

A

COLD ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL AGENDA

Wednesday 6th April 2022

A meeting will be held on Wednesday 6th April at 7.30 p.m. in the Sports Pavilion
Councillors are summoned this meeting.
Members of the public and press are invited to attend.

Present: to record the presence of Cold Ashby Parish Councillors, Officers, members of external authorities and others in official attendance at the meeting.

Interests: Members' attention is drawn to the need to disclose pecuniary interests not already registered before any relevant agenda item.

1. **Apologies:** to receive and consider apologies for absence
2. **Minutes:** to approve minutes of the meeting of the Council on the 02 March, 2022
3. **Matters arising:** to note for information only any relevant matter arising from the approved minutes and not covered elsewhere on the agenda
4. **Open forum:** to receive and discuss matters raised by members of the public with councillors since the last meeting.
5. **Accounts:** Members are asked to **approve** the attached accounts and **authorize** the payments contained in them. The accounts in the **first attached annex** contain the final figures for March and therefore 2021-22. These **end of year accounts**, to be approved formally at the annual meeting in May (and see also item 6), will be available for comment and questions. Details of payments and receipts and the April balance are reported in **the second attached annex**. Members are asked **to approve** the items for payment in annex 2 and to approve the end of year accounts as the basis of audit calculations. (See item 7 below).

It is resolved: to approve the end of year accounts for use in audit papers 2020-21.

6. **Annual return to external auditor:** The system of external audit introduced in 2018 allows Councils with an income of less than £25,000, and which is otherwise eligible, to apply for full audit exemption provided a) it publishes its figures and b) members complete and/or confirm two documents, including **a Governance statement and an accounting statement (both in section 2 of the attached audit document.) These statements must be approved in that order.** Following approval, these documents **must** be displayed on the council's website before 1st July 2022. Members are therefore asked **to consider** the information in section 2 and **to approve** the motions below:

It is resolved: to agree to complete the **statement of governance 2021-22** in the manner presented to the meeting (or, in the way amended at the meeting) and to authorise signature by chairman and clerk.

It is resolved that the figures for 2021-22 in the section 2 **statement of accounts** and certified by the clerk represent an accurate statement of the Council's end of year

financial position in 2021-2022 and are approved for use in the new audit system **and can be signed as such by the chairman.**

It is resolved: to agree signature by the chairman of the certificate of audit exemption for 2021-2.

7. **Complaints procedure.** Following the March meeting, the Clerk received an email from a resident concerning the conduct of the council. The clerk investigated the email as a complaint and found it to be without substance. The complainant has been informed of the decision.

The Council's complaints procedure is now almost 10 years old and it would be sensible to review it at the AGM. The Council is asked **to endorse** the actions of the clerk (including the closure of the complaint) and to note the May review.

8. **Black Horse Public House.** Residents continue to express concern (in emails to the chairman and others) about developments at the Black Horse public house and their belief that planning regulations are being ignored or deliberately evaded. Councillors can respond to these concerns in a number of ways, including (but not restricted to):

- Giving residents a voice by relaying their views to other authorities
- Seeking information from other authorities on appropriate steps for residents (or the council) to take
- Making a formal request to the planning authority for enforcement *where it has clear evidence that a breach of planning regulations has occurred or is occurring*

The Council can also make its views known in the local press to counteract any representations of its actions or intentions which it feels are misleading.

Resolution: The council is aware of substantial concerns many residents have expressed about the future of the Black Horse as a public house and the potential loss of an important facility in the village. In response, the council has asked the clerk to undertake the following action(s): (*resolution needed*)

9. **Code of Conduct Training: NCALC** is offering a training course for Councillors on 'The Code of Conduct in Practice' on 28th June at 7-9 p.m. by zoom. Councillors are asked if they wish to attend this course.

10. Verbal reports from other bodies:

11. Post:



Graham Jones 31 March 2022