



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 4th September 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 7th August 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
8. Correspondence (for action) –
 1. WSCC – What Matters to You – consultation for residents to respond to.
 2. WSCC winter maintenance offer
9. **Public Adjournment**
Opportunity for members of the public to raise matters of concern
10. Planning
Correspondence:
 - a. Neighbourhood Plan – update on letter to residents.
 - b. Post Horses House sale of a small strip (1.3 x 12m) of land adjacent to their rear garden - update

New enforcement allegations: None.

Amendments: None

Applications:

DC/14/1420 Proposed new service area (24 hour) development comprising of petrol filling station (sui generis use) and ancillary shop (A1 use), forecourt canopy, 5 no. pump islands, automatic car wash and associated service facilities (ATM, air/water point, jet wash etc) Restaurant with Drive-Thru facility (A3 and A5 uses) and associated sewage treatment plant – land south east of Martins Farm, London Road

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
Removed from agenda as plans have not yet arrived

Horsham District Council

Approvals:

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

Refusals: None

Withdrawals: None

Appeal decision: None

Appeals: None

11. Finance

Correspondence:

1. Review of the Wardens job grade and salary.
2. The Clerk reports that the External Auditor has approved the annual accounts without comment.
3. Consider a quote for play area repairs (replacing the rotten timber at Posthorses play area) and repainting the bench outside the Methodist Church. Total £565.00

Income: None

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 2nd October 2014, 7.45 pm at Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington.

Planning Committee – Wednesday 17th September 2014, 7.30pm at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane

PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

Karen Dare, Clerk to Ashington Parish Council 30th August 2014.



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Schedule of payments September 2014

Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£500.00
	Hanging basket watering 4 weeks	£260.00
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17
	Stationery	£27.18
	Total	£
WSCC	Salary and on costs (July)	£1168.07
	Salary and on costs (August)	£988.53
WSCC made a mistake on the July invoice and have corrected it on the August invoice.		
ACCT	Planning committee 30/07/14	£3.80
	Bingo Club (July)	£37.75
	Play area lease	£12
Horsham Matters	youth worker (June)	£796.50
Storrington Area Help Scheme	grant (as agreed at last meeting)	£200
Sussex Air Ambulance	grant (as agreed at last meeting)	£200
Ashington Festival	(grant, as agreed 6/3/14)	£866.00
AiRS	subscription	£50.00
PKF Littlejohn	Audit	£480.00
Setter Ltd	play area ropes	£232.56

APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

Reports of criminal damage have been made to me this month.

The Take away shop has had its window smashed. This was following a report of anti-social behaviour outside the premises.

The co-op phoned me to inform me that someone had super glued their shutter. They were unable to close the shutter when leaving the shop. Super glue had also been placed on the cash point machine. These issues have been reported to the police by the co-op.

I have also noticed several road signs have been pushed over. I will report this to highways dept.

Damage has been made to benches in the Turn pike play area. It looks like someone has tried to set fire to the benches. This has been reported to the police. I will visit local residents over the next few weeks to see if they can keep a look out for any anti-social behaviour in this area. If so they will need to call through to police straight away.

SUSPICIOUS PERSON

I have had to deal with a suspicious male acting in a very strange manner on the London Road. I had to call 999 and ask for police assistance as he was acting in a dangerous manner by putting his self at risk of harm and others. He was walking up the middle of road with cars coming in both directions.

Many residents passed the scene as these issues were happening before I got there. I would just like to remind all residents if witnessing suspicious behaviour or something they just don't feel happy with to call the police. Luckily this time nothing too serious happened.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

I have collated all names of volunteers who are prepared to act as neighbourhood watch members. I will pass on all information to PCSO Sparks to deal with updating the old neighbourhood watch scheme that is presently running in Ashington. This scheme is going to be so valuable for communicating information across the village.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES

I have had several neighbourhood disputes this month that are really affecting those concerned and their quality of life issues in their own homes. I have been working with all parties concerned to come up with solutions to the problems. I will continue to work closely with them over the next few months. Mediation has been offered in all cases. I have even been standing in myself to act as mediator on some of the problems.

