**ASHREIGNEY PARISH COUNCIL.**

A meeting of Ashreigney Parish Council was held on Tuesday, 26th November 2019 commencing at 7.30pm in Ashreigney Village Hall.

1. Chairman’s welcome: The Chairman, Mr. Hellyer, welcomed the following Parish Councillors to the meeting:

Dr. Kirkup, Mrs. Tillyer, Mr. Cole, Mr. Johns, Mr. P. Middleton and Mr. Parfitt. There were no members of the Parish present.

1. Apologies: Apologies were offered from County Councillor Saywell, District Councillor Newton, Mr. S. Middleton and Mr. Thorne.
2. Public Question Time: There was no PQT.
3. Minutes: The minutes of the meeting held in September 2019 had been circulated prior to the meeting. (Copies were also available for Councillor’s convenience). A minor amendment was made to the draft version, as indicated by the Clerk, and the minutes were duly approved by Councillors. The Chairman signed the filed copy.

Minutes had also been circulated for the meeting held in October 2019. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss to planning applications as well as finalise the Annual S137 Grants. These minutes were also approved and signed by the Chairman as an accurate record of events.

1. Matters arising: The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had been held with Daryl Jagger, from the Highways Department. Mr. Thorne had also attended the meeting which had been productive and useful to both parties. A comprehensive list of defective road surfaces etc within the Parish had been compiled for Mr. Jagger who advised that the issues would be addressed in order of priority.

Play Area: It was agreed that the Play Area is proving to be a great success. Safety fencing was discussed, and Councillors were in favour of speaking to TK Play, the Contractors regarding the matter. Signage was discussed – the Clerk to look into relevant signs and costs.

Mr. Johns confirmed that he had looked at the defibrillator in Ashreigney and checked the machine and replaced the batteries. All appeared to be well. The defibrillator at Riddlecombe had also been checked, and Mr. Johns requested that replacement supplies be ordered for that machine.

1. Correspondence: It was reported that the Community Garden appears to be untidy and some areas unkempt.

A draft copy of the revised Village Hall Constitution had been sent to the Parish Council. Councillors had been forwarded a copy of the document, for their information. This was discussed in full in Item 7.

1. Ashreigney Village Hall - Draft Constitution: The revised constitution document was discussed at length by Councillors and it was agreed that the earlier document was due to be updated. It was pointed out that the Charity status of the Village Hall has been adapted/changed and this combined with the revised Constitution will offer protection to the Village Hall Trustees.

The Parish Council have been invited to be represented as Trustees, together with other regular users of the Village Hall. Councillors were unanimous that the Parish Council should a) be represented as Trustees and b) also have the right to vote. Councillors discussed electing a representative to attend Village Hall meetings on behalf of the Parish Council, as well as considering operating a rotational system. (Rotating Representatives had been discussed with the Village Hall Committee at an earlier stage). It was agreed that a single representative would be the preferred choice. Councillors were clear in their discussions that the Village Hall, and School House, are Parish assets and the management Committee requires strong support from all organisations in the Parish. It was suggested at this point that a Parish Councillor should be included as one of the three ‘named or lead’ Trustees.

The Village Hall Committee are holding a meeting on Monday, 2nd December to discuss the Constitution. The Clerk requested that a representative from the Parish Council attend. However, Councillors expressed their concerns that the meeting was to be held at a private property rather than in a public place. Councillors requested that the Clerk respond to the Village Hall Committee confirming that the Parish Council are pleased to be represented at Village Hall meetings, but consider that meetings should be held in the Village Hall.

1. Financials: The Clerk thanked everyone for attending the October meeting, which was an open meeting with the DAAT attending. The event was well supported by Parishioners and donations totalling £110 were made for the DAAT. (A cheque was issued to make payment. Cheque 705 - £110).

Numerous invoices were due to be paid, as follows:

Mr. C. Herniman: Payment of £44 – non P3 work. Payment proposed by Mr. Johns and seconded by Mr. Cole. (699).

Mr. C. Herniman: Payment of £120 – P3 work. Payment proposed by Mr. Johns and seconded by Mr. Cole. (700).

Mr. C. Herniman: Payment of £32 – hedge trimming etc at The School House for play area install. Proposed by Mrs. Tillyer and seconded by Mr. Parfitt. (701).

Mrs. D. Johns: Payment of £55 – Internal audit of Parish Council accounts. Payment proposed by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. P. Middleton. (702).

TK Play: Payment of £300 - Supply and install of guttering etc in connection with install of play area. Payment proposed by Mrs. Tillyer and seconded by Mr. Parfitt. (703).

TK Play: Payment of £34156.80p - Supply and install of play area at Ashreigney. Payment proposed by Mr. Cole and seconded by Mr. Parfitt. (704).

Community First: Payment of £136.45p – Additional insurance premium to allow for increased cover. Payment proposed by Mrs. Tillyer and seconded by Mr. Johns. (706).

Mr. Gilbert: Payment of £50.00 – Additional costs of Village Green maintenance. Payment proposed by Mr. Parfitt and seconded by Mr. P. Middleton. (707).

The Clerk confirmed that the Grant Application submitted to Coastal Waste has been approved, subject to conditions.

1. Christmas lunch: The Clerk confirmed that arrangements are in hand for the Christmas lunch. The Clerk is to order the meat etc and liase with volunteers prior to the event.

Mr. Johns and Mr. Parfitt agreed to be on the door on the day. Tickets were available for Councillors to sell. It was confirmed that proceeds will be divided between DAAT and North Devon Hospice. It was suggested that if the weather is suitable the Play Area could be officially ‘opened’ at the Christmas lunch, particularly as Mrs. Hillier – our previous Chairman - will be at the function.

1. Report from the Village Hall Steering Group: The Clerk confirmed that information from the completed surveys is being collated.
2. County Councillor’s report – No report.
3. District Councillor’s report - No report.
4. Matters to be carried forward – None.
5. Date of next meeting – Tuesday 7th January at 7.30.

The Chairman thanked Councillors for their attendance, and declared the meeting closed at 9.25pm.