



Ashchurch Rural Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 25 September 2023 at 6.30pm

- Venue:** The Devereux Centre, Tewkesbury, Gloucestershire
- Present:** Cllr. D. Garnett (Vice Chairman), B. Cook, R. Drewitt, G. Grey, S. Mitchell and I. Parker
- Attendees:** Assistant Clerk L. Beech, Borough Cllr. M. Gore, and one member of the public
- 25.9.2023.1 **To receive and approve apologies for absence and confirm the meeting is quorate**
Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs. T. Davies, Clerk/RFO J. Owen and County Cllr. V. Smith.
The Assistant Clerk confirmed the meeting was quorate.
- 25.9.2023.2 **To receive comments from members of the public – no decisions will be made on issues raised, items requiring decisions will be added to the agenda for the next meeting**
A Fiddington resident raised their objection to planning application: 23/00665/OUT citing:
- It doubled the number of homes in the small hamlet
 - There were no amenities within walking distance and no public transport
 - It would endanger the thriving duck population
 - Existing drainage issues cause localise flooding which could be exasperated by further buildings
 - The road to enter / exit is narrow and splays were currently poor
 - Health concerns over asbestos / pollutants when removing existing buildings
- They also raised objection to planning application: 22/01320/OUT citing:
- Loss of hedgerows and wildlife
 - Noise from neighbouring railway line
 - Rural England encourage retention of green space and this would be lost if permitted
- 25.9.2023.3 **To receive declarations of interest for items on the agenda below, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests that members may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Parish Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with the Localism Act 2011 Section 33(b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)**
None
- 25.9.2023.4 **To confirm and sign the Minutes of the Parish Council Meetings held on 17 August 2023 circulated to members prior to the meeting**
The Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21 August 2023 which had previously been circulated to all members were **AGREED BY COUNCIL** and signed by the Vice Chairman.
- 25.9.2023.5 **To receive the Clerk's Report**
The Clerk's report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting and its content noted.
- 25.9.2023.6 **To received details of decisions made under delegated authority since the last meeting on 21 August 2023**
None

- 25.9.2023.7 **To receive a report from the Borough Councillor** (last attended 21 July 2023)
Councillor Gore explained:
- Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC) had accepted that it does not have five year housing land supply and would no longer defend any planning cases on this basis. They were working on an Interim Housing Position statement to provide an accurate housing land supply position and outline how future planning applications would be dealt with going forward.
 - TBC have liaised with Gloucestershire County Council (GCC) regarding the A46 solution.
 - The Garden Town (TGT) governance structure was due to go to full council on 26 September and the member engagement forum was full council, not for local members. Cllr. Gore requested feedback from ARPC regarding this.
- COUNCIL AGREED** the following feedback:
- The structure was missing ‘Community ownership of land and long-term assets’, which was normally included in Garden Town structures.
 - ARPC wished to view evidence of successful cases using the methodology proposed.
 - The amount of representation within the process is not commensurate with the impact of Garden Town on ARPC. Most development is within ARPC and ARPC are only represented during the early stages. After each stage, further interested parties are added therefore ARPC’s input would be diluted. ARPC requested to have input at multiple stages to avoid this.
- 25.9.2023.8 **To receive a report from Borough Councillor C. Coleman** (last attended 22 May 2023)
None received.
- 25.9.2023.9 **To receive a report from the County Councillor** (last attended 23 January 2023)
County Cllr. Smith’s report had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.
- 25.9.2023.10 **Finances – documents circulated prior to the meeting**
- 25.9.2023.10.1 **To approve the September 2023 Payment List/those paid since the last meeting and to note receipts**
COUNCIL APPROVED the September 2023 Payment list and payments since the last meeting of **£1333.07** (See Appendix A)
- The following payments were also authorised:
£85.00 to Avonside Taxi’s for Taxi voucher scheme
£145.00 to SLCC for Assistant Clerk’s membership
£262.00 to SLCC for Clerk’s membership
- 25.9.2023.10.2 **To approve the bank reconciliation**
COUNCIL APPROVED the bank reconciliation and was signed by Cllr. Mitchell
- 25.9.2023.10.3 **To receive the Budget Monitoring Report**
COUNCIL RECIEVED the Budget Monitoring Report.
- 25.9.2023.10.4 **To approve subscription to Local the Society of Council Clerks for the Clerk at a cost of £262.00 and agree actions**
COUNCIL APPROVED the subscription to Local the Society of Council Clerks for the Clerk at a cost of £262.00.
- 25.9.2023.11 **Planning:**
- 25.9.2023.11.1 **APPLICATION NO:** 23/00665/OUT
DESCRIPTION: Outline application for the erection of up to 9 dwellings (Layout, Appearance, Scale and Landscaping reserved)

LOCATION: Fiddington House Farm, Fiddington, Tewkesbury

GRID REF: 391872 231070

COUNCIL AGREED to submit a response referencing:

- Meets ARNDP policy H1 with regards to 'infill' development but should consider accumulative harm of urban sprawl with 1310 dwellings planned for north Fiddington. ARPNDP H2.
- There is already permitted development for an equestrian workers 2 storey detached property within the site (18/00216/FUL)
- Loss of affordable employment buildings (ARNDP E2)
- Loss of an indoor equestrian arena, contrary to ARNDP V1
- Consideration: inclusion of single level / bungalows ARPNDP H1
- Currently no facilities within the immediate area; residents will be reliant on car travel. (ARPNDP T1)
- Considerations:
 - Serious flooding several times a year makes it impassable therefore enhancement of water courses / ditches should be considered ARPNDP W1
 - Suitability of visibility splays and narrow access of Fiddington Lane for construction and operational traffic should be addressed (ARPNDP T2)
- Request: Prior to demolition of existing building, a site wide survey for contaminates, including asbestos, should be undertaken.

