

ASHBURNHAM & PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the special meeting held on Thursday 19th January 1998 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. All Councillors and Mrs Miers, District Councillor, were present. One member of the public, Mr M. Wallace, attended.

2. Outstanding Planning Matters

RR/97/2610/2612 Rocks Farm. Extension to kitchen. There were no objections to this application

RR/97/2638 Rocks Farm. Erection of detached Greenhouse / Conservatory. There were no objections to this application other than to insure that it does not impede the path of walkers on the designated footpath.

RR/97/2583. Ashbourne. Erection of mobile home to serve an agricultural unit.

The ADAS report had been received and had been circulated among the Councillors. The Parish Council discussed issues concerning this application.;

The ventilation of the poultry units was manual. If automatic vents were installed it would invalidate the regulation which permits a person living on site

No mention was made of how the waste manure from the poultry units would be disposed of and no costing was included in the budget

There is a house for sale, Springfield, close to the property that would be suitable for both living and working on the premises

No provision is made for poultry feed storage.

Mr M. Wallace, invited by the Chairman to express his comments, agreed with the afore mentioned comments adding that the barn at Ashbourne would need considerable work done to convert it for egg packing etc. Mr Wallace added that no mention of this was in the budget plan; that the barn was too near to Peans Farm house to comply with planning regulations, ~~80-90~~ yards. How would the area be fenced bearing in mind the footpath passing through Ashbourne?

The Council decided to adjourn until 3rd February 98 to enable further investigations to take place.

3. A precept of £2,700 was agreed.

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Ray Wallace
Feb 3 1998

ASHBURNHAM & PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Thursday 3rd February 1998 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. All Councillors were present. District Councillor Mrs Miers attended and also one member of the public, Mrs D. Wallis, was present.
2. The minutes of the last meeting were approved and signed by the Chairman.
3. Matters arising:
 - 3.1 Highways. The Highways Department had effected good repairs to the A271 by Deer Park which the Parish Council agreed were very welcome. Water on the road by the Old Chapel was reported by Councillor E. White and the Clerk was instructed to inform the Highways Department of this.
 - 3.2 Housing. Councillor R. White reported that Hyde Housing had not actually agreed to provide a car park for the Village Hall.
 - 3.3 Ashbourne. Councillor R. White also reported having spoken to Mr Rowland saying that Rother would not approve plans for a mobile home on that site. He further said that having consulted the Editor of "Poultry World" he felt the costings in Mr Rowland's report were underestimated. He was advised that £14.61 per bird was more realistic. District Councillor Mrs Miers said that a similar application was on-going at Hurst Green, that Rother had retained a QC and that this could be a test case. Councillor R. White also felt that organic food for free range poultry was very expensive, making this proposal uneconomic. Councillor Harman reported that the Barn on this land was only ever used as loose shelter, ie winter shelter only. District Councillor Mrs Miers said that Springfield was for sales but Mr Webb had said that it was beyond his means. Concern was expressed by several Councillors regarding the footpath across Ashbourne's land but Mr Webb had to manage the land without obstructing the footpath. Mrs D. Wallis, a member of the public, expressed concern at the means by which vermin and predators would be controlled.
 - 3.5 Ponts Green Wood. District Councillor Mrs Miers reported that Mr Bouchier has not as yet put anything in writing to Rother District Council. The enforcement order had been served.
4. New Planning Matter
The Old Forge, Ponts Green. All Councillors agreed that they approved of the submitted plans for a two-bedroom dwelling, which would considerably improve this area and they supported this application.
5. Finance
There was one cheque to be signed - £20.00 for petty cash - and one payment £130.00 received from the Cricket Club.
6. Any Other Business.
Councillor R. White said he felt that the rent for the Cricket Club should be reviewed when the facilities were improved. He also thought that if the ground were enlarged to enable more sports to be played grants would be easier to obtain. Mr Leonard, Rother's Leisure Officer, was to be approached to discuss whether part-funding could be agreed with Rother District Council.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 8.30pm.

