

Parish Council
21st March 1944

The Annual Parish Meeting was held at the Church House, Long Ashton on Tuesday 21st March 1944, Mr H Jeffries presiding over 10 Councillors, 3 Local Government Electors.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Long Ashton Parochial Charity

Accounts for 1943 were read by the Clerk, they showed an income of £368. 8. 4, Expenditure of £379. 10. 5. a balance of £103. 13. 4 as against £114. 15. 5 the previous year.

Lighting and Watching Act

The estimated balance in hand on this fund for 1942-43 was £26. 12. 5, estimated expenditure for 1944-45 being £37. 18. On the proposition of Mr Ball, seconded by Mr Pearce it was decided the sum of £40 be raised to cover expenses for the year 1944-45. Mr Ball drew the meeting's attention to a case recently decided in the Courts as to payment by Council for electricity during the period of the war, and after discussion Mr Pearce moved, Mr Morrish seconded that no action be taken. Carried.

Parish Council
21st March 1944

A meeting of the Parish Council was held at the close of the Parish Meeting, Mr. Jeffries presiding over the following members, Messrs Ball, Childe, Evans, Knapman, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish, Pearce, Skinner and Yeo.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising out of same

Old People's Welfare Committee

Letter written R. D. Council as directed.

Recreation Ground - Grass

Letter written Mr A. G. Morrish as directed.

Birdwell Road - Subsidence

The Acting District Surveyor wrote 28th December, it would appear the only place where any subsidence, if any, had taken place is outside the Gardeners Arms in the road leading to the "New Buildings". This road however is a private road and not repairable by the inhabitants at large and he regrets therefore being able to do anything in the matter.

Pathway – Forge Cottages

Messrs Panes Bros. Wrote February 25th there were no briars overlapping their wall, and were opinion it was a public way to field. The Rev. H. Knapman proposed a further letter be written Messrs Panes Bros. That as the County Council were no doubt that as the County Council were no doubt short of labour and as it was such a small matter they would see their way to cut the briars. A similar letter being sent Mr Staynings.

War Department – Providence Quarry

Clerk referred to correspondence with the War Department, Southern Command, Bath of the 14th November 1940 and 3rd Jan 1942 as to loop holes in the wall at Providence Quarry and to a recent communication of the 17th March that these defence works were now no longer required and enclosing two forms of claim to be completed. On the proposition of Mr Knapman seconded by Mr Skinner it was decided not to make any claim.

It was decided to serve precept on the Rating Authority for £50 General Expenses and £20 Lighting.

Wall - Providence

It was decided to write the Ashton Court Estate as to the dangerous condition of the wall at Providence on the Weston side of the road between the Robin Hoods Retreat and the Miner's Rest.

Rayens Cross Road

Also as to the very dangerous condition of the lower end of this road.

Recreation Ground

Consent was given to any application that might be made for use of the Recreation Ground by the Committee organising the "Salute of the Soldier" week from May 20th to May 27th.

Next meeting – was fixed for Tuesday 18th April at 7.30pm.

Parish Council
20th April 1944

The Annual Meeting of the Council was held at Church House, Long Ashton, on Thursday 20th April 1943, the following members being present, Messrs Childe, Evans, Knapman, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish, Pearce, Skinner and Yeo.

Apology was received on behalf Mr H Jeffries who was ill.

Chairman

Mr Pearce moved that Mr H Jeffries be re-elected Chairman for the ensuing 12 months seconded by Mr Childe and agreed, and the Clerk instructed to write Mr Jeffries notifying him of his election and expressing the hope he would be well enough to preside over them at the next meeting.

Vice-Chairman

On the proposition of Mr Childe, seconded by Mr Skinner it was agreed that Mr A. G. Morrish be Vice Chairman.

Minutes of the last meeting read and signed.

Arising out of same

Pathway – Forge Cottages

Clerk reported writing Messrs Panes and Staynings and the Council was informed the pathway had cleaned.

War Department – Providence Quarry

Letter received from War Department Southern Command, Bath, 28th March 1944, expressing appreciation of the Council's attitude in making 'no claim' in the matter of loopholes in the wall at Providence Quarry.

Wall - Providence

Letter of the 25th March 1944 from the Ashton Court Estate was read in which Mr Worrall stated the Estate was prepared to be associated with the Council in any action which might tend to abate the nuisance.

It was decided to acknowledge receipt of the reply and to state the Council was desirous, if possible, of avoiding a serious accident taking place; and to seek the assistance of the Police in preventing further damage.

Allotment Committee

Messrs Ball, Childe, Mitchell, Morrish and Yeo were appointed on the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by the Rev. K. Knapman.

Lighting Committee

Mr Morrish moved, Mr Pearce seconded and it was carried that Messers Ball, Childe, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish and Yeo form the Lighting Committee.

