



Ashington Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 7th January 2016 at 7.45 p.m. in Ashington School,
Foster Lane, Ashington**

Present: Councillors N. Clark (Chairman), N. Spiers (Vice-Chairman), S. Ball S. Cox,
L. Di Castiglione, T. Kearney, J. Stillwell, K. Wood, M. Woolley.
Parish Clerk: Celia Price

District Councillors: Philip Circus
8 members of the public

The Chairman reminded members of the public the requirement that they limit their participation to the Public Adjournment sections of the meeting. If Members of the Public have questions for Police/Wardens & District/County Councillors then the Clerk will pass these on if these individuals have left the meeting.

Members of the Public are reminded that Standing Orders allow for 5 minutes maximum participation.

001/16 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

District Cllr J. Blackall, Cllr D. Jenkins
Cllr R. Strudwick (Personal), Cllr G. MacPherson (Business)
Neighbourhood Plan Clerk: Karen Dare
Neighbourhood Wardens

002/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand.

003/16 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting dated 3rd December 2015 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Ball, seconded by Cllr Spiers, and agreed by all.

004/16 REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS & YOUTH WORKER

There is no report from the Wardens this month due to illness, however Neil Worth (Community Safety Officer) has provided an email update and the Chairman gave an overview to Councillors. In summary, both Wardens are expected to return to work next week, in the meantime, the Steyning Wardens will try and drive through the village as there is no other cover available.

The Wardens vehicle lease is due for renewal and it is hoped this will be replaced alongside the other vehicle. A preferred option has been identified and quotes are awaited but it is hoped the

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vehicle will be replaced by the end of this financial year. No decision has been made regarding the provision for a camera yet.

HDC are committed to expand the Warden service across the district in partnership with other Parish Councils and Ashington Parish Councillors will be kept informed.

The financial information and service level agreement to roll out the scheme for a further two years will be with us shortly. The Chair has requested appropriate time scales are given to allow proper review of the documents.

Cllr Stillwell reported the updated Warden flyers are ready and will be distributed shortly.

Youth Worker Report

Report (see Appendix 1).

The Chairman gave an overview of the report.

005/16 Youth Worker and Neighbourhood Warden Meetings

Vice Chairman Cllr Spiers will be attending Youth Worker and Neighbourhood Warden meetings as part of his new role with immediate effect.

006/16 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT

None present.

007/16 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Philip Circus advised that the Horsham Development Plan has been adopted and is already proving to be an important document for the protection of our local communities.

It was also reported that Horsham District Council are likely to increase in Council Tax by 3.5%, in addition, there will be a modest increase in green waste collection charges, along with the possibility of moving to fortnightly refuse collections to help reach the 50% recycling target by 2020.

Cllr Circus gave Councillors an update with regard to the STARS school consultations, he reported that this is a very 'toxic' issue and the County Council are considering the best way forward. He said that the public meetings have been difficult, with highly emotional outbursts that are not considered helpful. He reported that the private meetings he had attended were more constructive, he urged everyone to write in to comment.

With regard to the outstanding issues Cllr Circus provide the following updates:

London Road speed bumps – following a meeting with Highways, there are no plans to replace the speed bumps as there simply is no money to do this. Maintenance will be carried out to insure the minimum safety requirements are met. **D**

Billingshurst Road VAS sign – If the Parish Council accept responsibility for maintaining the sign it is more likely to be approved. Cllr Wood observed a new VAS sign near Midhurst and is trying to find out more regarding how they got the sign, who maintains it and how long it took. Councillors agreed to discuss the options for maintaining the VAS sign including associated costs and responsibilities at a future meeting.

Kate's Cakes slip road signage – Highways have advised Cllr Circus that this is not a priority and there is no intention or budget to change the signage. **D**

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The Chair invited questions from Councillors

Cllr Wood asked Cllr Circus to find out who is funding the new VAS sign at Midhurst **C/F**

The Chair invited questions from the Public

Mrs Alford asked “what price does the District Council put on people’s lives?” The barrier at the edge of the playing field has now been removed completely with no intention to replace it whereas the barrier at the end of the footpath opposite remains in place. Mrs Alford reported that “it’s an accident waiting to happen”. The Chair asked Cllr Circus to obtain copies for the Parish Council of the guidance documents used by the authorities to determine where barrier installation is needed. **C/F**

Several member of the public commented on pot holes in the area, particularly along Park Lane. The Clerk urged everyone to report these direct via the www.westsussex.gov.uk. An app called ‘Love West Sussex’ was also mentioned, both are quick and easy ways to report issues.

