



Ashington Parish Council

Clerk to the Parish Council: Mrs. K. Dare, Honeysuckle House, London Road, Ashington, Pulborough, West Sussex, RH20 3JR, Telephone 07851 009655
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Members of Ashington Parish Council are summoned to a meeting of the Ashington Parish Council at **Ashington School at 7.45 p.m.** on Thursday 2nd October 2014

A G E N D A

1. Apologies and reasons for absence
2. Declaration of Interests and notification of changes to members' interests.
3. Approval of the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting on the 4th September 2014.
4. Report from the Neighbourhood Wardens & Police
Update on Warden recruitment
Update on Youth Worker project
Youth Shelter project - update
5. Young Persons Adjournment
Opportunity for young people to speak to the Parish Council.
6. Invited Guests – Angus Farquhar representing Chanctonbury Nurseries & J. Lower, Church Farm
7. Report from District and County Councillors
8. Actions Outstanding:
 - a. Trees at northern edge of Recreation Ground
 - b. Multi-sports court – update
 - c. PC Trees
 - d. WSCC Highways matters
9. Correspondence (for action) –
 1. A27 Action campaign – pledge support for improvements to the A27
10. **Public Adjournment**
Opportunity for members of the public to raise matters of concern
11. Planning
Correspondence:
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan – update.
 - b. Post Horses House sale of a small strip (1.3 x 12m) of land adjacent to their rear garden – update
 - c. Luckista Caravan site – update
 - d. HDC electronic planning applications

New enforcement allegations: None.

Amendments: None

Applications:

DC/14/1695 Outline planning application for the erection of up to 43 no. dwellings (Class C3) and new access of London Road with all other matters reserved – Land south of Ashington House, London Road

DC/14/1944 Outline planning application (inc Access and Scale) for the construction of up to four dwellings on undeveloped land to the north of Ashington and immediately adjacent to the eastern edge of the defined build up area boundary - Yew Tree Cottage Billingshurst Road

DC/14/1999 Demolition of existing building and erection of 2no. detached and 4no. semi-detached 2 storey houses - Hoots House London Road

Horsham District Council

Approvals:

DC/14/1371 Demolition of existing garage and erection of replacement garage, alterations to existing stable block to form new glazed roof, new 2.1m high fence and entrance gates to front boundary with Billingshurst Road - Foxes Billingshurst Road

Refusals: None

Withdrawals: None

Appeal decision: None

Appeals: None

12. Finance

Correspondence: None

Income:

Sussex Police – grant for Youth Shelter £250

HDC - Precept £47,431.00

HDC – Environmental Cleansing Grant £1749.35

First Responders – donation £86.84

The invoices shown on the attached schedule are proposed for payment.

13. Meetings attended and reports by Councillors

14. Minor matters raised by Councillors to be referred to the next agenda

15. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Parish Council – Thursday 6th November 2014, 7.45 pm at Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington.

Planning Committee – Wednesday 15th & 29th October 2014, 7.30pm at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane

PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Karen Dare, Clerk to Ashington Parish Council 25th September 2014.



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Schedule of payments October 2014

Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£500.00
	Hanging basket watering 4 weeks	£260.00
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17
	Travel to Horsham (22 miles x £0.4)	£9
	Stationery	£39.97
	Postage (NHPlan letter)	£59.36
	Land Registry	£3.00
	Total	£
WSCC	Salary and on costs (September)	£
ACCT	Planning committee 20/08/14	£3.80
	Bingo Club (August)	£37.75
Horsham Matters	youth worker (July)	£645.00
K. Dare	Neighbourhood Plan letters	£20
Fenland Leisure	play area spares	£12.20
	Swing repair	£27.80
Caloo Ltd	Youth Shelter	£8628.00

APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Reports of criminal damage this month are

Rectory Lane – Disturbance of loud noise from group of youths in early hours of the morning. Play school chairs taken from playschool property and scattered about local area.

Residents who informed me have phoned the incident through to the police and also have returned the plastic chairs to the playgroup.

More damaged road signs across the village, I will report to highways.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

This scheme is still looking to be updated but at the moment resources are limited.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES

There are still ongoing issues with neighbourhood disputes this month. Some are really beginning to affect the resident's concerned health, involved with the disputes. I am trying my best to act as mediator and am signposting to relevant services and agencies that may be able to help with noise issues etc. I am still trying to get solutions to the issues that are causing the problems. Hopefully we will be able to resolve some of the disputes.

I am still working with housing associations closely on some of the disputes.

Some of the offenders have been referred to relevant agencies for help and advice.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

I am at present in contact with the Substance Misuse Manager who works with Horsham Matters. He has designed a six week intervention session to talk with the youth about the issues around drugs/alcohol. This I think will be a very valuable service for our youth.