Recreation Ground Committee

Mr Morrish proposed, seconded by Mr Yeo that Messrs Childe, Jeffries, Knapman, Mitchell, Skinner and Pearce be Recreation Ground Committee. Carried.

Swann Benefaction

Mr R. E. Milner was re-elected as the Council's representative.

Allotment Lease

The Ashton Court Estate sent Lease 5th May 1938 with the following memorandum endorsed "whereby it is agreed that the term of the within written lease shall be extended for seven years from the 25th March 1944 to the 25th March 1951. The rent reserved and all the conditions of the within lease to remain unaltered".

Same was duly signed by two members of the Council.

Birdwell Road

Mr Childe drew the Council's attention to "chippings" being deposited in this roadway and same was a private road moved the County Council be asked to move same, seconded by Mr Mitchell and carried.

Food Advice Campaign 1944

Messrs Yeo, Skinner and Mitchell were appointed to act as Stewards at an Exhibition on Thursday 27th April from 6 to 8.30.

Dumps in Rayens Cross Road and Leigh Woods

Attention was drawn to the disgraceful state of the two dumps for this in Rayens Cross Road as well as in Leigh Woods.

Clerk instructed to write stating this Council was fully aware the steps the Rural District Council had and were taking in this matter,

but would they communicate with the Ministry responsible with a view to expediting the removal of these unsightly dumps. That notices as to the non depositing of this had disappearance and would they replace them.

Recreation Ground

Left to Mr Pearce to notify the Clerk as to cutting the grass before the "Salute the Soldier" week.

Grass Allotment

Messrs Yeo and Childe to inspect and report.

Date of next meeting – fixed for 20th June at 7.30pm.

Parish Council
20th June 1944

The quarterly meeting of the parish council was held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Tuesday 20th June 1944, the following members being present, Messrs Ball, Childe, Milner, Mitchell, Morrish, Skinner and Yeo.

Apology for inability to attend was received from Mr. Pearce.

Owing to the death of Mr H. Jeffries the Chairman, Mr G. E. Childe moved the election of Mr A. G. Morrish as Chairman for the current year, seconded by the Rec. H. Knapman and carried. Mr Morrish on taking the chair thanked the members for the confidence placed in him and said he would endeavour to do his best for the Council and parish. He spoke at some length as to the services rendered to the parish and Council by their late Chairman, who he understood has been a member since 1898, and Chairman since 1921. As a tribute to his memory and the esteem in which he was held, Mr Morrish asked the members to stand for a moment or two.

Vice Chairman

Mr O. J. Ball was nominated as Vice Chairman on the proposition of the Rev. H Knapman seconded by the Chairman and unanimously carried.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising therefrom

Wall - Providence

Clerk reported writing Ashton Court Estate and the Police on this matter.

Allotment Lease

Lease of the 5th May 1938 with an endorsement renewing same for another 7 years to 1951 and signed by the Hon. Mme. Esme Smyth was produced.

Birdwell Road

Letter of the 28th April 1944 from the Acting District Surveyor stating the "chippings" deposited in Birdwell Road belonged to Mr.

D. Barnes of 26 Birdwell Road who had promised to remove same as soon as possible, was read.

Dumps in Rayens Cross Road and Leigh Woods

Clerk reported receipt of letter of the 28th April from the Clerk R. D. Council as to this matter and it was stated the dumps had been cleared of this.

Grass allotments

The matter of fences of grass allotments in Wild Country Lane was referred to Allotment Committee to deal.

Vacancy

Mr Child moved that the filling of vacancy on the Council, caused by the death of the Chairman, be left to the next meeting, seconded by Mr Skinner and carried.

Draft Balance Sheet 1943-44

This showed balance in hand of £46. 15. 6 on General Fund; £62. 17. 10. Allotment Fund; £26. 12. 5. Lighting and £12. 2. 9. Recreation Ground and same declared satisfactory.

Death of Mr H. Jeffries

Letter received from Mrs H. Jeffries of the 19th May 1944 thanking the Council for the beautiful flowers and kindly words expressed in letter of 15th May.

Clerkencombe Quarry – Dangerous state of wall

Clerk read letter of the 2nd June 1944 written the Ashton Court Estate and on the motion of Mr Knapman, seconded by Mr Ball, it was decided a further letter be written as to whether the Estate has any interest in this Quarry.

Should the reply be in the negative, the question of repair was left to the Chairman and Clerk? As to the depositing of hedge cuttings, the attention of the Somerset County Council to be drawn to this.

Footpath near Churchyard

Letter written Mr Withers as to ploughing and stopping up footpath leading from churchyard to the footbridge over the brook. Left to Mr Knapman to inspect.

Recreation Ground

To write Mr James as to cutting grass to ask the nominal sum of 5/ for same.