Actions Outstanding

008/16 Social Media

Due to more pressing matters the Clerk has requested this item be carried forward to February meeting. **CP C/F**

009/16 Mill Lane Road Culvert

The Clerk has requested the full report from Opus – to date no response has been received. Following the recent flooding the Clerk has made further contact but to date has received no reply.

There was significant flooding on Sunday, the Clerk visited the site daily due to the heavy rainfall and reported a blocked trash screen and gully to WSCC Highways. Due to the size of the debris the Highways team could not clear the trash screen without a crane and despite the urgent request, this was still not done on Tuesday, so some of the residents cleared it themselves. WSCC Highways team were observed on site on Wednesday and the Clerk has received confirmation that the gullies in the areas (including Fairfield Road) will be cleared first thing in the morning. Photographs of the flooding have been sent to Opus and Highways. The Chairman met with residents on site earlier in the day. **CP C/F**

010/16 Neighbourhood Watch

Unfortunately the meeting on 15th December was postponed. A new date is to be confirmed.

011/16 Review of Emergency Plan

The working party of Cllr Spiers, Cllr Ball and Cllr MacPherson, will be meeting soon. **C/F**

CORRESPONDENCE

012/16 For action:

None

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013/16 For information:

1. HDC and HALC minutes (emailed to Councillors)
2. WSCC recycling rates (emailed to Councillors)(The Clerk has forwarded for inclusion in the village newsletter)
3. STARS Schools consultation update (emailed to Councillors)
4. SALC email detailing the roles of PCSOs (emailed to Councillors)
5. SALC funding opportunities (emailed to Councillors)
6. Southern Water Stakeholders newsletter (emailed to Councillors)
7. Horsham County newsletter (emailed to Councillors)
8. SALC Training opportunities (emailed to Councillors)
9. Three Counties devolution bid update (emailed to Councillors)
10. Electoral Review of West Sussex: Draft recommendations (Consultation ends 8th February 2016)
11. English Rural – Right to buy update

014/16 General:**015/16 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT**

The Chairman explained that, in order that residents got the most benefit from their 5 mins maximum participation time, Councillors would listen to residents questions without debate or comment but would follow up on the items either by reporting back at the next meeting or directly to the individual outside of the meeting.

Mr Farrell reported that Penn Gardens was flooded on Saturday afternoon and asked if this could be linked to the new access road nearby. It was agreed the Clerk would monitor and report as appropriate.

He also reported the badly damaged verges along London Road. The Clerk advised this is being addressed and a meeting is scheduled with a Highways Officer to discuss the possibility of installing bollards.

Mrs Jones reported problems with lack of signage in the area surrounding the new garage and produced a document with suggestions. The Clerk will distribute to Councillors for discussion at the next meeting.

Mr Horwood asked if Councillors were aware of the potential fracking site near Billingshurst and asked what the Councillors thought about it. The Chair explained the planning process and reiterated that the Parish Council would not discuss any application until it was consulted. Councillors are not in a position to express personal opinions.

Mrs Alford reported that street light number 19 along The Sands is on 24 hours a day, she was reminded that this can be reported direct via the website or Love West Sussex app, the Clerk will also report it on this occasion. She also reported this was the 3rd year running that there were no Wardens on duty between Christmas and New Year and there were increased issues during that period. The Chair advised that the Wardens are not asked to work during this

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period, however if there are problems this can be looked at for future years. He asked that Mrs Alford provide details so it can be discussed at a future date if appropriate.

Mrs Houlton requested the trees in Church Close be removed or significantly reduced. The Clerk reiterated the correspondence that has already taken place with Mrs Houlton and some of her neighbours, namely the Parish Council will not remove or reduce the trees as they are healthy and not dangerous. However, should the residents of Church Close wish to perform any tree surgery (at their own expense) they must obtain permission from the Parish Council, to do this a written request detailing their intentions, ideally with photographs, should be submitted to the Clerk for discussion at a Parish Council meeting. The Clerk advised the next meeting is on 4th February and should she wish an item be added to the Agenda her report must be with the Clerk no later than 27th January.

