

**Minutes of the
Askerswell Parish Meeting
held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on 19th October 2016**

Present: Mr H. J. Atkinson Chair
Mrs M. J. Barrett Clerk

In attendance: 32 Electors

Cllr M Roberts WDDC
Cllr R Coatsworth DCC

Item 21/16: Chair's Opening Remarks

The Chair opened the meeting by welcoming everyone, reminded people of the fire exit should the need arise, and saying that it was good to see so many attendees.

Item 22/16: Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from:-

Mr John Mahoney (DC)	PCSO Dave Ash	Mrs Pat Atkinson
Mrs Lara Aintree	Mr Nigel Guard	Mr Neil Reypert
Mr Vincent Sheppard	M/s Janet Thomasson	Mr Cecil Whichelo
Mrs Doris Whichelo	Mrs Jessamy Wilsdon	

(11 Persons)

Item 23/16: Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on the 27th April 2016, were agreed by those present as being a representative record of that meeting.

Acceptance of the minutes was proposed by Mr Richard Hobbs and seconded by Mr Ian Russell. The Minutes were then duly signed by the Chair.

Item 24/16: Matters Arising

There were no matters arising that were not being dealt with elsewhere on the agenda

Item 25/16: Correspondence and Electronic Communications

The Clerk confirmed that there were no communications requiring attention that were not scheduled to be dealt with within the meeting's agenda.

Item 26/16: Planning Matters

The Clerk stated that two decisions had been received on the applications that were referred to the Parish for comments.

Re the Extension to listed building at Hembury Mill – Both planning and listed building consent were refused on 26th August 2016.

Re the Internal & External alterations, demolition and rebuilding of entrance porch at Court House – Both planning and listed building consent approved 31st August 2016.

Item 27/16: Highway Matters

The collapse of the road between Matravers and Uploders – the Chair reported that he had heard from Highways and that there were delays as the slip that occurred was on private land which was supporting the road. Also the Environmental Agency has stated that no work is permissible between November and April so it is unlikely that anything will be resolved soon. The council may also see if re-routing the road is a possibility.

The Chair reported that the refuse collectors had raised an issue concerning over-hanging trees over the carriageways. Leaves and branches must be a minimum of 5.2m above the carriageway. He reminded the meeting that if there is an issue, the Highways may cut branches and recover the cost from the tree owner.

The finger post in the square, which is no longer the responsibility of the Highways, has been repaired and the railings along the river have been repainted. The Chair thanked those who had helped him do this.

Item 28/16: Financial Report

Since the last meeting, the Parish Annual Return had been reviewed by both Alan Glenn, the Local Independent Auditor and also externally by the accounting group BDO and these have now been signed off. This return is now available for anyone from the parish who wishes to see it.

The Clerk then went on to review the accounts information (as set out below) giving a breakdown of the expenditure to date and the Chair then explained what expenditure the parish may expect until the end of the financial year. This included the removal of some dead trees at Washingpool; the replacement of posts near the telephone box; extra bulbs to plant around the village; fixings for the Best Village Award; replacing the Roundel on the finger post and painting the telephone box – total amounting to approximately £400. As noted in the April minutes £400 will be given to both the PCC for the upkeep of the churchyard and the village hall. The Clerk would like to ensure that there is a carry forward figure of approximately £700 to hold as a contingency at the end of the financial year so if the anticipated expenditure is less than expected, an extra payment will be made to the PCC and village hall.

The precept for 2017/18 was discussed and it was proposed by Mr Alan Glenn and seconded by Mr Richard Hobbs that the precept be kept at £1800. This was carried unanimously.

Askerswell Parish Meeting

Interim Accounts for the Period
1st April 2016 - 19th October 2016

<u>Receipts</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£	£
Balance b/f	639.32	Insurance		150.78
Dorset County Council	108.00	DAPTC		31.32
April Precept	900.00	Repairs & Maintenance		
September Precept	900.00	Washingpool	57.82	
		Parish	<u>72.95</u>	130.77
		IT resources		110.91
		Mowing of Washingpool		125.00
		Balance c/f		1998.54
	<u>2547.32</u>			<u>2547.32</u>

Item 29/16: DCC & WDDC matters

29/16/1 DCC Report

Cllr Coatsworth, who was unfortunately not present at the start of the meeting, mentioned that the issue with the road between Matravers and Uploders was who was going to pay for the repairs. Electors stressed that there is now no alternative route to get to Bridport. To cross the A35 is particularly dangerous when it is foggy.

29/16/2 WDDC Report

Cllr Roberts again talked about the re-organisation of both the district and county councils in the near future. Consultation is now taking place. Cllr Roberts also mentioned that the Local Plan is slightly at risk as the housing supply has dropped to below 5% and the council will be looking for more areas, mainly around the towns in which to allow building.

Item 30/16: Local Reports.

30/16/1 PCSO David Ash

PCSO Ash sent a report stating that there had been no crimes in Askerswell since the last meeting and that he continues to attend the Community Coffee Mornings when people can discuss any issues with him. He also reported that due to staff reallocation there will be a different officer responsible for Askerswell in the near future.

30/16/2 Homewatch

Mrs Veronica Sheppard asked that people be reminded to be very aware of internet and telephone fraud and to be very vigilant.

