



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 7th August 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 3rd July 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. Sussex Police representatives are attending the HALC meeting on 18th Sept – do Councillors have any topics for discussion?
 2. Petition to stop indiscriminate housing development following unsustainable housing targets.
 3. Review of Polling Stations in the District.
 4. A24 noise reduction – WSCC have informed the Clerk that when the A24 needs resurfacing it will NOT now be done in noise reducing tarmac unless the additional funds for the tarmac are found by WSCC or the Parish.
 5. Sussex Police – consultation on dealing with ASB
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. 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: None

Horsham District Council

Approvals:

DC/14/0851 Change of use from nursing home to single dwelling house, demolition of existing link, addition of single storey extension to rear and first floor extension to side and extension of existing crossover - Glenview and Santrew Home Hillcrest Drive

DC/14/0877 Proposed detached garage - Prospect Cottage Rectory Lane

DC/14/0906 Demolition of existing conservatory and construction of single storey rear extension - Tollgate Cottage London Road

DC/14/1018 Two storey side extension - 4 Cricketers Close

DC/14/0976 Single storey and two storey extension - Jinkes Farm Muttons Lane

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

Refusals:

DC/14/1109 Conversion and partial change of use of the Class A1 retail unit into an A1 shop and a two-bedroom dwelling - Post Horses London Road

Withdrawals:

DC/14/1070 Extend existing house and rebuild existing garage/outbuilding - Batts Farm Billingshurst Road

DC/14/0162 Outline planning application 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 built up area boundary (Development affects the setting of a Listed Building) | Yew Tree Cottage Billingshurst Road

Appeal decision: None

Appeals:

APP/Z3825/A/14/2220917 - DC/14/0446 Demolition of existing building and erection of 2 No. detached and 4 No. semi-detached two storey houses Hoots House, London Road

11. Finance

Correspondence:

1. The Parish Council photocopier needs to be removed from the Chiropractors office. It is proposed to dispose of the copier and remove it from the Council's insurance policy and asset register.
2. Consider a request for a grant from Storrington Area Help Scheme

3. Consider a request for a grant from Kent Surrey Sussex Air Ambulance.

Income:

Saxon Weald – grant for youth shelter £1000

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 4th September 2014, 7.45 pm at Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington.

Planning Committee – Wednesday 20th August 2014, 7.30pm at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane

PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

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



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Schedule of payments August 2014

Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£500.00
	Hanging basket watering 4 weeks	£260.00
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17
	Stationery	£34.35
	Total	£
WSCC	Salary and on costs (July)	£1078.30
	Payroll charges (re-issue of cheque 1541 lost in post)	£43.20
ACCT	Planning committee 18/06/14	£3.80
	Bingo Club (June)	£37.75
Horsham Matters	youth worker (May)	£904.50
Sports Courts UK Ltd	cleaning of MSC	£660.00
S. Fenn	Responder expenses	£62.72
Stocksigns	new play area sign	£33.60
Playsafety Ltd	playground inspections	£234.00
The Sign Shop	MSC signs/banner	£108.00

APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

THEFT

There have been more reports to me of attempted thefts and thefts from sheds this month

I have been reminding residents to secure all property when not on the premises.

There has been a burglary at our local nursery school. Damage was made to the door where they gained access followed by damage to the cupboards and storage inside. Items were also stolen including nappies, milk and lap top computer. A small amount of money was also taken. It is with sadness that I inform you with this news as this is a valuable service for small children which has now suffered disruption following this break in.

There have been several incidents of a male acting suspiciously at properties where the owners/tenants are on holiday. Thanks to the quick thinking of local neighbours this person has been disturbed from doing what I think his intentions may have been to enter the property. They have all contacted the police straight away with their suspicions.

I have been talking to home owners /tenants and have given them advice if going away if they have good neighbours to just let them know how long they are away from property.

Any suspicious activity or suspicious vehicles need to be reported to the police. Vehicle registration numbers a brief description of vehicle and suspicious persons we need to report good descriptions i.e. height, colouring, clothes they are wearing. This will help the police when you report any issues. I am still waiting to hear from Horsham District Council about 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 highlight the need to call any suspicious incident that they may witness through to the police.

