

ATHERINGTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 21 May 2024 at the Pavilion, Atherington at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs Ms C Norman (Chairman), J Andrew, A Boyce, C Hart and, Mrs A Lindsay

In attendance: 7 parishioners, District Councillor Mrs S Whitehead, County Councillor P Henderson, Parish Clerk.

1. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

1. Chairman

Cllr Hart proposed that Cllr Mrs Norman be re-elected Chairman for the coming year. seconded by Cllr Mrs Lindsay. All in agreement.

2. Vice Chairman

Cllr Mrs Norman proposed that Cllr Andrew be re-elected as Vice Chairman. Seconded by Cllr Boyce. All in agreement.

2. Matters Raised by the Public

Issues related to NWF.

It was agreed that problems caused by vehicles to or from the NWF site had decreased, although there had been instances of HGVs exceeding the new speed limit. The Transport manager reported that the company had stopped using one contractor due to serious problems.

The company y was thanked for its efforts in resolving traffic problems in the village. Thanks were also extended to NWF for supporting the forthcoming fete.

Concern was expressed over drains being blocked with mud from fields where some farmers were working.

3. Apologies for absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Miss J Brayley.

4. Declarations of Interest

Cllr. Andrew declared an interest in item 13.2

5. Approval of Minutes of meeting held on 16 April 2023

The Minutes of the last meeting was agreed and signed as a true record.

6. Matters Arising from the last meeting

Cllr Mrs Whitehead read an email from Planning Enforcement, which while admitting that the planning department had made mistakes in its handling of the Bonds Farm developer not adhering to the approved plans, been approved. had a revised application for resiting the underground gas tank been submitted, it would have been approved.

It was agreed to upload the email onto the council website.

7. Reports:

1. County Councillor

Cllr Henderson reported that there was currently a long backlog on replacing road markings.

DCC had recently been awarded additional money for highway repairs, but was only sufficient to repair the major defects and those on higher classified roads.

Work would soon be starting on improvements between the Sainsburys roundabout and the link road to help ease congestion.

2. District Councillor

Cllr Mrs Whitehead had nothing further to report.

8. Update on Lemons Cottage - Cllr Mrs Whitehead

No update available.

9. Update on Bonds Farm – Cllr Mrs Whitehead

Already covered under item 6.

10. Highways

Some of the drains that had been cleared had again become blocked, due partly from debris from nearby fields. Mud had also accumulated on the road at some field gateways. Cllr Henderson reported that DCC had a standard letter that it sent to landowners to remind them of their responsibilities. He would be happy to send this if it was felt necessary.

11. Telephone Kiosk

It was reported that the possible new owner of the Church Hall was unhappy with the telephone kiosk in its current location. It was thought that there may be possibility of working with them to get it moved, if they were willing to cover some of the costs.

12. Milk Churn Stand

This was still a matter of 'work in progress'.

13. Planning Applications

78566 Erection of garage and associated works. Little Eastacombe Atherington
There were no objections to the application.

78660 Erection of an oak framed garden Gazebo, Umberleigh House Umberleigh.
There were no objections to the application.

14. Finance

1. Adoption of Accounts

Copies of the Balance sheet had been circulated to councillors. These were unanimously agreed and adopted as a true record.

2. Completion of Annual Audit Return

Sections 1 & 2 of the Annual Return were unanimously agreed and signed by the Chairman and Clerk.

3. Receipt: 50% Precept £2296.00

4. Payments:

ACPF – Emptying dog bin - 50%	£ 9.75
Gallagher Insurance	£1598.15
Mrs A Lindsay	£ 12.04
Clerk's Salary & Expenses	£ 107.60
HMRC – clerk's PAYE	£ 17.40

The five accounts were approved for payment.

15. Playing Field

The AGM will be held on 17 July, when it will be necessary to elect a new chairman and treasurer. Several events were being planned for the rest of the year, with plans currently being made for the fete. The ovens in the pavilion were being replaced. A new constitution had been adopted at the last meeting. There was the possibility of organising a mini fete for children during the school holiday. The problem of dog fouling on the playing field appeared to be getting better.

16. Correspondence Received

Minutes of the last Playing Field Committee meeting. Noted.
NDC were in the process of updating their list of priority projects which could benefit from s106 contributions, should any become available. Noted,

17. Items for the next Agenda

Review of policies.

18. Date of next meeting:

Tuesday, 18 June 2024.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.05pm.