8489/22 Highways

- a. It blocked drain and flooding at the intersection of Ash Road and North Ash Road will be reported.

The meeting was suspended at 8.14pm to receive reports from the Village Association and District Councillor

The reports from the District Councillors are attached to these minutes.

The meeting reconvened at 8.29pm

8490/22 Health

- No report

8491/22 Footpaths

- a. No report.

8492/22 Transport

- a. The notes of the meeting with KCC, Arriva and Parishes held on the 11 October 2022 were NOTED.

8493/22 New Ash Green Focus Group and Police

- a. The minutes of the meeting of the Focus Group held on 10 October 2022 were NOTED. It was disappointing that no-one from Kent Police was able to attend as there are certain serious problems in New Ash Green.

8494/22 Ash, Hodsoll Street and Ridley

- a. Ash – the film The Duke will be shown on 26 October 2022 at 7.15pm.
- b. Hodsoll Street – the Big Breakfast is held on the first Saturday of the month at 9am.
- c. Ridley – no report.

8495/22 The Bulletin and Parish Website

- a. The Bulletin – the next edition will be going out soon.
- b. Website – no report.

8496/22 Thursday Lunch Provision

- a. The Environmental Health inspection was conducted this week and the Lunch Provision was awarded 5 stars again. Some of the points that require attention are the responsibility of the Youth Centre as they relate to the building. One of which is the cleaning of the extractor unit for the cooker. Cllr Mrs Clucas PROPOSED that quotations to clean the extractor unit are obtained as the Parish Council is the only group using the cooking facilities. SECONDED: Cllr V Ngwenya and AGREED.

8497/22 KALC

- a. It was NOTED that the Annual General Meeting will be held on 19 November 2022.

8498/22 Reports, Circulars and Correspondence

The reports, circulars and correspondence as set out in A/10/22 were NOTED.

The meeting closed at 8.39pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: