ASHAMPSTEAD PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held in the Jubilee Hall, Ashampstead on Monday 8th September 2025 at 6.30pm

Present: Councillors A. Dick (Vice Chair), G Light and J Goodman

In Attendance: Jean Lindsell (Clerk/RFO), Cllr Laura Coyle (WBC) and 1 member of the public

Cllr Dick chaired the meeting in the Chair's absence.

1. **Apologies:** Cllr Fisken

2. **Declarations of interest:** None declared

3. **Open Session:** to receive questions or comments from members of the public regarding items on the agenda

   Item 14 – SID/SDR Surveys brought forward to allow member of the public to speak
   All Councillors had reviewed the data collected from the Speed Detection Radar devices installed by WBC following the loss of all data collected by the SIDs during the surveys carried out by the MOP and were disappointed that the results did not show a higher volume of speeding vehicles.
   The Clerk advised WBC had agreed to install SDR devices again should the Council wish to collect more data.
   The MOP felt that the problem was the environment as the village appeared quiet the majority of the time and felt that the current speed limit of 30mph was still too fast especially as there are no pavements at the crossroads making it dangerous for residents trying to cross the road.
   Cllr Coyle advised that evidence and demand from residents would be required before a change to a 20mph speed limit would be considered.
   Cllr Coyle confirmed the on site meeting with the WBC Highways Officer to discuss options to resolve the issues was scheduled for 12th September with Cllr Light, Cllr Goodman and the MOP in attendance.
   The Council agreed to defer any decision regarding the next steps until following the meeting.

4. **Minutes** – to approve the Minutes of the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 14th July 2025
   The Minutes were approved and signed by the Chair.

5. **To discuss any matters arising from the previous meeting –** none raised

6. **District Councillor's Report**
   Cllr Coyle reported on the following:
   Tomb Farm Planning Application – Cllr Coyle has called in this application to the Committee if it is approved by the Case Officer.
   Reading Borough Council Great Reading Proposal – there are consultations scheduled to give residents an opportunity to raise questions regarding RBC's proposal suggesting that the eastern parishes of Calcot, Tilehurst. Theale and Pangbourne should form part of a Greater Reading Council.
   WBC strongly objects to this proposal in particular relating to Theale and Pangbourne with the new Ridgeway Council being the preferred option.
   Cllr Coyle added that the proposal for a single unitary authority to include the existing district councils of South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse proposed by Oxfordshire County Council could have an impact on the new Ridgeway Council.

   Cllr Coyle to chase WBC Highways/Volker Highways to collect road closure signage left outside Leyfields.

7. **Members Bid** – to consider submitting an application for village information board
Councillors selected the information board supplied by NBB Recycled Furniture.
The Clerk advised that the cost of the A1 board was currently £505+VAT and there were earmarked reserves for this project of £350 which would cover the 30% match funding required.
It was resolved to submit a Members Bid application.
Clerk to complete application.

8. **To review requirements of 2025/26 AGAR new Assertion 10 on digital and data compliance and adopt IT Policy**
All Councillors had reviewed the details of Assertion 10 and the table of actions required to ensure compliance presented by the Clerk and agreed the following:
- Only council owned email addresses to be used for council business
- Review of council's website to ensure it meets accessibility standards
- Conduct a data audit
- Adopt a council Data Protection Policy (awaiting NALC model document)
- All Councillors and the Clerk should complete data protection training
- Resolved: To adopt the IT Policy

These actions will be monitored at each meeting.

9. **Police Matters**
Cllr Dick advised there had been a burglary at Streatley Hill House when items were stolen from an outbuilding and car and added that his own back gate had been broken open.
Cllr Dick further advised there were hare coursers active in the Ilsleys and Compton areas and on the downs
Cllr Dick urged everyone to update the Ashampstead Crime Group of any suspicious activity no matter what time of day or night it was.
Cllr Dick advised that TVP Pangbourne Neighbourhood Team would be outside Vicars Game on 13th September at 3.30pm for a neighbourhood chat.

10. **Footpaths and Byways**
Nothing to report

11. **Roads**
Nothing to report

12. **Planning**
a) Planning Applications
25/01733/FULMAJ – Tombs Farm, Ashampstead RG8 8SD
For the proposed hospitality use and change in opening hours of Lodge Building, extension of shooting area, retention of temporary facilities building, increased use of existing marquee and resurfacing of overflow car park
Comments submitted to WBC
b) To note the following decisions:
25/01091/HOUSE – 5 Stubbles, Ashampstead RG8 8RP
Demolition of existing extensions and provision of a new two storey side extension and ancillary building to provide home office and gym/studio. Provision of new air source heat pump
Approved
25/01003/HOUSE & 25/01578/LBC – St Clements, Pinfold Lane, Ashampstead RG8 8SH
New ensuite added to existing bedroom; Wood fibre insulation to internal flak wall; Replacement of existing fibre board ceiling with plasterboard; New external wall mounted Soil and Vent Pipe for waste water; Waste water to connect to existing mains; No changes to external elevations; No material changes the existing fabric of the building
Approved
The Council noted the decisions

13. Open Space Review

Cllr Light advised the Oak tree on the recreation ground had been tidied up and ART planned to carry out planting of the open space created.
Cllr Light added the Oak tree at The Old Rectory had been removed.
Oak Tree as Gary's taken done
Clerk to ask Yattendon Estates to carry out the hedge cutting at the recreation ground whilst it is relatively dry to avoid the previous damage caused to the ground.

14. SID/SDR Surveys

See Item 4 -Open Session.

15. Defibrillator/CPR Training

Cllr Goodman advised the training was very good and professionally presented.
The Clerk advised there had been 7 attendees and £30 was collected in donations the majority of which had come from 1 attendee.
Cllr Goodman felt that some attendees might have made an online donation separately.
The Clerk added that as a donation of £10 per attendee was required by the South Central Ambulance Charity the Council's donation would be £40 regarding the August training but the payment would not be made until after the October session when the total donation would be known.
The Clerk further advised there were currently 9 residents booked for the training on 13th October.

Cllr Coyle left the meeting at 7.25pm.

16. Dead/Dying Tree Noakes Hill

The Clerk advised that the resident of Mulberry House had reported a dead tree outside their boundary on land adjacent to Noakes Hill which was leaning towards their property and the electricity cable.
The Clerk had been trying to establish ownership/responsibility to for the strip of land as it is not Yattendon Estates or WBC Highways and shows as unregistered. The Clerk added that further research indicated that the land was "parish/manorial waste" and typically parish councils took responsibility for maintaining such land.
Cllr Dick advised he would look at the tree and advise the Clerk if quotes for removing it should be obtained.

17. Finance

a) To approve finance reports to 31-08-25 reconciled to bank statement
The reports and bank reconciliation were verified, approved and signed by Cllr Goodman.
b) To approve payments as per payment schedule
The payments schedule was approved and signed by the Vice Chair.

18. Items for information or next Agenda only

19. Date of next meeting: Monday 10th November 2025

The meeting closed at 7.40

Signed:	**Position:**	**Date:**

Page Approved by (initials) & date