Several partner agencies have been contacted for their input into the situations that are happening.

I am also encouraging those with the issues to speak together and try and resolve it between them without the need of intervention. This I feel has the best outcome for all concerned. It has been quite positive at the moment with these issues.

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

This last month has seen an increase in local youth approaching me for help. They are aware that their substance misuse is heavy and are asking me to refer them to relevant agencies for help with reducing and stopping their substance misuse. This is a very positive sign and I am doing my best to help them.

I am at present in contact with the Substance Misuse Manager who works with Horsham Matters. We are trying to arrange sessions for those youth that have asked for help.

There is Intelligence continually being passed to Police.

Several police calls due to anti-social behaviour have resulted in alcohol confiscation, searches for drugs and youth being returned home to parents over this last month.

I have spoken with the co-op regarding people buying alcohol for underage group within the village. They are working with me and have agreed to not sell the alcohol

to older youth if they feel they are giving it to the younger ones. I know that some local youth have been refused to buy alcohol due to this problem over the last few weeks.

I will arrange for the new temporary youth worker to deliver sessions to youth concerned over alcohol intake and the dangers etc.

LITTER

I continue to litter pick hot spot areas with the help of local youth.

I have noticed the litter has not been as bad this month.

I have been doing a lot of education work when coming across the groups of youth in the village. Hopefully some will listen. Sadly there is always going to be the few that just will not conform. I am aware of those that are causing the issues.

Now the new temporary youth worker is in place I will be asking her to get the youth club members to litter pick at rear of youth club on a weekly basis. This hopefully will keep the litter down in this area.

Some of the local residents have suggested that we have an Ashington Litter pick day. This would be a really good idea. I am looking to arrange some help from Horsham District Council cleansing department to see if they can provide a truck on the day to remove all rubbish that we litter pick. I will also ask if they have any litter picking equipment we could borrow. It would also be good for the community to come together and litter pick their village. I am more than happy to provide refreshments on the day.

This event would really help me to help all resident's make Ashington village a Cleaner, greener, safer environment to live in for all to enjoy.

I will contact KEEP BRITAIN TIDY to see if they have any kits we could use for litter pick.

STRAY DOGS

Stray dogs are really taking up a lot of my time. The dogs that are reported to me as strays never have any identification, phone number etc. on collar. Due to this I am only able to contact the dog warden from the local kennel who will come and collect the dog.

I don't like doing this as it will cost the owner a lot of money to retrieve their pet.

Pets at home can do a personalised identification tag for £4.99. This is a lot cheaper than kennel fees. When I find the dogs I can just give the owner a call.

Due to the amount of stray dogs that I have to deal with I have had to purchase a dog guard for the warden car. This is for my safety as well as the dogs that I have to retrieve.

An example of my time that is wasted dealing with stray dogs is it took three hours the other night dealing with one stray dog. Thanks to the local residents for all their help I was able to deal with getting the kennels to come collect dog.

YOUTH

Many of the youth are getting excited about the arrival of youth shelter. Arrangements are being put in place to have an opening ceremony when it arrives. I will be asking local businesses to sponsor event if possible.

A grant of £250.00 has been received from Sussex Police towards the youth shelter.

Youth are still looking at ways of raising more money towards this project.

Hopefully the youth worker can now take the lead on arranging this event. I of course will help in any way I can.

I have decided that I will be taking the youth that have made a valuable voluntary contribution to their community on a trip to reward their hard work. The Date, time and location is to be confirmed. At present approx. seven youth will be on the trip.

There have been several reports of anti-social behaviour this month across the village. One good thing residents are phoning the police when they witness the anti-social behaviour.

My main concern still remains that a lot of the anti-social behaviour issues are older youth 18 plus. Most of the anti-social behaviour is happening after 11pm.

I have been working closely with the new temporary youth worker over the last couple of weeks. We have been looking at the best days, times etc. to open youth club. I think it has now been agreed that two separate nights the youth club will be open, one night for the younger youth and the other night for the older groups within the village.