Allotments

The Chairman, Messrs Childe, Yeo to view and Mr Ball, Bower Ashton.

Paper salvage

To write Clerk R. D. Council that a complaint had been received of salvage being placed outside a residence three successive weeks and same not collected.

Accounts

The following accounts were presented for payment and cheques drawn.

General Fund:

Clerk salary less Superannuation 1/1	16. 9. -
Superannuation Fd.	2. 2. -

Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.	
Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 6/-	7. 11. 6.
Leigh Woods 25 Lamps @ 6/	<u>1. 17. 6.</u>
	£9. 9.

Allotment Fund

Wayleaves 1943	11. 1.
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Recreation Ground

War Damage	4.
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Shrubs overhanging footpath

To write occupiers of the Glebe and Willows to kindly have the shrubs overhanging the footpath cut.

Date of next meeting – fixed for Tuesday 12^h September at 7 o'clock.

Parish Council
19th September 1944

The quarterly meeting of the Parish Council was held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Tuesday 19th September 1944, when the Chairman Mr A. G. Morrish presided over the following members, Messrs Ball, Evans, Milner, Mitchell, Pearce, and Yeo.

Apologies for inability to attend were received from Messrs Childe, Knapman and Skinner.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising therefrom

Grass Allotments

Clerk reported that these allotments had been visited by the Chairman and other members 23rd June and they had decided the matter of repair to fence be left in abeyance, owing to the expense, if further complaints, tenant to repair at own expense.

Mr Milner moved, seconded by Mr Ball this matter be left over to the next meeting. Carried.

Vacancy

The names of Mr S. Bollom and Mr R. Halfyard were proposed to fill a vacancy. On a vote being taken the latter was declared elected by 3 votes to 2.

Clerkencombe Quarry

Clerk read correspondence that had taken place between himself the Ashton Court Estate, Rural District Council, and County Council as to repair of the boundary wall of the quarry at the top of Providence, the latter stating they as Highway Authority were not responsible for the maintenance and repair of the above boundary wall.

On the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Mitchell the Clerk was instructed to enquire of the County Council whether they considered they had any interest in this quarry now stone had ceased to be quarried there; also to enquire of the Ashton Court Estate if the reply of the County Council was in the negative.

Deposit of Hedge Clippings

Reply from Acting District Surveyor of the 3rd July was to the effect that any hedge cuttings deposited by the Highway Authority were burnt as soon as weather conditions permit.

Recreation Ground - Grass

Reported that Mr James had paid 5/- for the same.

Allotments

Clerk reported members of the Allotment Committee had visited Archgrove, Birdwell and St. Martin's Allotments on the 23rd June and dealt with various matters.

Rural District Council – Paper Salvage

Letter sent 28th June to R. D. C. as to this matter.

Shrubs overhanging footpaths

It was reported this has been attended at The Willows and The Glebe.

Playing Fields Facilities

Receipt of Circular from the Somerset Rural Community Council with questionnaire as to playing fields facilities.

The Clerk was empowered to book football pitch, if application received upon same terms as last year.

Post-War Housing

Letter of the 17th August from R. D. Council that it was proposed subject to the approval of the Ministries concerned to erect 24 homes at Long Ashton in the first two post-war years, 14 of these on sites at Fenswood and Yanleigh Lane. The view of the Parish Council was asked as to the number of Council Houses in their opinion would be required in these two years, with any recommendation as to possible sites other than those mentioned. Mr Ball moved that this Council suggest 36 homes in place of the 24, seconded by Mr Mitchell and carried. Messrs Ball, Mitchell, Pearce and Yeo to view certain sites in the village with power to suggest the most suitable and the Clerk to inform the R. D. Council accordingly.

Street Lighting

Clerk drew Council's attention to receipt of letters of the 22nd August and 12 September from R. D. Council with copies of circular letters from the Ministry of Home Security of the 9th August

and 9th September respectively, and correspondence he had had with the North Somerset Electric Supply Co of the 30th August and 14th September.

In the latter letter the Secretary stated it was the Company's intention to provide the 0.02 foot candles standard of lighting, subject to the necessary certificate of exemption from the Chief Constable being obtained, and for so long as it allowed without any addition to the existing charge now being made to the Council. The Certificate of Exemption was received from the Chief Constable 18th September and the lights in operation the same evening.

Precept

It was decided to serve precept on the Rating Authority for General Expenses £50, Lighting £20 for the half year ending March 1945.

Accounts

The following accounts were presented and cheques drawn

Recreation Ground

P. W. L. Board – Prin. £6. 0. 5 Int. £4. 2. 11 10. 3. 4.

Lighting Fund

North Somerset Electric Supply Co.

Long Ashton 101 Lamps @ 6/- 7. 11. 6.

Leigh Woods 25 Lamps @ 6/ 1. 17. 6.

£9. 9.