ASHBURNHAM & PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday 7th April 1998 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrew and Baker. All other members of the Parish Council were present, together with District Councillor Mrs Miers.
2. The minutes of the last meeting held on 3rd February 1998 were approved and signed by the Chairman.
3. Matters arising
 - 3.1 Highways. The Chairman reported that the Highways Department had agreed that the bridge by the Old Chapel did need repairing and that this would be done in due course. They were also aware of the broken fingerpost at the junction of Penhurst Road and Ponts Green and were effecting a replacement.
 - 3.2 Compass Lane. The Clerk reported that she had spoken to the Highways Department about the water in Compass Lane. They were aware of the problem but felt it would be too expensive to repair.
 - 3.3 Housing. The Chairman reported that Hyde Housing had now purchased the land and hopefully the work would start fairly soon.
4. Planning
 - 4.1 Ponts Green, The Old Forge. This application was refused. The Planning Committee would prefer it to be returned to use for light industry rather than housing.
 - 4.2 RR.98.493 Springfield. Removal of the agricultural restriction. The Parish Council were unanimous that this application should be refused on the grounds that the applicant was in full knowledge of the restrictions on this property at the time of purchase. Councillor F. Akehurst felt that this application, if granted, would set a precedent. Councillor R. Burfoot put forward a report on this application, amalgamating all the relevant points, which the Parish Council agreed to forward to the Planning Committee as their reasons for not supporting this application.
5. Finance
The Clerk reported that cheques had been signed as follows: Water £10.79; Village Hall £10.00; Citizens Advice Bureau £25.00; Battle Victim Support £25.00; Clerk's salary £502.58 (£437.58 salary, £65.00 expenses).
6. Any Other Business
The need for a planning sub-committee was discussed. Councillors felt that the present system was effective and working well within the guidelines.
7. Date of next meeting was set for 12th May 1998.

R. White
May 12 1998

R. White
April 1998

ASHBURNHAM & PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on Tuesday 12th May 1998 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. Councillor R White was elected Chairman, proposed by Councillor Mrs Andrew and seconded by Councillor Akehurst. Councillor E White was elected Vice Chairman, proposed by Councillor Burfoot and seconded by Councillor Harman
2. Apologies were received from County Councillor Mrs Field and District Councillor Mrs Miers. All Councillors were present together with nine members of the public.
3. Minutes of the last meeting, held on 7th April 1998 were approved and signed as correct.
4. Matters Arising
 - 4.1 Highways. Compass Lane. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Clerk of Ninfield Parish Council to ascertain whether together we could ask the County Council to repair the road.
 - 4.2 Housing. The Chairman reported that the first works to be undertaken would be drainage etc. The Clerk was instructed to place a note in the Parish magazine informing parishioners whom to contact to apply for the houses
5. New Planning Matters
Court Lodge No objection to an application for renewal of existing planning permission.
6. Finance.

The Chairman gave a brief summary of the financial statement. He also said that approximately £2000 would be donated for the restoration of the Village Hall floor when it was repaired. Mrs Bickersteth, a member of the public, asked whether £100 covered the cost of the upkeep of Penhurst Churchyard. Councillor Burfoot replied that it did indeed cover the costs. Councillor Mrs Andrew expressed thanks to the Clerk for preparation of the accounts. Councillor Baker proposed that the financial statement be taken as correct. The motion was seconded by Councillor Harman and the accounts were duly signed as correct
6. Any Other Business
 - 6.1 Councillor Akehurst asked if there was an estimate for repairing the Village Hall floor. The Chairman said it was approximately £18,000.
 - 6.2 Councillor Baker asked if the Village was planning anything for the Millenium. Other Councillors agreed that a joint meeting could be organised to co-ordinate plans with the Church.
 - 6.3 The Clerk expressed concern at the slow police response time in attending an incident in the Village. The Chairman suggested that Councillors attend the next Police Consultative Committee and make their feelings known
 - 6.4 Councillor E White reported the climbing frame in the Recreation Ground was in need of repair.
 - 6.5 Mrs Bickersteth expressed her concern at the overgrown hedges in the Penhurst Road. The Clerk was instructed to write to the Highways Department regarding the hedge bordering Ashbourne's land and to contact the owner at Potts Green road to cut a little more back on his land
7. Date of Next Meeting. Agreed 30th June 1998.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 8.00pm

R. White
June 30 1998

ASHBURNHAM AND PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on 30th June 1998 at 7.00pm in the Village Hall.