The Chairman thanked residents for their comments and closed the public adjournment.

016/16 PLANNING.

The Planning Committee met on 16th December and Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes. Agreed by all.

017/16 Correspondence

1. West Sussex Mineral Plan – Upper Chancton Farm (comments due by 15th January 2016)
Councillors discussed the document and agreed to object on the following grounds:

- The site will have a negative impact on the water supply
- Vehicle movements will increase along the A24 and on an already dangerous access road with a high accident rate
- Loss of local amenity by way of view and walks
- Increased risk of flooding. Surface run off would flow to Rock Road pumping point and on the Mill Road Culvert not as it does now via the stream at Buncton.

018/16 Neighbourhood Plan update

The NP Clerk has a meeting in early January with HDC new Neighbourhood Planning Officer to discuss the process and confirm proposed plans to date are OK

KD C/F

019/16 Amendments

None

020/16 Applications

DC/15/2781 Ashfield, Fairfield Mews - Partial garage conversion and two storey rear extension.
Councillors reviewed the plans and have no objections

Horsham District Council

021/16 Approvals

DC/15/2662 Rectory Cottage, Rectory Lane
Demolition and relocation of garage and access

022/16 Refusals

None

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023/16 Withdrawals

DC/15/2421 Stone Barn, London Road

024/16 Appeals made/ decisions

None

FINANCE

025/16 Budget & Precept 16/17

Following approval of the November 2015 Finance committee minutes and budget report, the Clerk reports that it is possible to achieve a 0% rise in precept and meet the Council's financial responsibilities for the forthcoming year. Clerk to send the precept request to HDC. Agreed by all.

The Clerk reports that there are three areas of budgetary overspend in Q3:

1. Stationery – budget set was £200, actual expenditure to date £220 due set up expenditure for new Clerk.
2. Chairman's Allowance – budget set was £0, actual expenditure to date £81.40 due to awards for outgoing Clerk and Chair.
3. Insurance – budget set was £1100, actual expenditure £1136.57 (renewal slightly higher than estimated)

026/16 Correspondence

1. SSALC Training schedule - The Clerk has asked to go on the 'New Clerk's Training Day' on 23rd February 2016. Cost £90 (within the training budget). All agreed.
2. Age Concern letter request for £200 donation. Clerk to write and say sorry the grant budget has been exhausted this year.
3. Corrosion testing for street lighting due January 2016. Quote (awaited). Cortest may no longer be trading. The Clerk is investigating alternatives. An email has been sent to WSCC asking permission for the testing to take place.

027/16 Income

Ashington Autos	Rent and Roundabout sponsorship	£2077.50
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028/16 Expenditure

Payee	Description	Amount £	Cheque Number
Mrs Celia Price	Home Office - December 2015	10.00	
	Telephone	5.00	
	Stationery - printer cartridges	35.00	
	Postage	6.45	
	Total	<u>56.45</u>	1721
Mrs Karen Dare	Home Office - December 2015	5.00	1722
Mark Adsett	Landscape Gardening (Dec 2015)	508.33	1723
Ashington PCC	Invoice: YW-201512 Youth Worker (Dec 2015)	1083.33	1724
Horsham DC	Invoice: 5210755 Charge for uncontested election (May)	99.00	1725

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Ashington C. Trust	Hire of Sports Pavilion Planning Meeting (Nov 15)	7.60	1726
WSCC	Invoice: 8001131455 Salaries and Costs (Dec 2015)	980.94	1727
Public Works Loan	PWLB reference 123 07040	3110.12	BACS

It was resolved that the schedule of payments shown above be approved for payment. Agreed by all.

029/16 MEETINGS

Cllr Clark, Cllr Stillwell and Cllr Spiers had attended a Chanctonbury Youth Project Community Partnership meeting on 5th January 2016.

030/16 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Spiers reported fly tipping along Park Lane, he is also arranging a village ‘litter pick’, details to follow.

The next Parish Council will be held at **7.45pm on Thursday 4th February 2016 at Ashington School, Foster Lane.**

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 20th January 2016 at 7.30pm in Ashington Sports Pavilion.**

The meeting finished at 9:05pm

Signed..... Date.....

