



Ashington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd September 2015 at 7.45 p.m. in Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington

Present: Councillors K. Wood, T. Kearney, N. Clark, S. Cox, G. MacPherson, S. Ball, N. Spiers, J. Stillwell, L. Di Castiglione

Parish Clerk Karen Dare

Neighbourhood Warden Andy Webster

11 members of the public

Invited Guest Richard Murray – Murray Planning Associates – Spear Hill Solar Farm

Sussex Police Sergeant Rachel Mundy & 2 x PCSO's

The Vice-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.

268/15 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs M. Woolley (personal) & R. Strudwick (business), District Councillor John Blackall (business), County Councillor Philip Circus (business).

269/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand.

270/15 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6th August 2015 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Councillor Stillwell and seconded by Councillor Ball, and agreed.

271/15 REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS & YOUTH WORKER

Wardens report (See Appendix 1).

Questions for the Wardens from Councillors:

1. Could the Wardens deal with the caravan parked on the road at Foster Lane?
Andy Webster would speak to the owner.
2. Margaret Alford has arranged for a new wheelie bin at the multi court as the previous one had been stolen. The new bin would be chained to the fence.

Sussex Police

Sergeant Rachel Mundy introduced herself. She explained the new policing structure in Horsham District (Inspector Clare McKnight, 3 x Sergeants, 3 x PC, 3 x PCSO) and explained the shift rota. PCSO's are each given named areas, PC's go where they are needed.

The Police have recently created a 'resolution centre' which is staffed by experienced police officers whose job it is to filter out all calls/reports so that they are directed to the most appropriate agency. Many calls to the Police are not Police matters and should be dealt with by other agencies. Due to funding cutbacks Sussex Police is having to concentrate on their core business and not get involved in matters that they have no responsibility for.

The cutbacks have had some positive effects in that the Police have found new, more efficient, ways of working eg they are currently piloting a mental health 'triage car' which is staffed by a police officer and a mental health nurse. This has been very successful. Horsham Police have access to body worn cameras which are proving to be an excellent resource and it is hoped that these can be issued to all police personnel in the future.

PCSO Shauna Bowen introduced herself as the new PCSO for Ashington, Washington, Wiston (plus Findon & Offington (Worthing)). It is a large geographical area. She explained that she is new to Ashington but is getting to know the village gradually. Ashington is a very low crime area with a few incidents of ASB, alcohol & drug issues, one attempted burglary and one domestic burglary since June 2015.

Questions:

1. A member of the public reported that one particular vehicle is still using the northern roundabouts as a race track. It is a black car and the owner seems to drive from Rectory Lane and regularly races around the roundabouts once before heading off quickly. The PCSO would speak to the member of the public regarding registration number and vehicle details.

The Vice Chairman thanked the Police for attending the meeting.

Youth Worker

Report (see Appendix 3).

Questions: None

A meeting of the Community Partnership group took place on 1st September and Councillors will be provided with a copy of the minutes in due course.

272/15 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT

None present.

273/15 INVITED GUEST RICHARD MURRAY – MURRAY PLANNING ASSOCIATES – SPEAR HILL SOLAR FARM

Richard Murray briefly explained the proposals for a 5 MW solar farm on 11 hectares of land to the west of Hooklands Lane. The site is well screened from public views by trees/hedging and would be little visual impact on the local area. There would be no overhead cables from the site and it would be connected to the power network by a cable running alongside Hooklands Lane/Spear Hill road to the Billingshurst Road sub-station, these works would have to be agreed with WSCC Highways. It is possible to have sheep grazing the land once the panels are installed and to seed with wild flowers. The Developer has spoken to local beekeepers about having beehives on site. The Developer had organised a public exhibition and over 30 members of the public had attended and the response had been very positive. The site is actually in Shipley Parish but as it is very close to the boundary with Ashington Parish the Developer was consulting in both Parishes. A planning application would be submitted shortly.

Questions:

1. What colour are the panels? Blue in colour, non-reflective as they are designed to capture as much energy as possible from sunlight.
2. Do the panels rotate? No, fixed positions.

The Vice-Chairman thanked the Developers for attending the meeting.

274/15 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

None present.

ACTIONS OUTSTANDING:

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

C/F = Minuted and carried forward to 'Actions Outstanding' on the next agenda.

275/15 VAS Sign Billingshurst Road

No update from County Councillor Philip Circus. The Clerk explained to those present that funding for the project was from s106 transport funds that were paid to WSCC by Developers and to be used for transport projects that benefitted the residents of Ashington. Concern was expressed that WSCC may be looking to use the funds for projects outside Ashington Parish but, which could be argued, would benefit the residents of Ashington.