1. All councillors were present. District Councillor Mrs Wendy Miers also attended.
2. The minutes of the last meeting held on the 12th May 1998 were approved and signed as correct.
3. Matters arising
 - Highways. Compass Lane
The clerk reported that she had a conversation with the clerk of Ninfield P.C. who informed her that they had brought the matter to the Highways dept. attention. The road was going to be repaired in stages, due to the financial constraints felt by the Highways Dept. The worst part of the road, where it floods was due to be repaired first.
 - 3.2 Hedges. The clerk reported that the hedges at the Forge and also near Furnace Lane had been visited on site by a member of staff from Highways and action would be taken as soon as ownership of the land concerned had been established.
 - 3.3 Housing. Councillor R. White reported that he had spoken to Mr. Ashdown of Hyde Housing with regard to the start date of the housing project. The contracts were due to be signed by the end of June and if work had not started by due dates penalty clauses would come into effect. Councillor Miers reported that work was due to start during July and finished by March 1999, with residents moving in during April 1999.
Councillor Andrews asked if the materials used for the outside of the development had been seen, as an assurance had been made that the Parish Council would be shown a sample of the materials. It was felt that the wrong materials would be inappropriate in the village.
4. Correspondence. Councillor R. White read a letter he had received from a parishioner, Mr. Elms, who lives adjacent to the new development. He expressed concern that the residents most affected had been the least informed of any progress. Councillor Andrews

agreed that the relevant authorities had not been forthcoming on matters concerning this development. Councillor Burfoot felt that the Parish Council have no previous experience of a Housing project. and therefore could not judge Hyde Housing's performance.

5.1 New Planning Matters.

RR/98/911 REDPALE. Erection of loose boxes and feed store.

5.2 RR/98/943 Listed, Middle Sprays Alter elevation of Lounge windows to French doors and replace existing Georgian style windows to type on plan.

5.3 RR/98/929 REDPALE. Change of use from agricultural to Domestic use for a swimming pool

5.4 RR/98795 SANDROCK COTTAGE Proposed porch

5.5 RR/98/113 The MANOR HOUSE PENHURST. Change of use from single family dwelling to small retreat centre with minor interior alterations. (this did not require listed application as the alterations were interior)

other than concern expressed with regard to extra sewage disposal arrangements at the Manor House.

All the above applicatios had no objections raised.

6.1 Outstanding Planning matters

SPRINGFIELD Penhurst. Removal of agricultural use to domestic use.

Councillor Miers stated that all criteria had been met by this property, it having been offered at a realistic price for the required length of time. However, the planning committee had deferred a decision for 3 months

7. Finance. Two cheques were signed £10.00 Village Hall £5.00 RATPS.

8 A.O.B Councillor R. White had recieved a letter from Ashburnham Christian Trust offering some pre-fabricated buildings no longer needed, for use on the recreation ground. The Parish Council agreed that they should look at this possibility.

Councillor R. White had heard that the Rural Development Fund had agreed to look favourably at help for funding the Village Hall.

There beeing no other Buisness the meeting closed at 7. 55pm

*R. White
Sept 8 1998*

ASHBURNHAM AND PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the special planning meeting held on 04 August 1998 at 8.00pm in the village hall.

1 All councillors were present except Mrs. J. Andrews who was on holiday.

2 Outstanding planning matter. SPRINGFIELD Penhurst RR/98/493 Removal of agricultural restriction.

Councillor F. Akehurst opened the discussion by commenting that he felt agricultural restrictions were being more readily lifted nowadays.

Councillor R. White wondered if these restrictions are contrary to European Law and perhaps this was a consideration of the District Council. He also felt that although the Parish Council was opposed to this application, it was, however a lost cause.

All members present agreed that the submission proposed by Councillor R. Burfoot should be sent to all members of the District Planning Committee. This submission is filed with the copy of the planning application.

3. The Chairman read a letter from Hyde Housing stating that work had not yet started on the site as information needed from the contractors had not been recieved, a new site meeting has been arranged for 12th July 1998.

The date of the next Parish Council meeting was agreed for the 08 September 1998.

The meeting closed at 7.45pm.

*R. White
Sept 8, 1998*

ASHBURNHAM AND PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on the 19th August 1998 at 8.00pm in the Village Hall.

This meeting was called to discuss two planning applications.