13/16/3 Washingpool Green

The Chair thanked all the volunteers for the grass cutting and strimming that had been done over the summer. More sedges had been cleared from the pond; the drain by the entrance to the playing field had been improved; butterfly friendly plants had been grown – thanks to Mrs Doris Whichelo. He also mentioned that the ditch from the stile was needed to reduce the amount of water that builds up around the seat. Finally he asked for volunteers to cut /clear the area to the East of the path early next year to encourage grass to grow to enable that area to be mowed in future. Graham Hall and Antony Wilsdon volunteered to help the Chair trim the hedging between Washingpool Green and Stonebridge. Mr Ian Russell thanked the Chair for all his hard work with Washingpool.

30/16/4 Rights of Way

Mrs Liz Guard reported that she and Mr Nigel Guard were continuing to walk the paths around the village checking accessibility and signage and to date there was nothing that needed attention. They would like to stand down from this role in the near future and Mr Antony Wilsdon volunteered to take on this role. He will liaise with the Guards as to the duties.

30/16/5 Askerswell Good Neighbour Scheme

Mr Godfrey Lancashire again reported that the scheme was continuing to work well and is able to support the community where needed. He thanked the team of volunteers and co-ordinators.

30/16/6 Eggardon OPEC

Mrs Gill Evans reported that she had heard of no problems with the scheme. Information about oil tanks had been sent out to members, if anyone had not received this information they were to contact her.

30/16/7 Parish Lands

The Clerk reported that the Autumn meeting was held on Monday 17th October and that the Annual returns had been submitted to Charity Commission. The current bank balances are Fuel Allotment £170.10, and the Gravel Allotment £170.09. Although there is no planned expenditure at present, it had been agreed that no distribution of the funds would be made at present as there may be a need to maintain the two areas in the future.

30/16/8 Village Hall

In Mrs Jessamy Wilsdon's absence the Clerk gave a short report on the improvements that the hall hopes to make over the coming months. It was also reported that the village had won the Best Small Village competition this year and thanks were expressed to all who had helped enhance our village. There was some discussion as to what the £200 prize money could be spent on in the village and the Chair asked that any suggestions should be given to Mrs Wilsdon. The plaque is to be attached to the finger post.

13/16/9 Public Transportation

Mr Alan Glenn reported that the only bus service, only available at the end of a telephone, has been withdrawn. The services along the main road now are on the winter timetable which continues until Easter.

30/16/10 Super-Fast Broadband

The Chair reported, in Mr Mahoney's absence, that Askerswell is to get super-fast broadband in 2017 and that a summary of the update had been displayed on the village notice-board. Thanks were expressed to Mr Mahoney, along with the Chair, Mr Russell and Sir Oliver Letwin MP for all their hard work on the villagers behalf.

30/16/11 Askerswell Church Tower Project

Mr Godfrey Lancashire reported that plans had now been approved and had gone out to tender and it is hoped work may start in December. The church plan to launch an appeal for help to fund the project.

30/16/12 Askerswell Village Calendar

The Chair reported that entries had been judged and the final results were shown at the meeting. He thanked the assessors for their selection of images. Orders could be made on the forms available at the meeting. Discussions then took place as to the subjects for the 2018 calendar. It was decided that the topic would be 'Old Views of Askerswell'. Anyone with old photos should contact the Chair.

Item 31/16: Askerswell Village Website

The new website was shown to the meeting. The Chair expressed thanks to the designer and to Mrs Mandy Hall who was the website editor and then went through the sections of the site. All additions should be given to Mrs Hall. As the website is not available through a 'google' search the 'address' was given out at the meeting. The website will run for three years and will then be reviewed.

Item 32/16: Askerswell Neighbourhood Plan Report

The Chair thanked everyone who attended the drop-in event in June. The draft report has now been seen and approved by the Forum with minor amendments. One outstanding issue is precise positioning of the Defined Development Boundary. Various documents are required for submission. The aim is to have everything ready for the 1st draft circulation to the parishioners by early 2017 once outstanding issues have been resolved. Another Café Scientifique is being held in February to help fund the plan.

Item 33/16: Electronic distribution of Planning Applications

The Chair reported that, in the near future, paper copies of planning application sent to the village for their views will no longer be issued. Planning application relating to the village will therefore be shown in the village hall using the LCD projector and the link to WDDC will be always be given on notification of the meeting. This link will also be added to the village website.

Item 34/16: New cutting into Burrywells

To date 15 parishioners had expressed concern to the Chair about the opening. The Chair had written to WDDC Planning Department and Highways to determine if permission was required or had been obtained. Highways had responded and a copy of the letter was distributed to those at the meeting. Burrywells is an unnumbered classified road and so vehicular access does require Highway consent. No Highways offence is committed if it is not used unless mud etc accrues on to the road. Further discussion ensued and it was agreed that if anyone wanted to contact WDDC directly they should do so.

Item 35/16: Any Other Business

35/16/1 Road Safety

After some discussion it was felt any signs etc to reduce speed through the village would urbanise the village which is not wanted. It was felt that the owners of the holiday cottages that open straight onto Nallers Lane be asked to make clients aware of the dangers.

35/16/2 Volunteer to paint the telephone box

The Chair asked for names of people willing to spend some time preparing and painting the telephone box. Sufficient volunteers were identified.

35/16/3 Sandbags

It was agreed that some of the sandbags being held at Medway Farm should be moved closer to where there may be risk of flooding. Mr Ian Russell agreed to house another 12 bags in his barn at Medway House. The Chair will arrange for these to be delivered.

35/16/4 Grit Boxes

These will be topped up if necessary by the council. There is a need to ensure that areas around them are clear.

Item 20/16: Date and time of next Parish Meetings

The Parish Meetings in 2017 will take place on Wednesday 19th April and Wednesday 25th October, 7.30pm in the village hall.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 9.20pm.