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

There has been lots of complaint to me regarding telephone scam calls and telesales. I have been reminding all who have been involved in these issues to report to police and never give bank details or personal details over the phone. My elderly/vulnerable group are most at risk and I have been spreading the word amongst them to just put the phone down.

PARKING

Once again parking is becoming an issue across the village. There have been numerous complaints of car drivers and vans parking in areas which are making it difficult for residents to see when coming out there drives. There are no parking restrictions in these areas and unless they are obstructing the drive not a lot can be done. Parking on pavements is an obstruction and should be called through to the police on 101 non-emergencies...

Sometimes the parking offenders do not realise they are causing problems. I have suggested to residents to just have a quiet word explaining their issues with the offenders parking.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME

Several volunteers have come forward over the last month.

I have a list of all roads in Ashington which I will hand to the local PCSO who will lead this project.

All names of volunteer neighbourhood watch co coordinators will be passed to the PCSO.

I will chase for this scheme to be updated and refreshed ASAP as I have said before it is a valuable service to have in the village. It will enable us to communicate across the village highlighting any issues that may be happening that we all need to be aware of.

BUSINESS WATCH

I have now got a list of all businesses within in the village and I will be delivering information packs on business watch.

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.

I am also speaking about a local contact register between the local businesses. If there is a problem they can all contact one another by phone.

NEIGHBOURHOOD DISPUTES

There are still ongoing issues with neighbourhood disputes. I am trying to help where I can to resolve some of the issues.

Mediation has been offered.

More serious cases have been referred to the housing officer for their property and the local police.

Other referrals' when is necessary has been reported to the anti-social behaviour team at Horsham district council

DRUGS AND ALCOHOL

Urgent referrals and safe guarding forms have been filled in and sent to social services regarding some of the people with substance misuse issues.

Intelligence reports are still going to police involving the illegal drug usage within the village.

I have noticed an increase in underage drinking within the youth group of the village.

It is evident from the rubbish left that the alcohol is coming from the co-op. I have also witnessed older youth carrying boxes of alcohol from the co-op to the rec area. I

I will be speaking with the manager of the Co-op to see if he can be more observant of who is buying the alcohol for the underage youth. Hopefully they can also use the think 25 when selling alcohol over the next few months.

Hopefully when the new youth worker starts we can deliver education around alcohol consumption and the effects it has on the youth long term.

LITTER

Youth are still helping me litter pick hot spot areas at least twice a week.

Following my weeks holiday I returned to work and my phone did not stop ringing with complaints about litter. Admittedly it was particularly bad in the skate park area but this is the younger group of youth that are using this area daily.

I have litter picked this area with the help of these younger group of youth and have educated them on the need to use the bins for their litter. I have been quite firm with them and will now visit this area on a regular basis and get them to litter pick themselves.

I have had several complaints from parents with younger children saying that they want to use the skate park but it is always full of youth and the litter is disgusting and that their young children feel intimidated by the group. My answer to that is this area is designed from the age of 12 upwards.

There was a large amount of glass bottles smashed in this area and I have cleaned and swept and cleared it.

I will be viewing CCTV to see who the main offenders are and will be following up what evidence I find.

The recreation ground has also been bad with litter. This is due to the fact that the youth are sitting on the rec now the better weather is with us. I have had words with the group and when I see them I will be giving them dustbin bags to put their litter in.

If I witness myself anyone dropping litter I will be issuing an on the spot fine of £75.00 for littering.

There have been numerous complaints of the litter behind the youth club. I will speak with new youth worker when they start and perhaps get them to take ownership of the clearing of litter in this area.

I appreciate that we should not have to pick up litter after the youth and I can promise you I am doing my best to educate and get their help with these issues but if everyone took the attitude of not picking litter up I hate to think what the village would look like.

Just a few minutes of resident's time collecting small amounts of litter would help me to keep the village clean and tidy and a lovely environment for everyone to enjoy.

I am doing my best to litter pick the hot spot areas when I have time. Sadly there are more urgent matters within the village that I have to deal with that takes priority.