One youth has interacted with the substance misuse manager and has had a meeting with them to try and discuss ways of stopping the illegal substance misuse.

Confiscation of alcohol this month from youth has been made by police.

Continuous reports of ASB have been made to police.

Several searches of vehicles and youth have been made this month by police.

LITTER

Litter really bad this month. I have been trying to litter pick the hot spot areas with the help of youth. The skate park and turnpike play area have been particularly bad.

I am still looking to arrange a litter pick day for the village but have been so busy this month dealing with other issues I haven't had time.

I am still delivering education regarding litter issues to the children/youth in the village.

A large amount of broken glass I managed to sweep up from skate park area. There was also evidence of vomit in this area. I did manage to wash down and remove.

FLY TIPPING

Large amounts of litter and fly tipping have been removed from Old London Road following the exit of travellers from this area. Horsham district council cleansing department were very prompt with the removal of rubbish following my request.

There is still an empty trailer that is waiting to be removed. I have reported it on operation crack down. All rubbish was taken from the trailer and disposed of.

Hopefully the trailer will be removed in the next few days.

OLD LONDON ROAD

This area is becoming very unkempt and overgrown. I have concerns for vehicular access to properties down the road. It is also sending out messages for the road to be used for illegal purposes. Cars and illegal substance misuse are here on a regular basis. Fly tipping is happening on a regular basis. I feel it is because the area is looking very uncared for.

I will be requesting that Highways do something about this area. Cut back the overgrowth and generally a good litter pick will resolve the issues.

YOUTH

The youth shelter has finally arrived and it has caused a lot of excitement in the village from the local youth.

I will arrange with the youth and youth worker a ceremonial opening of the youth shelter.

I will invite the local press. PCSO Sparks would like to also present the cheque from Sussex police at the opening of the youth shelter.

Over the last few days there have been concerns of the positioning of the youth shelter. I do believe this will be discussed further at parish council.

The youth have stated that they would like to invite the Parish council to attend the official opening of youth shelter.

I have been working with the new youth worker this month trying to sort out times and days for the youth club to run. It has been decided to open Tuesday evening for the older youth and Thursday evenings for the younger group.

There have been lots of personal issues with some of the youth that I have had to deal with.

Safeguarding referrals have been made. Some of these I would term priority issues have taken up a lot of my time

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There have been several incidents this month of anti-social behaviour within the youth groups of Ashington.

I have been trying to work with them closely but at the moment several of the youth do not wish to engage with me, the youth worker or anyone. This particular group I think can only be dealt with now with enforcement powers from the police. I as a lone worker am limited to how I interact with them.

The majority of the anti-social behaviour is happening after twelve at night. I have had several reports of disturbances across the village over the last month. All intelligence has been gathered and passed onto the police for their information. If the residents had called the police when they were experiencing the disturbance it would have been dealt with as it was happening. To report to me the next day is too late. The police need to be informed as the offence is taking place.

Turnpike play area is still a hot spot for anti-social behaviour and I am doing my best when I am on duty to patrol this area. I am telling youth if found in this area to leave. This play area is in a residential area overlooked by houses whose occupants if looking must see the anti-social behaviour, underage drinking, illegal drug taking and even arson attacks taking place. I must stress always call the police when it has been witnessed. This will help me and we will stop the anti-social behaviour from getting out of hand.

It has been very difficult this month for me taking calls from local residents regarding the youth's anti-social behaviour in the village. The complainants have been quite angry toward me expecting me to deal with the anti-social behaviour issues there and then. I do explain that I do not cover a twenty four hour period and that if they are watching anti-social behaviour taking place they should call the police 101 non-emergency or 999 if they are feeling threatened or they feel the ASB is serious.

I feel that local residents who feel that I am not doing my job to their satisfaction should contact me directly or stop me in the village when they see me. I am very approachable and am open to criticism, but also would like the opportunity to explain why I hadn't responded or answered my phone. I feel that when it goes around residents within the village the story escalates and gets out of all proportion so by the time it reaches me it sounds like I am not performing my job. I am open to any resident who wishes to do a voluntary patrol with me to see exactly what I do in a shift. Once again I must remind all residents that I am a lone worker contracted to work 37 hours a week, of which I am continually working over hours on a voluntary basis with no extra cost to the parish.

ELDERLY/VULNERABLE

I have received several phone calls from elderly residents in the village requesting me to visit them. I have been taking out winter warm packs, no cold caller signs for doors, rechargeable torches for them so as we are ready for the dark winter months. I have also been doing security checks to make sure their homes are secure and safe. I have been checking for fire alarms if they do not have them I have referred them to Horsham District Council community link advisor for advice in getting one installed. I have also been telling them of lunch club and other events that they may like to attend in the village, just to get them out for a short while.

