



# Ashington Parish Council

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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 3<sup>rd</sup> July 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 5<sup>th</sup> June 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. Report from District and County Councillors
7. Actions Outstanding:
  - a. Trees at northern edge of Recreation Ground
  - b. Multi-sports court – update
  - c. Annual Inspection of Council land – report
8. Correspondence (for action) –
  1. Letter from Thakeham PC inviting Ashington PC to be involved in preparation of their Neighbourhood Plan.
  2. HDC Community Safety – a new Neighbourhood Watch Co-ordinator is needed for Ashington.
  3. Public consultation on draft Fire and Rescue Service proposals 2015-16
  4. Invitation for the Chairman to attend the Community Minibus Association AGM on 25<sup>th</sup> July 2014.
9. **Public Adjournment**  
Opportunity for members of the public to raise matters of concern
10. Planning  
Correspondence:
  - a. Neighbourhood Plan – update.
  - b. Representation from the owner of Post Horses House – that the Council considers selling them a small strip (1.3 x 12m) of land adjacent to their rear garden.

New enforcement allegations: None.

Amendments: None

Applications:

DC/14/1058 Demolition of existing dwelling and provision of 3 new dwellings and new access – Four Acres, Rectory Lane

DC/14/1165 Minor Amendment to consented scheme (AS/14/03) for conversion of barn into 1 dwelling – Spring Pond Barn, Rectory Lane

DC/14/1240 Single storey extensions to front and rear - Toad Hall, 5 Brookside

DC/14/1333 Fell 1 Yew Tree (T1 within G1) and surgery to 5 Yew Trees – 19 Blakiston Close

Horsham District Council

Approvals: None

Refusals:

DC/14/0968 Detached garage and boundary fence - Flint House Rectory Lane

DC/14/1138 Construction of farm track for the purposes of agriculture (Prior Notification) - Land West of Penn Retreat Rectory Lane

Withdrawals: None

Appeal decision: None

Appeals: None

11. Finance

Correspondence:

1. The ropes supporting the 'birds nest swing' in the Over 12s play area require replacement due to fraying & exposure of sharp wires. Cost £193.80 inc delivery.

Income:

Kite & Thomas – rent & roundabout sponsorship £2077.50

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

12. Meetings attended and reports by Councillors

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

14. Date and Time of Next Meeting

Parish Council – Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2014, 7.45 pm at Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington.

Planning Committee – Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July & 30<sup>th</sup> 2014, 7.30pm at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane

**PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**  
Karen Dare, Clerk to Ashington Parish Council 27<sup>th</sup> June 2014.



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### Schedule of payments July 2014

Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£500.00
	Hanging basket watering 4 weeks	£260.00
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17
	Postage	£8.84
	Total	£
WSSC	Salary and on costs (June)	
	Payroll services	£43.20
ACCT	Planning committee 28/05/14	£3.80
	Bingo Club (May)	£37.75
	Lunch Club (May)	£60.40
Horsham Matters	youth worker (April)	£
Public Works Loan	Repayment	£3110.12
Ashington Lunch Club	balance of funds held	£to be calculated

## **APPENDIX 1**

### **REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS JUNE 2014**

#### **THEFT**

Reports of theft have been made to the police. One informer managed to give a good description of suspicious males late at night walking around the garden of her property. All intelligence was passed to police.

I have spoken with Horsham District Council and am trying to get bin notices to be placed on refuse bins. The notice will explain about security measures to protect the local resident's property. It will also high light the need to call any suspicious incident that they may witness through to the police.

Several suspicious vehicles that have been about the village have had registration details passed to the police.

I have been stopping cold callers around the village and checking their ID.

All elderly/vulnerable groups I have been checking their home security.

One elderly resident was very distressed following having her purse stolen whilst out shopping. Police were informed and following this incident I contacted the community link alarm service to install an alarm. This has made the person concerned feel safer in her own home.

