|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Ashleworth Parish CouncilClerk: Nicky Hill**Tel**: 07771 610027 **Email**:ashleworthpc@gmail.com | small |

**Minutes of the Meeting of 12th September 2023**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Councillors Present** | **In attendance** |
|  Tony Eardley (TE) | Clerk: Nicky Hill (NH) |
|  Paul Finch (PF) Vice Chairman | Members of the public: 8 |
|  Aly Shayle (AS) |  |
|  James Joyce (JJ) |  |
|  Councillor Paul McLain (PM) |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 152/0923 | **Welcome from the Chairman**Please note that the council meeting will be preceded by ‘Public Question Time’ Several members of the public raised concerns on the planning application 23/00699/PIP for 5 dwellings, land rear of Bloxhams Orchard. **TE** noted that the application is an agenda item and the Parish Councillors will discuss and decide if any comments will be submitted later on in the meeting.The concerns included: Unsuitable access for any development into Bloxhams Orchard and concerns that the close is too narrow to accommodate further traffic. Drainage issues will be exacerbated. Previous applications have been refused. There is a danger of losing wildlife on and around the plot. Concerns that there will be further applications. Disturbance, noise and loss of privacy to residents that purposely moved to location for the benefits of a quiet location. |
| 153/0923 | **Apologies for absence.**Apologies received from Councillor Jill Smith & Councillor Grant Elliott |
| 154/0923 | **Declaration of Interests.**TE declared an interest on minute 159/0923 as he lives on the Green. |
| 155/0923 | **To confirm and sign the minutes of the meeting 11th July 2023 and exchange of backed up/updated APC files USB.**No amendments were necessary, and the minutes were agreed and signed. The Chairman and the Clerk exchanged the APC updated USB’s. |
| 156/0923 | **Matters arising /review of actions from the last meeting not on the agenda.**None |
| 157/0923 | **Reports from invited speakers on relevant items.****PM** reported on the following items:* TBC air source heating plans
* Jet injecting of pot holes
* Drink driving designated driver police initiative.
* School intake numbers.
* New schools for special needs children within the county.

For further information on any of the above, please contactCouncillor Paul McLain (PM)Councillor Jill Smith sent report via email:Tewkesbury Borough Council has a new more user-friendly website, that it is recommended people look at, for all the information they need from the Council. There is still a helpline for those who are not so familiar with a computer. The web address is www.tewkesbury.gov.uk Planning for the Tewkesbury Garden Town is progressing with more public consultation and say, in what they would like to see. Affected Parishes/ Parish Councils have all had Alistair Cunningham, the CEO and Richard Stanley, Leader of Council attend their meetings for public engagement sessions and provide communication.The Carbon Reduction Annual Report was presented to the Executive committee, with a four year action plan. The large solar canopy over the Council car park is working well and an Air Source Heating installation upgrade will occur later this year to replace an old boiler at the Council offices. The action plan also begins to look at waste collection and their fleet of trucks, and the rollout of more electric charging points. Ambition may be hampered by the resources available. Gloucestershire Resources and Waste Strategy was agreed. It was also suggested a new working party was set up at TBC to look at reducing waste collections and ways to educate and improve the recycling rates, and small food bin waste collections (as only about 50% of these are put out).TBC won the Council of the Year award, in the Southwest Energy efficiency awards. They also were Highly Commended as Landlord of the year and also Commended for large scale projects. |
| 158/0923 | **Planning: 23/00699/PIP**Councillors discussed the application and noted the members of the public concerns and views.**TE, PF, AS & JJ** agreed to strongly object and submit comments the following:• Traffic and parking issues • Nuisance, Disturbance and Noise • Loss of privacy • Disproportionate Dwellings• Water drainage - existing drainage system does not cope when it rains heavily. • Access - the immediate access to the proposed development already suffers greatly from traffic issues at certain times of day. Lanes leading into the village are narrow with a large number of blind bends and these access roads are much busier now than they were 10 years ago. This proposed development greatly increases the risks of road traffic accidents in the local area.**TE** noted that **GE** had raised concerns and objected to the proposed development via email. |
| 159/0923 | **Village green and track registration update****TE** had noted the potential conflict of interest with this item as he lives on the Green. **PF** chaired this item and **TE** did not participate.**PF** reported that there had been no update since the last meeting and re confirmed that letters will be sent to residents once any relevant information moving forward, had been received. Also noted was the need to establish the Land Registry correspondence address (if any) for Ashleworth Parish Council. |
| 160/0923 | **Playground Update****AS** reported that the tree work has been completed and the invoice has been submitted for payment. It was agreed that APC will pay the contractor on this occasion under their agreed terms of payment and reclaim from TBC section 106 monies.It was noted that parishioners had been offered to take wood and chippings from the site and uptake had successfully cleared the area.Quotes have been received from 3 play area suppliers and will be discussed at a later date.Quotes have also been received for fencing and **AS** requested that a decision should be agreed upon to move the project forward in order for grass to be established. The preferred quote was from Greenfields £15,258 + vat for metal round top railings.**TE, PF, AS** and **JJ** agreed in principle to submit this quote to TBC for approval and release of funds. In the absence of **GE, NH** noted thathe had expressed a preference to this quote via email.**TE** will inform the point of contact at TBC to request the action of section 106 monies.**AS** requested, that APC help with sourcing funding for play area project.**AS** noted, that the removal of old play equipment would need to be implemented before the fencing was erected. A member of the public has expressed an interest in the having the equipment. **TE** will laisse and action as necessary.**TE** suggested a breakdown of all costs/quotes and any funding and an informal meeting moving forwards, preferably before the end of October.. |
| 161/0923 | **Notice Board****NH** advised that the Notice board had been erected and that all costs had been finalised.The total cost was £1,770.40 and APC had agreed to contribute half the costs = £885.20. There is a WI payment due to APC of £372.40 to balance out the payments. **NH** will liaise with WI. |
| 162/0923 | **Councillor training****NH** circulated training dates from GAPTC and **AS** expressed an interest in the Planning in Plain English course on September 19th. APC approved the sum of £35 for the course fee. |
| 163/0923 | **Substation hedge trimming**It had been noted that the conifers/hedge around the substation, located by the village green, is in need of trimming. It was agreed that the works are required, and **NH** will get quotes. |
| 164/0923 | **Finance:**1. To approve accounts for payment:

 1) Clerk wages for July/Aug - £187.68 x 2 chq numbers 000707 & 000708 – **Agreed** 2) Hall hire - £22.00 chq number 000709 - **Agreed** 3) GAPTC audit fee - £90.00 chq number 000710 **– Agreed**4) GPFA annual membership - £50.00 chq number 000711 – **Agreed** 1. To agree the bank reconciliation and cash book updated - Circulated and **Agreed**
2. To agree the budget balances to pay **–** Circulated and **Agreed**
 |
| 165/0923 | To confirm date of next meeting as Tuesday 14th November 2023– **Agreed** |
|  | **Meeting closed at 9.10pm** |