General Fund:

Clerk salary less Superannuation 1/1 16. 9. -

Superannuation Fd. 2. 2. -

Annual Charge 3.

Clerk's Fidelity Bond 9.

Allotment Fund

Ashton Court Estate Rent 39. 2. 9.

H. Sherbourne 10.

Providence Allotments

It was decided to reply Mr Groves, Bris-ban, Long Ashton that erection of green house on allotment could not be allowed.

Bus stop

Letter read from Mr Kingston as to re-instating of bus stop at Fenswood. No action taken.

Peace Celebrations and War Memorial

Mr Pearce suggested and it was agreed this matter be placed on the agenda for consideration at next meeting.

Clerkencombe

It was decided to write to ask the Somerset County Council to erect a Notice 'Slow – danger - major road ahead' in Clerkencombe to warn motorists when approaching the junction of the Bristol – Weston-super-Mare Road.

Date of next meeting – fixed for 19th December 1944 at 7 o'clock.

Parish Council
14th December 1944

A meeting Council was held at the Church House, Long Ashton, on Tuesday 14th December 1944, Mr A. G. Morrish presiding over the following members, Messrs Childe, Evans, Knapman, Milner, Pearce, Skinner and Yeo.

Apology for inability to attend was received from Mr. O. J. Ball, and the Clerk was asked to write to him the Council was sorry to hear he was ill, that he may have a speedy recovery, and extend him good wishes for the coming season and new year.

Mr R. Halfyard signed the acceptance of office on becoming a member, to whom the Chairman extended a hearty welcome, to which Mr Halfyard replied.

Minutes of the previous meeting were read and signed.

Arising therefrom

Grass Allotments

Decided no further action be taken.

Clerkencombe Quarry

Clerk read letter of the 3rd October from Acting District Surveyor of the County Council in which he stated the County Council are interested in the above as a dump or depot, but have no further interest in the same as a Stone Quarry.

Mr B. Worrall of the Ashton Court Estate wrote 3rd November he assumed the County Council as the Highway Authority in place of the Rural District Council still retain an interest in awarded land and to his mind they are therefore solely responsible for the boundary fences and walls.

On the proposition of Mr Pearce, seconded by Mr Skinner the County Council be written again, pointing out that as they are the only persons at present using the quarry, they are as well as being the Highway Authority, responsible for the repair and maintenance of the boundary wall of the quarry, which at present is in a highly dangerous condition. Carried.

Playing Field

Mr Pearce moved, Mr. Childe seconded the Long Ashton Platoon of Army Cadets be granted permission to use playing fields as a football pitch at the usual charge of 10/2 for the season. Agreed.

Post-War Housing

Letter from Rural District Council of the 2nd December 1944 enclosing copy of the two draft layouts of the site of Rayens Cross Road together with a copy of an explanatory letter from Council's Architects and asking for this Council's observations.

Clerk instructed to reply after meeting of parishioners to be held on the 20th December that this Council favours scheme NOT which shows building site close to playing field.

Peace Celebrations and War Memorial

After a long discussion Mr Pearce suggested that as the meeting to be held the following week, a Committee should be appointed to consider form the celebrations should take and to recommend a suitable memorial – seconded by the R. H. Knapman and carried.

Clerkencombe – Notice

Letter of the 3rd October from Acting District Surveyor stated a 'Slow Major Road Ahead' sign had been in existence at Clerkencombe for a number of years. The sign is a considerable distance from the actual junction and he would endeavour if possible to erect same nearer the said junction.

Resignation of Clerk

The Chairman read a letter he had received of the 12th September 1944 from their Clerk (Mr R. G. March) intimating he would reach the age of 65 years in February next and as he had held the office of Clerk since 1922 he asked that he might be allowed to relinquish his duties as such on the 31st March next. He further asked the Council to be good enough to pass a resolution increasing the amount of superannuation for the non – contributory years from 1922 to 1939.

Mr Childe said that there were all sorry to receive such a letter from their Clerk, this was endorsed by Messrs Milner, Pearce, Skinner and the Chairman and it was decided the minutes should bear record of the services rendered by Mr March as a member from 1913 to 1922 and from that date as Clerk.

Mr Pearce formally moved the Clerk's services be continued from 21st February to 31st March 1945, seconded by Mr Skinner and carried.

Ashton Court Estate T. R. G.	4.	3.
T. Barnes – Creosote for seats	2.	
<u>General Fund:</u>		
Clerk salary less Superannuation 1/1		16. 9. -
Superannuation Fd.	2.	2. -
Expenses 1944-45		4.
Managers Church House 1944	1.	
<u>Allotment Fund</u>		
T. Barnes	10.	

Lighting

It was reported that a lamp at the top of Chestnut Road was not functioning. To write Company.

Salvage

Also that the food and bone bins were not regularly collected. To write Salvage Officer.