1 Apologies were received from Councillor Akehurst and Councillor Burfoot.

2 Application RR/98/1557 Redpale Farm Bodle Street Erection of a single storey conservatory

Councillor R.White pointed out that in his opinion the P.V.C material proposed was not suitable for a listed building. Also, that the design of the conservatory was unsuitable for this site

The proposed development would be out of character with the listed building to which it relates, and if permitted would not enhance and adversely affect the existing building and its setting.

Councillors J.Andrews, R.White and N.Harmer agreed that the Parish Council should object to this development on the discussed grounds. Councillor E.White abstained. The clerk was instructed to inform Rother Planning Committee.

3 Brownbread Street Horse Rescue. RR/98/1633 Replacement of Barn
No objections to this applications.

4 Hyde Housing.

Councillor R.White read a letter relating to amendments to the one-bedded accommodation. This was to increase the mobility of a wheelchair. Also, the wording of a signboard to be erected on the site. It would read, A development of affordable houses for Rent and Sale in association with Ashburnham and Penhurst Parish Council.

The third point related to the Parish Council's input into the selection of the external materials.

The Chairman agreed to write to the Housing Association agreeing to the first two points and to re-affirm that the Parish Council would like to be included in any discussions relating to the external materials.

5 Councillor R.White suggested two names for the new development, Akehurst Field or Walters Field. Councillor E.White was asked to see if Mr. W.Akehurst would agree to one of them.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

*R. W. White
Sept. 8 1998*

ASHBURNHAM AND PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting held on the 08th September 1998 in the Village Hall at 7.30pm

1. All councillors were present and District Councillor Mrs. W.Miers attended. Apologies were received from D.C. Mrs K.Field.

2. The minutes of the meeting held on the 04th August were approved and signed as correct.

3. Matters Arising

3.1 NORMANHURST CATSFIELD

The clerk reported that she had spoken to Mr.Searle from the Planning Dept. who informed her that planning permission had been granted for two houses plus the access road to the site which led directly on to the A271. He said the Planning Committee felt that the access was safe for this site.

3.2 HYDE HOUSING

Councillor R.White reported that now construction work had started on the site prospective tenants may like to know how to apply for the tenancy of the houses. A notice is to be put in the Parish Magazine advising people to contact Mr. D.Crosby at Watch Oak Battle tel-- 01424 787500. People already on short tenancy lets would not be barred from applying.

Councillor J.Andrews questioned whether the wall at the back of the car park would stay as it is or be put into contour with a hedge or fence for safety reasons.

Councillor F.Akehurst said that both he and his brother Mr. Walter Akehurst were agreeable to the development being named Akehurst Field. The Council agreed that the clerk should inform the appropriate authority.

3.3 ROCKS FARM

The clerk read a letter from Mr. Searle from Planning regarding the swimming pool under construction at Rocks Farm. The owner had been advised by Mr.Searle's dept that he should submit plans to the planning dept to be considered.

4 Outstanding Planning Matters.

4.1 THE MANOR HOUSE PENHURST RR/98/1193

Planning permission was granted subject to satisfactory sewage disposal arrangements.

4.2 REDPALE BODLE STREET RR/98/989

Planning permission refused swimming pool.

Permission refused

5 New Planning Matters

5.1 BROWNBREAD STREET HORSE RESCUE RR/98/1633

Replacement of barn The Parish council discussed this at the last meeting but asked the clerk to add that they would like the outside material to be of a colour that blended in with the surroundings.

5.2 CHURCH FARM COTTAGES RR/98/1656

A new access No objections

6 CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from Rother D.C. regarding a new scheme STAYING PUT, which is to help elderly or infirm people stay in their own homes by giving advice and assistance. A notice is to be put in the Parish magazine.

7 A.O.B.

Councillor E.White stated that the bridle path at Rocks Farm had been diverted. The Chairman agreed to speak to Mrs.Moult regarding the question of whether path users are insured if they are diverted from the original path.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

*R. W. White
NW. 17/98*

ASHBURNHAM AND PENHURST PARISH COUNCIL.

Minutes of the meeting held on the 17th November 1998 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall.

1. All councillors were present and District Councillor Mrs W. Miers attended. Apologies were received from Mrs. K Field. One member of the public attended, Mrs.D.Wallis.
2. The minutes of the meeting held on the 8th September 1998 were approved and signed as correct.
3. Matters arising.
Hyde Housing.