YOUTH

Due to bad behaviour within the group of local youth I have put the Chessington trip on hold. Once again for a few youth that will not conform, the youth that are having a lot of input into the community are suffering. I will arrange the trip when I feel that the youth have deserved the trip. If not I will just take those that are giving up their free time to volunteer within the village.

There have been Loads of anti-social behaviour reports this month with the youth in the village. On further investigation it has become evident that the youth causing the issues are from outside the village many coming from neighbouring villages.

My main concern that a lot of the anti-social behaviour issues are older youth 18 plus.

I am working closely with the police on these issues.

I am still waiting for the new temporary youth worker to start hopefully the we can do some outreach work with in the village and even get the youth club open a couple of nights a week.

Reports of loud aggressive and rowdy behaviour by the scout hut have been reported to me on several occasions. If it is a problem residents must keep calling the police 101 non-emergency or 999 if they are feeling threatened or intimidated. It is better to report when the anti-social behaviour is happening. Lots of issues with older youth using Turnpike play area. I have been patrolling this area and moving them on.

I am working closely with the anti-social behaviour team at Horsham District Council.

BALL COURT

The ball court being open for free has been very popular. It is being used regularly by all ages. I have managed to get some play equipment for the youth to use. Tennis rackets, soft ball and footballs. I have noticed also local family's coming down in the evening to use the facility.

A litter bin has been placed in this area and at the moment everyone seems to be respecting the ball court.

YOUTH SHELTER

It is really good news that the youth shelter is going ahead.

Co-op has been spoken to about supplying food and non-alcoholic drink for a grand opening when the youth shelter is in place.

The youth are working on this project themselves and we hope to invite the press and members of the local community to the big day.

Fundraising is still going ahead with the youth; some are applying for grants towards the cost of the shelter.

FLY TIPPING

Old London Road has seen several fly tip cases this last month. It is mostly garden and building waste. Luckily one vehicle was seen when dumping the rubbish. Vehicle registration was taken and passed to the police for them to investigate further.

I have reported to Hop Oast cleansing dept. for the urgent removal of fly tip.

ELDERLY/VULNERABLE

Due to issues with the anti-social behaviour within the village a lot of my time has been taken dealing with this.

I have found that I have been unable to visit as many elderly/vulnerable on a regular basis that I have been doing in past months. This has caused some distress as the people I visit have become used to the welfare visits and have missed them.

I have added yet more elderly/vulnerable to my list this month. It has been nice to work with them and help them access the services that they require to improve their living and health conditions.

Several elderly/vulnerable have had serious health issues this month and some really life changing. I have been there to just offer reassurance and help them and their family in any way I can.

The hot weather has been a real worry with in this group and I have been highlighting the importance of staying safe in a heat wave. Just reminding them to drink plenty of fluid and keep curtains pulled to keep rooms cool. Not to sit out in sun when it is at it's hottest. All common sense things really which they all know anyway?

Due to the thunderstorms and flash flooding several have lost their electricity power. I have been making sure they have torches at the ready and contact numbers they can call to check out power problems.

I am so busy at the moment that I have been unable to organise a trip for them. I will be organising this for August. I think we may just go local and have our lunch somewhere and then perhaps visit a garden centre. Also Amberley museum was suggested.

ASHINGTON AFTERNOON LUNCH/ TEA CLUB

Next lunch club in August we will be lunching outside. Gazebos will be placed and we will have table and chairs outside.

With thanks to a local business for their sponsor and support we will be having fish and chips. Pudding will be jelly and ice cream and lots of other treats are in store for lunch followed by a vintage tea. A raffle will also be provided.

Music will be organised by several of the youth in the village for the afternoon. I will just say the music will be more for the taste of the age group that attend the lunch club.

Quite a lot of the local youth have offered to help on the day.

WARDEN CHRISTMAS PARTY

Entertainment has now been booked and I am starting preparations for this year's party. It will be on Saturday 29th November 2014, start time 3pm finishing at 6pm.

I am at present trying to get grants for this event. Invitations have been designed and will be delivered to residents of Ashington aged 50 and over. This has proved to be a popular event and this is the fourth year that the warden party has been running.

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: £3,381.37

Bingo Club: £399.89