C/F

276/15 Clerk recruitment

As part of the recruitment process the Clerk has prepared the following policies and procedures that need to be available for the new Clerk: grievance, disciplinary, equality, lone working, H&S, Sickness, Risk Assessment and Accident forms. The Clerk has circulated to Councillors and they were asked to approve. Agreed by all. Clerk to put copies on the PC website.

KD D

Cllrs Spiers and Stillwell agreed to assist the Chairman & Vice Chairman with the interviews.

As part of the recruitment process the PC needs to consider offering the new employee admittance into a pension scheme. Some years ago the PC agreed to provide the current Clerk with a pension (namely the Local Government Pension Scheme under the West Sussex Pension Fund). It would make sense for the new Clerk to be enrolled into the same scheme. The Clerk has circulated more details but essentially the Council needs to decide:

- a. Is the LGPS satisfactory? If not then the Council must offer an alternative scheme
- b. Does the Council want to enrol only named individuals or specify that all employees are enrolled into the Scheme. This would cover any future employees.
- c. Is the Council happy to 'auto-enrol' new employees?

A Statutory Resolution specifying the Council's proposal will need to be made and advertised for 28 days prior to formal agreement at the October PC meeting.

It was agreed that the Council offer the LGPS to all employees and that auto-enrolment is arranged. **KD D**

277/15 Winter Grit

WSSCC will not supply any grit free of charge this year. The cost per one tonne bag is £80. In previous years the PC has received 3 bags free of charge but these have never been used and have proved to be a problem in the village and have cost money to be removed.

The Council's approved snowplough contractor has confirmed that he can grit the Council's approved route (Church Lane, Foster Lane, The Sands, Rectory Lane back to London Road) for £160 per grit (including the supply of grit). This would be done prior to a highly likely snowfall and would be agreed by the Clerk plus 2 Councillors.

The contractor will also clear snow from the same route for £60 per hour (min 2 hours) plus £60 call out.

WSSCC do grit London Road, Billingshurst Road, Hole Street as part of their free service.

Councillors agreed not to have any grit bags from WSSCC but to use the approved contractor. This would be reviewed after 1 year.

The Clerk was asked to get a cost to grit from Rectory Lane/The Sands junction through to Penn Gardens and to seek permission to do this from WSSCC. **KD C/F**

278/15 School Age of Transfer consultation

Following discussion at the last meeting the Vice Chairman sought Councillors opinions on the current system of schooling in the local area. This area is the last in the County to retain a 'middle school' which is not in line with the National Curriculum Key Stage 2 age.

For clarity:

Key Stage 2 is school years 3,4,5,6 (split into 2 sub stages – 3/4 and 5/6)

Currently Yr5 is taught at Ashington School and Yrs 6,7,8 are taught at Rydon School and evidence shows that education is disrupted during the change of schools and

results in Yr6 are lower than in other areas that do not have a change of school between Yrs 5 & 6. Ashington School (and other primary schools in the affected areas) are supporting retaining Yr6 so that the whole of Key Stage 2 is taught entirely at the Primary Schools and that the change of school takes place in Yr7 as it does at Church Street School, Steyning. There are no proposals to close Rydon School, nor are there any proposals to retain Yr6 at Primary Schools. The current consultation is about whether it would be in the best interests of children if the situation were reviewed.

Councillors all agreed that it would make educational sense to retain Yr6 at Primary Schools but that the change would need to be managed very carefully. Rydon could not be closed as there is no capacity anywhere else for Yrs 7 & 8 and it does not make sense to try to accommodate such large numbers at Steyning Grammar or Church Street due to the transport costs and the inadequacy of some buildings at Steyning Grammar. The system at Church Street/Steyning Grammar works well as many lessons for Yrs 7&8 take place at the Grammar School site rather than the Church Street site. Therefore, when Church Street pupils move to Yr9 at Steyning Grammar it is not seen as a change of School as they are already very familiar with the Grammar School teachers and site. Concern was expressed about a lack of funding for any changes and a lack of resource at WSCC to manage the change properly.

CORRESPONDENCE

279/15 For action:

1. Premises Application LI/15/0301/PREM for SF Connect, London Road (new petrol station) for:
 - a. Sale and supply of alcohol by retail for consumption on the premises Monday to Sunday, 06:00hrs till 22:00hrs
 - b. Premises open to the public Monday to Sunday, 24 hours each and every day

The Parish Council strongly objects to part b of the application for 24/7 Monday to Sunday opening - this matter was dealt with at the Planning application stage and opening hours of 6am-10pm were made a planning condition following comments from HDC's Environmental Health Officer, the Parish Council and nearby residents relating to the site being in a residential area and hence the need to reduce noise and disturbance to nearby residents.