I am in the process of handing out purse bells to elderly/vulnerable group. By having these bells on the purses it just gives warning if someone touches their purse. I have also reminded them of carrying their bags over their body rather than leaving them in shopping trolleys etc. It's just to remind them to be extra vigilant with their personal belongings when out shopping.

I am working with the Co-op regarding shoplifting offences. All intelligence is being passed to the police.

#### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME**

I know we have a neighbourhood watch scheme in the village but I feel it needs refreshing. I have spoken with several residents in the village and they are all willing to volunteer to become neighbourhood watch coordinators.

This is such a valuable service to have in the village, a really good way of communicating to all residents in the village. The ideal scheme would be a volunteer coordinator for each road in the village.

I have spoken with the PCSO Bryony Sparks who will take the lead in this project. She will gather all information from the current scheme. It is then planned to arrange a meeting to sign up new volunteers.

We then propose to run a quarterly meeting to keep everyone involved up to date with latest news etc.

We will also try and arrange a property marking day. The Date and time is yet to be confirmed.

#### **BUSINESS WATCH**

Following an incident regarding a suspicious person at a local business in Ashington it has come to my attention that we need some sort of link up between businesses in the village.

Business Watch has been set up within the Horsham District. It has been started to increase the flow of communication between business communities and Sussex Police, to prevent crime, increase intelligence and reassure the community.

Horsham District Safety Partnership endorses the scheme and encourages members to sign up. The scheme is free to join.

#### **THE AIMS OF BUSINESS WATCH ARE:**

- To reduce opportunities for crime to occur in industrial or vulnerable locations
- To reassure and strengthen the business community
- To improve communication between the business community and Sussex police

- To encourage businesses to report suspicious incidents as they occur
- To give practical crime prevention advice to help ensure property and goods are as secure as possible.

I really think this would be good for the local businesses in the village. I have given information packs on the scheme already to some businesses and then hopefully it will get them to sign up.

I also think it's a good idea for the local businesses to interact with one another. I will gather local business numbers and distribute to all businesses concerned and I will discuss further with local PCSO.

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES**

This month has seen several complaints of issues with neighbours. I have visited those concerned and have left incident diaries for the complainants to fill out. Once this diary has been filled in for a month I will return and collect them and collate all evidence and pass to the relevant agencies. All those concerned have been told to call the police if a criminal offence has been made.

Mediation has also been offered.

### **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

Two referrals to relevant agencies to help people with drug related issues have been made this month.

Confiscation and disposal of drug paraphernalia have also been made this month.

I am also reminding residents to phone through any intelligence regarding drug issues in the village to the police.

### **LITTER**

Litter is still a problem on the rec and skate park area. Youths are volunteering to litter pick these areas on a regular basis.

I have made a litter pick rota for the ball court once it is open for the summer. Local youth have put their names forward.

I have managed to collect a wheelie bin from Hop Oast cleansing dept. to place in the ball court once it is open for the summer. I will try and get another bin for the rear of the youth club.

Complaints of litter from local businesses on London Road have been made to me. I think it is where the young groups are waiting for the school bus in the mornings that the litter is at its worst. I have placed posters asking that they pick up their litter and place in bin. Hopefully this might help. When available I will also visit these areas and deliver some education regarding litter issues. Perhaps a phone call to the schools to ask them to deliver some educational work around litter problems may also help.

Pick up your Litter Posters designed by the local youth have now been placed in the skate park area.

### **YOUTH**

Chessington World of Adventures trip for the youth who have been working hard with me over the last few months, litter picking, helping with the elderly/vulnerable has been organised for the 9<sup>th</sup> July 2014. I have managed to secure a grant towards some of the cost of the trip. The youth are happy to pay a contribution themselves towards costs. Approximately 10 youth will be going on trip. They have managed to collect buy one get one free vouchers over the last few weeks which will keep the entry fee to Chessington down.