Ashington Parish Council Meeting Update

Horsham District Monthly update is on the Parish Council website www.ashingtonpc.org.uk

Appendix 1 – Youth Worker Report Senior Youth Worker’s report - January 2016

Main Headlines - December

AYC format change starting January 2016

- During the Autumn term, we trialed a new format including a Monday evening session which I reviewed with the support of AYC team and CPG group.
 - The conclusion was that Monday nights had become very successful, while there still remained issues surrounding the crossover period on Thursday evenings between

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younger and older sessions. This was something expressed by team and parental feedback.

- Starting from January 4th, Monday nights will be an older youth session (school years yr9+), 7-9pm while Thursday nights will be for younger youth (School years 6-8) 6:30-8:30pm.
- 1 Key point is that older youth don't lose 2 points of contact each week with our older group of young people. To maintain this, we are keeping a 9-10pm drop-in on Thursday evenings.
- Prior to the Christmas holidays, we distributed new flyers outlining new formats to all young people. Additionally, I will be attending a Rydon assembly January 11th which will include raising further awareness of Ashington Youth provisions
 - This includes extending the younger session to 2hrs which has been enthusiastically received by our YP.
- New flyers (see below) and posters have already begun being circulated and will be put up around the community first week of January. Please do look out for these around the community and be in touch if you need further hard copies.

Topic covered in December

- Sessions in December have included topics:
 - Giving up smoking
 - E-cigarettes / 'Vaping' - Online retailers
 - Foster care / Adoption
 - Tolerance
 - Dangers of alcohol misuse

Areas of concern

- I have discussed with CPG the obviousness and serious issue of substance misuse amongst young people in our community.
 - One recent phenomena I have observed is that drug use has become a somewhat normalised aspect of culture amongst a group of young people in Ashington.
 - A worry amongst our community has always been whether this is something that would negatively influence younger peers. Paradoxically, we have seen that young people have an openness to discuss drug use with youth leaders, recognising themselves that it is a negative aspect of their lives as well as strongly discouraging younger peers from engaging with such behaviours.

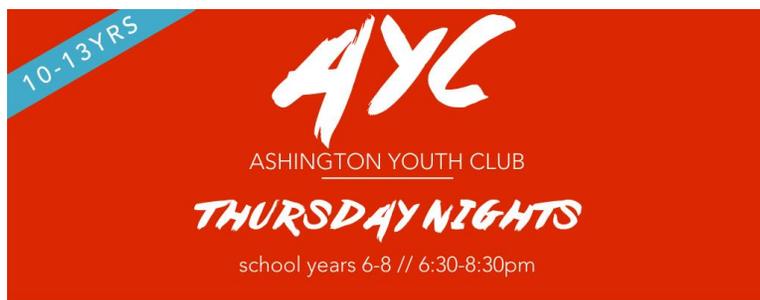
Christmas Holiday

- Our final youth session of the term was December 21st before I was able to enjoy the christmas break.
- I began work again Monday January 4th and am extremely excited for what is ahead leading into 2016.

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Example of new flyers



Come enjoy a fun, relaxed and safe atmosphere with your friends!

We've got music, food, comfy sofas, pool tables, table-tennis and an amazing group of volunteers to hang out with!

#ASHINGTONYOUTH #AYC #THISISASHINGTON

CONTACT
PADDY@ASHINGTONYOUTH.CO.UK
07587585059

MORE INFO
INSTAGRAM @ASHINGTONYOUTH
FACEBOOK - ASHINGTON YOUTH



ASHINGTON YOUTH CLUB

MONDAY NIGHTS

school years 9-11 // 7-9pm

ASHINGTON YOUTH CLUB

Come enjoy a fun, relaxed and safe place with your friends!

#Ashingtonyouth #ayc #thisisashington

CONTACT
PADDY@ASHINGTONYOUTH.CO.UK
07587585059

MORE INFO
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FACEBOOK - ASHINGTON YOUTH

Example of normal weekly youth work activity

Monday			Thursday		
Between 4-7pm	Walk around community	engaging young people with youth provisions	Between 4-6pm	Walk around community	engaging young people with youth provisions
7-9pm	Older youth session	Ashington Youth Club	6:30-8:30pm	Younger youth session	Ashington Youth Club
	School years: 9+ Ages: 13+		9-10pm	Older Youth late night drop-in	Ashington Youth Club

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Week 1

November 30th

Walk around community

- Met with 3 young people
 - Discussed opportunity for music venues.