BALL COURT

The Ball court is still being used on a regular basis. Not as busy as I thought it would be. No issues with litter.

FLY TIPPING

The Old London Road is really becoming a hot spot for fly tipping. Several fly tips were made and one even being dumped in the middle of road making it difficult for access to houses at the bottom of the road. I have reported to cleansing dept. to arrange for removal.

ELDERLY/VULNERABLE

I've had some really sad issues this month within the elderly/vulnerable group. One had a nasty fall which resulted in them being hospitalised. Another being hospitalised due to sudden illness I have been visiting all who have had a difficult month making sure they are receiving all the help and care they require.

I would just like to say it was lucky both these residents had a community link alarm. It enabled them to raise help quickly.

Lots of purse bells and chains have been handed out this month across the village to prevent purse snatches.

For those who wish to monitor their exercise activities I have been handing out pedometers.

I am waiting for an order that has been placed for rechargeable torches. I will be handing these out ready for the dark winter months. I have also managed to get more winter warm packs.

I have finally found some free time to arrange a trip out for the elderly/vulnerable group. It will be on Friday the 12 TH September. We will be visiting Matalan, Lidl and then Bognor town centre for some retail therapy followed by lunch at one of their favourite places Felpham Boat House. We will be having fish and chip followed by a walk along the sea front.

This was all arranged at their request.

ASHINGTON CARNIVAL

I am really pleased to report that there were no complaints of anti-social behaviour on carnival day.

I personally would just like to say that it was one of the best carnivals that I have attended over the years that I have been a neighbourhood warden.

It was lovely to see so many floats this year. A lot of hard work had gone into the floats and all that took part had also put so much effort into their entries.

I attended from early morning until late at night and can say that the atmosphere was very happy. Everyone was enjoying themselves. It was particularly nice to see everyone having a good time.

I did work alongside the community link manager during the day manning a stall giving out security and personal safety advice, and information on all services available. Purse bells and chains were also given out to all.

Several referrals were made to the community link. These people will be visited over the next few weeks to discuss if they wish to use the service.

The stall was very good to have and it enabled me to have close contact with all. Lots of networking was done with partner agencies.

More elderly/vulnerable had approached me on the day asking for help. I will be making my way around to all of them to sign post and discuss issues they may have.

Several would like to attend the lunch club.

ASHINGTON AFTERNOON LUNCH/ TEA CLUB

Lunch club was a success in August. We had fish and chips from the local take away shop. A very big thanks to them for their support and effort in supplying 32 portions of fish and chips and five pie and chips. The portions were massive. Everybody enjoyed their lunch.

It was followed by a vintage tea outside. Everyone enjoyed the day and we finished off the day with a good old natter.

Thank you to everyone who attended and donated gifts for raffle and freshly grown produce for the sales table. These kind donations enable us to make enough money to keep the lunch club going throughout the year.

September lunch club we will be having lunch followed by an afternoon of live entertainment. A lady will be attending who will be singing songs from the 30`s through to the 60`s. This will be followed by a light tea made up of homemade cake and pastries.

It is good news that this September we will have some extra help from members of the church. Any help is gratefully received.

I have also heard that several church members have volunteered to drive the minibus. This will prove very useful for the lunch club and even for planning trips.

We are already planning entertainment for the next two months; one month will be someone coming in to do crafts. A lunch club member has offered to do some singing another month. Then it will be time to arrange the Christmas party.

It is good news that the lunch club has managed to fund its self for another year. I am hoping to apply for some funding for help towards next year.

Lots of new members are attending. August saw an attendance of 36 members.

Youth still helping at this event when they can.

WARDEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Invitations have now been designed and printed. Look out for you invite in the next few weeks.

WARDEN TRAINING

I have just attended a refresher course for playground inspections. This will allow me to inspect playgrounds within the parish for the next three years.

I have just had my SIA licence renewed for the next three years.

I am doing a home study course over the next ten weeks. It is for a level two in Mental Health Awareness.

I will also be attending a course on Understanding Dementia in October.

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: £3,318.65

Bingo Club: £362.14