I have noticed this month more youth within the village. I have had to move groups on from the co-op. They are a younger group from 11 upwards. There are 6 to 7 in the group often meeting up with others from across the village making the group size larger.

It is very difficult for me to work with them moving them on from one area to another.

I feel now is the time to move ahead with providing a new youth shelter. This would be so beneficial for me, somewhere I could direct them to so they could all congregate in one area, not disturbing residents of the village.

I have attended several partnership meetings and referral meetings with the youth concerned too try and get them the help that they need at this present time. Lots of issues are ongoing and I am there to offer them support all the way.

Some of the youth have decided to go fishing. I have encouraged this idea and have guided them with issues on where to get fishing licenses etc. They have also visited a local fishery where they were able to buy cheap fishing rods and tackle. Those that have been fishing have enjoyed it very much so hopefully they will spread the word to other youth across the village.

There have been several issues within the older group age 20 and over of the village. Some personal that I have been able to help with the issues they are finding hard to deal with. There have been several referrals to partnership agencies.

I have been attending youth club on a regular basis and working closely with the youth worker.

### **YOUTH SHELTER**

I have made a visit to the youth shelter in Sullington. A couple of members of our older youth group also attended. They agreed that the youth shelter that they had seen would be perfect for Ashington Youth. They are going to work on a presentation to give at the next Parish council Meeting

I am still waiting for the parents to give me a date to schedule a meeting regarding the youth shelter.

### **FLY TIPPING**

There have been three incidents of fly tipping this month. All have been reported to Horsham District Council cleansing department. Hopefully they will remove it. I will check on areas to see this happens.

### **ELDERLY/VULNERABLE**

There have been several issues this month within the elderly/vulnerable group that have needed my support and attention. Due to personnel issues I cannot say what has happened but it has been a difficult and worrying time for some. I have been doing my best to reassure and just keep an eye on all of them over the last month.

Two more have joined my list this month and it was lovely to see them attending the lunch/afternoon club and Bingo.

A few elderly/vulnerable have had hospital admissions this month. Due to this I have been visiting those concerned on a more regular basis.

Two more community link alarms have been installed. This is so good for those concerned it gives peace of mind and feeling safe within their own home.

I still need to organise our next trip, a suggestion was Eastbourne.

### **ASHINGTON AFTERNOON LUNCH/ TEA CLUB**

A lovely day was had by all at this month's lunch/tea club. A lovely meal was served followed by a bingo session. Everybody enjoyed this. Prizes were items of groceries. Bingo was followed by a lovely vintage tea spread. Finger sandwiches and cake were served on the best vintage china. Thanks to the ladies who organised this lovely treat. Thanks once again for the help from the local youth with this event. It is so nice to see young and old interacting so well.

One member who attends the lunch club serenaded us all with his accordion. It was a lovely way to spend an afternoon.

Thirty people attended the lunch club this month.

Due to being let down with the entertainment for the July lunch club meeting, at the request of several of the elderly/vulnerable group I will be doing bingo session again following the lunch. Once again the prizes will be grocery items.

I will be providing homemade quiche and cake for the afternoon tea.

**WARDEN**

At last I now have a computer update in the warden office. I am now waiting for the upgrade to the new system that HDC has had installed. I have been told it will all be up and working in the next two weeks.

I have had to attend several meetings with IT to rectify this issue

I can also say finally I have had my work phone fixed. I can now receive calls on my warden number again.

I have had problems with the warden car this month it has been towed to the garage twice due to engine problems. I had been using a hire car. Obviously trying to get the car fixed has taken quite a lot of my time over the last two weeks but hopefully now it is all fixed.

It has been very difficult to do litter picking etc. these last two weeks due to all my tools and kit being left in the warden car at garage.



**APPENDIX 2 – Sussex Police**  
**Ashington Parish Council Meeting Update**

To follow

**APPENDIX 3 – May/June 2014 Report on Ashington Youth Centre - Summer  
Term 2014 - Kris Page (youth leader)**

To follow