Cllr. R.White reported a telephone conversation he had with Mr L Keeley asking if one of the new houses could be used as a shop. The Parish Council agreed that the development was too far advanced for this to be considered.

Cllr. R.White asked Mrs Miers how many names there were on the Housing list. Mrs Miers stated that there were 12 applicants at this time. Cllr.R White asked Mrs Miers if a young married couple would only be offered a one- bedroomed flat, she said that this was so, as any future additions to their family would be speculative. The clerk was asked to put a piece in the Parish magazine reminding parishioners to apply for to be put on the housing list. Mrs Miers asked if the Parish Council were happy with the safety of the site. There was no reports of any concerns.

Cllr.R. White reported that there would be a stone laying ceremony at the site and invitations would be sent to all councillors.

3.2 Rocks Farm Footpath

Cllr.R Burfoot went to look at the area but felt that at present it was too wet to be reinstated. Temporary signs are to be put up advising people to where to walk. Cllr.C.Baker said that the danger was apparent when the gate was opened, as there is a 'mole' track across the gateway and a horse could hurt its leg in the track and so, where did liability lie. Cllr R.White has spoken to Mrs Moulton regarding this matter and she felt that the landowner should try to legally divert the path. Cllr. W.Miers reported that Mr Abbott-Wilcox has appealed against the refusal of planning permission for a kitchen extension.

4 Outstanding Planning matters.

4.1 Brownbread Street Horse Rescue. Replacement of Barn RR98/1633

This application was refused. D.Cllr W.Miers commented that further application might be negotiated as the barn on the proposed plan was too big.

4.2 Church Farm Cottages. New access Granted.

5 New planning 5.1 Ashbourne Erection of fishing cabins. RR98/2309

Cllr. R.White asked Mrs.D.Wallis to comment. She felt that this application was at odds with the deposition with regard to the 1066 walk. D.Cllr. W.Miers felt that the cabins were NEW buildings in the countryside and as such would not be permitted. Mrs Wallis asked if the planning inspectors could be misled re. the tourism aspect. Cllr. Burfoot read out some notes he had made which were that this application should be refused because a) it was not in accordance with local development plan with regard to tourist accommodation within the development boundaries.

b) The plan ensures that tourist development must be carefully controlled in this area, also this site is in ancient woodland. c) There is already adequate accommodation available in the area.

The Parish Council agreed to oppose this application on the afore mentioned grounds.

5.2 Keepers Cottage RR98/2276 extension of existing garage. No objections.

5.3 Redpale RR 98/2256 Loose boxes and cart shed

The Council had no objection other than that it was outside the curtilidge of the property and should be tied to the present property with regard to any future planning proposals.

5.4 Redpale RR98/2273 A conservatory

Cllr.R.Burfoot felt that this was still out of character with the building to which it relates and would adversely affect the building and suggested a Summer house would be more appropriate. Cllr.

C.Baker felt that this application was appropriate. The majority of the council voted to object to this application.

6 Playing Field

Cllr.R.White stated that the Cricket Club had reminded him of the desperate state of the pavillion and at the millenium meeting a suggestion was put forward that a new pavillion could be a project for the millenium. The Cricket Club would like the Portacabins offered by Ashburnham Place to be installed as a temporary measure. Cllr R.White felt that this should be done as the present building was unsafe. Cllr N.Harmer asked if any costings had been done. Cllr.R.White said that it would cost £150.00 for the hire of a crane and £1500.---£2000 for the roof. Cllr R.Burfoot felt that the Parish Council should do this. DCllr. W.Miers stated that it would need planning permission. The Council agreed to the temporary arrangement subject to planning permission.

7 Finance 3 cheques were signed £150.00 --Upkeep of the playing field.

£100.00 PPCC Upkeep of the churchyard.

£ 12.75 Remembrance wreath

8 A.O.B.

DCllr. W.Miers informed the council that Mountfiel P.C. was trying to organise a Rural bus service that would serve the local villages and how many parishioners would be interested in this project.

The PC. felt that only 6--10 people would use this service.

9 The date of the next meeting would be 19 JANUARY 1999

Ray White
Jan 19 '99