Two more installations of the community link alarm have been made this month. This is such a valuable service and it gives the people who have had then installed a bit more independence and makes them feel safer in their own homes knowing they can call on someone twenty four seven if they need help.

There was an incident this month with an elderly/vulnerable where I needed to call the first responders. I would just like to say a big thank you to Liz for attending this person so promptly. It certainly put my mind at rest and the elderly/vulnerable was calmed down and felt better within minutes.

I am desperately looking for volunteers to perhaps fetch and deliver daily newspapers to some of the elderly residents who are unable to get to the shop. I will speak with members of the church and residents from the village to see if anyone may be able to help.

It has been a good month for the elderly/vulnerable who had hospital admissions last month. Most are on the mend and looking a lot brighter. Some have returned to mini bus and lunch club. This has been lovely to see as they have been missed.

At last we have finally managed to enjoy an elderly/vulnerable trip to Bognor for a morning of shopping followed by lunch at a lovely café on the sea front at Felpham. We were so lucky with the weather. We ate fish and chips followed by ice cream and fruit salad. Luckily I managed to find funding for the lunch for all the elderly/vulnerable that attended. This was a surprise for those that came on trip but very much appreciated. We finished off with a shopping trip to Morrison's on the way home

It was really nice as I was able to take some youth from the village on the trip. They helped the elderly/vulnerable on the day. With the success of the trip shopping to Bognor it has been requested that I arrange a trip early November for them to go again so they can do some Christmas shopping.

Plans are also in place for us all to go somewhere local for a Christmas lunch. Date time and location to be confirmed.

ASHINGTON AFTERNOON LUNCH/ TEA CLUB

Lunch club in September was another success. Lovely homemade food made by Pat followed by entertainment from a lady from Worthing. We had a good old sing song for an hour with many old songs.

It was also lovely to see more volunteers that helped on the day. It just makes the day run much smoother with more help. A big thank you to some local youth for their input on the day very much appreciated.

October lunch club we have a local lady who will be singing after lunch. This will be followed by an afternoon tea made up of homemade cakes and refreshments.

Following the success of the vintage tea theme it has been decided to make this a regular event in its self. We have managed to hire the hall on a monthly basis, (not after lunch club) to hold a vintage tea afternoon. This will run from two until four. Transport will be provided for those that need it. This will give another social event for the elderly/vulnerable and anyone else from the village who would like to attend. I am very pleased with this new event as it gives the elderly/vulnerable somewhere to go and have a chat and a nice afternoon tea in the winter months. It can be quite lonely for some in the winter months.

Christmas lunch club party plans are already being discussed. We have managed to arrange entertainment for the day.

BINGO

I couldn't let it go without reporting that Bingo this month was very entertaining. Firstly I would like to say it was nice to see new members attending. I also like to see the interaction with young and old at this event.

Two of shall I say the more difficult and challenging youth from the village wanted to come and see what happens at bingo. I did ask the members if this was ok and they said yes.

The youth then decided that they would like to call the bingo numbers. I explained that they mustn't muck about and that they had to be serious. Well this lasted all of two minutes but I must say we all had a good laugh and it was quite a good evening. The youth could not believe how intense it was to call bingo numbers. The youth managed to behave themselves and quite enjoyed the evening.

A big thank you to the regular members of bingo for letting the youth join in.

LUCISTA CARAVAN PARK

Thursday evening was very eventful with lots of phone calls made to me of reports of a house on fire in the village. Luckily thanks to local knowledge I was able to trace the fire to Lucista Caravan Park. They are clearing the old caravans and building new log cabins. They were burning large amounts of rubbish which left a huge smoke trail across the village.

Fire service attended and inspected the site to see what was being burnt. Everything was checked and all ok. Words of advice were given not to burn so much rubbish at once.

A lot of local residents were extremely worried about the fire and thanks to their quick thinking and reporting we were able to identify the problem quickly. I reassured and updated all the concerned residents that everything was ok.

Warden Phone

It has been brought to my attention that my mobile answer machine was not working. I can only apologise to those that tried to leave a message. It has now been rectified and I am now able to get your messages. Thank you to those who told me it was not working. It is very difficult for me to know I have a problem as I do not call myself. I must just explain that when I am off duty I will not answer my phone. This has been causing issues as residents think I am ignoring them. I will return their call if they leave a message when I am next on duty.

WARDEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

This event will be held on the 29th November 2014 3 till 6. Invites will be delivered to all properties in the village the beginning of November.

APPENDIX 2 – Sussex Police

Ashington Parish Council Meeting Update

To follow

**APPENDIX 3 –Report on Ashington Youth Centre - Summer Holidays
2014**

To follow

APPENDIX 4 – Funds held by the Parish Council on behalf of others:

First Responders Funds: £3286.54

Bingo Club: £286.64