The application does not make it clear whether it relates to the petrol filling station/kiosk or the restaurant/drive thru on site or both. If it relates to the petrol filling station/kiosk then the Parish Council object to the application for ON premises consumption of alcohol - presumably OFF sales only should occur? If the application relates to the restaurant/drive thru then the Parish Council has no objection to on premises consumption, although 6am does seem a little early.

As the application stands (both parts a and b), the Parish Council strongly objects as the need for 6am-10pm opening is of paramount importance for our residents.

280/15 For information:

1. Horsham Police – monthly crime figures & monthly police report
2. WSCC – change of CLC meeting date to 30th September
3. HDC – invitation to HeartSafe workshop 21st October
4. Invitation to HALC conference 31st October
5. HALC meeting 10th September
6. HDC Celebrating Later Life in Horsham District – invitation to attend emailed to Councillors
7. Consultation on Storrington, Sullington and Washington Neighbourhood Plan.
8. Horsham District Networking event 22nd October

281/15 General:

1. Share Your West Sussex campaign poster
2. SLCC – Notice of AGM
3. Clerks & Councils Direct magazine

282/15 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The Vice 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.

Members of the public reported:

1. The one grit bin in the village is full of grit that hasn't been used and the bin has never been vandalised. Would the Council consider installing other grit bins in the village especially near hills? Clerk to make a list of locations and investigate costs. **KD C/F**
2. When is the Council changing bank signatories? The Clerk responded that she had the forms from the bank but simply had not had time to process them due to the large amount of her time taken up with Clerk recruitment alongside normal Council business. **KD D**
3. Streetlight 19 at the bottom of The Sands was still on all the time. The Clerk had reported this fault last month but would report again. **KD D**
4. Are there any proposals to turn Rydon into a full secondary school? No – the current consultation is simply about whether changes are made, not what those changes are.
5. The temporary railing at the bottom of The Sands has been moved and is currently lying on grass at Fairfield Road. The Wardens have been asked to move it back and secure it.
6. Margaret Alford suggested some possible names for new roads in Ashington. Ex Councillor Brian Norton responded from the public gallery that the Council has been able to propose names to Developers in the past and has always suggested names of deceased individuals who have made a significant contribution to Ashington. No new roads are currently planned.

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

283/15 PLANNING.

The Planning Committee met on 19th August and Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes. Agreed by all.

284/15 Correspondence

None

285/15 Neighbourhood Plan update:

Waiting for recruitment of new Clerk

KD C/F

286/15 New Enforcement Allegations/Information

EN/15/0380 Alleged breach of Condition 6 of DC/10/0864 (need to replace trees that have died within 5 years of being planted) – Blakiston Close

287/15 Amendments

None

288/15 Applications

DC/15/1824 Change of Use from Agricultural Land to car park – agricultural land to the rear of Hoots House, London Road

Ashington Parish Council strongly object to the application:

1. There is no need for this site to be used as a car park - there is plenty of on-street parking in the area near to Ashington Autos. The Parish Council is not aware of any parking issues with neighbours and, in fact, on street parking in the vicinity of Ashington Autos has the beneficial effect of slowing traffic speeds along London Road.
2. The site is not in a sustainable location - it is highly unlikely that employees and/or customers will walk the 0.7miles, through woodland/muddy tracks from the site to Ashington Autos. The proposed route from the car park to Ashington Autos is not a Public Footpath, but a private access only and is not open to pedestrians, the alternative route is likely to be in the region of 1.5 miles in distance.
3. The proposal results in industrialisation of the countryside. This is not a recognised business/industrial park. The east side of the A24 at Ashington is recognised as countryside. The parking of a few working farm vehicles in the field is necessary for the farm business, the parking of cars behind security fences is out of keeping with the area and is a highly unacceptable form of development.
4. The impact of additional vehicle numbers at the junction with Hole Street has not been assessed - visibility splays are not good and there will be conflicts between farm vehicles and cars with the road not being wide enough to accommodate both.
5. The applicant has provided a misleading address - the land is at Broadbridge Farm, Ashington and not land behind Hoots House.

Horsham District Council

289/15 Approvals

DC/15/0954 Use of 1 No. building known as 'Chanctonbury Lodge' as accommodation in breach of an Agricultural Occupancy Condition attached to planning application ref: : AS/56/86/ (Lawful Development Certificate - Existing) – Chanctonbury Lodge, Rectory Lane

DC/15/1063 Foul water treatment facility - Unit 2 Wiston Business Park

DC/15/1291 Proposed two storey side extension including first floor extension over the existing garage - 22 Warminghurst Close

DC/15/1427 Change of use building from a beauty salon (sui generis) to Use Class A1/A2 - Cherub Beauty Salon London Road

DC/15/1312 Proposed Two storey side extension - 5 Fairfield Road

290/15 Refusals

DC/15/1393 Demolition of existing dwelling house formerly 2 No. Flats and the erection of 2 No. Five bedroom houses with new vehicle accesses – Sunbeams, London Road
Reasons: unacceptable form of development not in keeping with appearance & character of area, privacy impact on 16 Alicia Avenue

291/15 Withdrawals

None

292/15 Appeals made/ decisions

None

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for 16th September at 7.30pm in Ashington Sports Pavilion.