25.9.2023.11.2 To discuss the public inquiry into planning application and agree actions

APPLICATION NO: 22/01320/OUT

DESCRIPTION: Residential Development (up to 120 dwellings), associated works including infrastructure, open space and landscaping. Vehicular access from Fiddington Lane

LOCATION: Parcel 5558, Road from Natton To Homedowns, Ashchurch

GRID REF: 392552 232586

COUNCIL AGREED it wished to participate in the public inquiry and would submit objections referencing:

- ARPC objections to duplicate planning application 22/01320/OUT, including the independent traffic analysis report commissioned by ARPC named 'Land off Fiddington Lane Transport Objection'.
- Further objections on grounds of traffic, dangers of railway crossing and loss of amenity.
- The Parish will resist options which close the existing crossing and / or any re-route of the Gloucestershire Way which uses the lanes in Natton and Fiddington.

25.9.2023.12 To consider the Hedgehogs R Us Highway Project and agree actions

COUNCIL AGREED Clerk to research similar projects. To be added to agenda for October ARPC meeting.

25.9.2023.13 To discuss pedestrian path through Barleyfields green space to link with PROW and A46 near care home and agree actions

Clerk confirmed correspondence was sent to National Highways and was awaiting response. **COUNCIL AGREED** to continue liaising with County Councillor V. Smith and contact Highways again. To be added to agenda for October ARPC meeting.

25.9.2023.14 To consider Tewkesbury Borough Council's draft Taxi and Private Hire Licensing Policy consultation and agree actions

COUNCIL AGREED not to make a comment.

25.9.2023.15 To consider an informal brainstorming meeting and agree actions

COUNCIL AGREED to defer this item. To be added to agenda for October ARPC meeting.

25.9.2023.16 To consider expenditure items for S106 and CIL monies and agree actions

Clerk confirmed awaiting confirmation from TBC regarding CIL and S.106 fund availability. **COUNCIL AGREED** to add to agenda for October ARPC meeting.

- 25.9.2023.17 **To receive an update on the Neighbourhood Development Plan review and agree actions**
COUNCIL AGREED to defer this item. To be added to agenda for October ARPC meeting.
- 25.9.2023.18 **To receive an update on the Garden Town agree actions**
COUNCIL PROVIDED update on recent Garden Town Gateway meeting and confirmed TBC would hold a pop-up event in Tewkesbury to gather feedback from wider community / residents.
COUNCIL AGREED two separate meetings were also required; one for ARPC council and one for ARPC residents to engage with ARPC Councillors.
- 25.9.2023.19 **To receive an update on Highway matters and agree actions**
Clerk confirmed ARPC was not contacted during a stakeholder engagement survey regarding the A46 solution. **COUNCIL AGREED** Clerk to request ARPC is added as a stakeholder.
- 25.9.2023.20 **To receive an update from community engagement activities (Welcome Tuesdays, Facebook etc) and agree actions**
Clerk confirmed a new ARPC Facebook group had been set up for better community communications.
- 25.9.2023.21 **To note agenda items for the next Parish Council Meeting**
- Consider GCC 's delay to approve / sign the Road Safety Policy and it's impact on ability to change speed limits from 30mph to 20mph.
 - To consider the safety of the junction between the B4079 and Pamington.
 - To consider Neighbourhood Watch and Community Speedwatch signage installation
 - To consider purchase of speed gun and / or camera to enable further Community Speedwatch sessions
 - To consider ARPC administration referencing

Date of next meeting: 16th October 2023

Meeting Closed at 9.15pm

APPENDIX A

**Ashchurch Rural Parish Council
Financial Report
25 September 2023**

Payments made since last meeting on 21.8.23	Details	Total
Ashchurch Village Hall	Inv. 09/ARPC - Room Hire June and July 23	136.00
New Docs Ltd.	Inv. 1609 - Room Hire Oct. to Dec.	214.20
Jaydee Living Ltd	Inv. 15954 - Bin	163.14
		513.34
Payment List for authorisation on 25.9.23		
J K Owen	Clerk's expenses August 23	36.33
L Beech	Assistant Clerk's expenses August 23	28.20
O2	Mobile phones - September 23	14.06
Microsoft Apps	Monthly fee	9.48
Jeremy Brookes	Inv. 2217- September 23 Grounds Maintenance	1245.00
	(To be deducted from bank account balance below)	1333.07
Receipts since last meeting on 17.7.23		
No receipts		0.00
Bank account balances at 31.7.23		
Current Account	As per Bank Reconciliation No. 76	38772.44
Deposit Account	As per Bank Reconciliation No. 28 - no further transactions	22135.40
	Closing balance at Unity Trust Bank	60907.84

Signed Date
Chairman, T. Davies

The draft minutes will be approved at the next Parish Council Meeting.