[30mins]

AYC Monday night

- 2 new members being invited by current AYC members.
- Attendance - 19

[2.5hrs]

December 2nd

AYC Thursday prep

- Buying resources for AYC form cash & carry.
- Preparing AYC for Thursday night .
- Brief and run procedures run through with volunteers leading Thursday session

[3hrs]

December 3rd

AYC Thursday sessions

- Led by volunteers in my absence.
- Topics covered -
 - Syrian refugee crisis
 - Dangers of vaporiser e-cigarettes
- Attendance - Particularly low. Can be attributed to local late night shopping in surrounding areas.
 - Younger session - 11
 - Older session - 8

December 3rd & 4th

- Coaching training session in London
- Spear Coaching for Leadership

[18hrs]

Total Hours - 24
Young people engaged - 42

Week 2

December 6th

Debrief volunteers from Thursday session

[45mins]

December 7th

Mobile Skatepark training

- Horsham-Matters led at Dalesdown.
- Enable me to use mobile skatepark equipment recently purchased by Horsham-Matters.
- Cancelled due to trainers breaking down on route.

[30mins]

Admin

- Communication up with volunteers regarding new formats
- DBS processing for new volunteers.

[1hr]

Prep for Monday session

[45mins]

Walk around the community

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- Met 4 YP using Multi sport court - Happy with facility and grateful for Parish Council securing funding.
- Met 6 YP around ACC & London road.
- Met 5 YP at and around Co-op - Discussed limitations of Youth shelter having no light or heat.

[1hr]

AYC Monday night

- Attendance - 21 young people
- Topics / issues raised - Met with previously banned young person and developing plan of action for him to redeem himself and earn access to AYC again.
- debrief with volunteer team

[3hrs]

December 9th

Planning & Preparation for Thursday AYC

- Preparing session surrounding tolerance
- Preparing resources and session plan

[1.5hrs]

AYC Admin

- Logging new AYC members & emergency contact details.

[30mins]

December 10th

AYC Thursday night

- Session topic - Tolerance
- Attendance
 - Younger session - 11
 - Older session - 13
- de-brief with team
 - Areas of concern include inappropriate youth activity outside of youth club sessions amongst young people.

[4.5hrs]

Total Hours - 13.5
Young people engaged - 60

Week 3

December 15th

Walk around the community

- Met 3 YP walking between AYC & Co-op
- Continued discussion surrounding theme nights.

[1hr]

AYC Monday night

- Attendance - 15 young people
- Topics / issues raised -
- debrief with volunteer team

[3hrs]

December 15th

Weekly line management meeting with James di Castiglione

- discussed stuff...

[45 mins]

December 16th

Plan & Prep for Thursday AYC session

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- topic session - Christmas & Alcohol awareness
- Contacted Di Clarke to revise AYC message in village newsletter.

[2hrs]

Meet with prospective youth club cleaner

[30mins]

December 17th

AYC Thursday night

- Session topic - Christmas / Alcohol
- Attendance
 - Younger session - 19
 - Older session - 13
- de-brief with team

[4.5hrs]

Total Hours - 11.75
Young people engaged - 50

Week 4

December 21st

Around the community

- Met 5 YP on Church lane
 - Discussed final sessions of AYC. Confirming Monday evening's session was taking place. Further discussion surrounding holiday plans and attitudes towards family.
- Met 3 YP outside Co-op
 - Discussing current job and future prospects with 1YP- developing plan for future including deadlines & goals.
 - Talked about previous weekend's social events amongst young people - Challenged behaviour and attitudes towards events.

[1hr]

Preparing monthly SYW report

[2.5hrs]

AYC Monday night

- Attendance -
- Topics / issues raised - Continued discussions surrounding Christmas & alcohol safety.
- Debrief with volunteer team

[3hrs]

Total Hours - 6.5hrs

APPENDIX 2 – Funds held by the Parish Council on behalf of others as at 30th

December 2015:

First Responders £3625.70

Bingo Club £264.19

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