FINANCE

293/15 Correspondence

1. Consider a quote to replace 3 perspex windows in the Co-op noticeboard that are opaque with age £110.00. The Council has an earmarked reserve that will cover this cost. Agreed by all. **KD D**
2. Proposal for the PC to hold and administer the ARA funds: Ashington Residents' Association has now officially closed. Everyone who paid their subscription fee of £4 per household has had their money refunded and ARA would like to transfer the remaining funds (£694.50) to Ashington Parish Council as a donation to be used as the Parish Council sees fit. Councillor agreed to accept the funds and to use as a 'grant fund' that village organisations could apply to. **KD D**
3. Approval of Annual Return – the External Auditor has approved the Annual Return with one minor matter in that the reported 'Public Works Loan capital owed' had not included the January repayment amount. The Clerk had investigated this and this error has occurred since 2003 as the statements from

the PWL Board are unclear as to whether the pending payment has/has not already been deducted from the capital owed. This error would be corrected for the 2015/16 Annual Return.

294/15 Income

Donation from Ashington Residents Association £694.50

295/15 Expenditure

		Cheque no.	
Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£508.33	
	Hanging basket watering (4 weeks x £65, for 16 weeks)	£260.00	1682
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17	
	Jobstoday	£118.80	
	McVeigh Parker (postfix)	£10.30	
	Postage	£14.04	
	Total	£160.14	1683
WSSC	Salary and on costs (August)	£1087.35	1684
ACCT	Planning committee 19/08/15	£3.80	1685
Ashington PCC	Youth Worker August 2015	£1083.33	1686
LanGuard Ltd	Weedkilling	£138.00	1687
PKF Littlejohn	Annual Audit	£480.00	1688
HDC	Emptying of dog & litter bins	£305.50	1689

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

296/15 MEETINGS

Cllr Clark & Cllr Stillwell had attended a Chanctonbury Youth Project Community Partnership meeting on 1st September (minutes circulated separately to Councillors).

Cllr Clark & Cllr Stillwell had attended a Wardens Steering Group meeting on 1st September.

297/15 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

1. The dog bin near The Rectory is always full and is very smelly. Clerk to contact HDC about emptying more frequently and possibly cleaning the bin. **KD D**
2. Cllr Spiers had been asked to organise another village litter pick on behalf of WSSC. Parish Councillors thought this was a good idea and would support where possible.

3. One brown tourist sign for the Mill House Hotel remains on the A24 despite the others being removed from the village recently. Clerk to report to WSCC Highways. **KD D**

The next meeting will be held at **7.45pm on Thursday 1st October 2015 at Ashington School, Foster Lane.**

The meeting finished at 9.50pm

Signed.....

Date.....

298/15 APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

THEFT

Four reports of theft this month.

- The storm drain cover from a drain in Hill Crest Close has disappeared. Due to the danger to pedestrians in this area we called the emergency Highways number. They came and cordoned off the area and made safe for all members of the public.
- A mobile phone was stolen from youth using the skate park area. They had left it laying on skate ramp and it just disappeared. It has been reported as stolen to the police. We were unable to see anything regarding the theft on the CCTV.
- The bin that we had put next to the ball court has disappeared. This is really annoying as the youth were using this bin to place all their litter in. This had taken quite a lot of months to get them to dispose of the litter correctly. Even the youth are upset by the disappearance of this bin. I have looked across the village but can't seem to find it. This is the third bin to go missing across the village over the last few months.
- Items belonging to a resident stolen from rear of their garden.

ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

There have been several reports of ASB this month around the village. Most have been reported to the police and they are dealing with the incidents.

An incident of graffiti on the scout hut was reported to us. CCTV cameras were viewed and offenders were identified. Local residents removed the offending words of the graffiti and when we started our shift we worked with the offenders to remove the rest of the graffiti. Police have been informed of this incident.

CO OP issues regarding recent ASB are being dealt with by the police. We continue to support victims of the ASB and patrol this area on a regular basis.

There have been several reports this month of ASB toward residents of Ashington. The offender has been verbally abusive and has made the victims feel very scared and worried for their safety. All reports have been passed to the police.

There is evidence of arson, small fires being started over by the balancing pond behind the school. We are still trying to identify offenders.

There have been reports of two offenders across the village shining torches and looking into properties late at night. All intelligence has been passed to police. We have also been working with those affected by these issues to reassure them and have suggested home security ideas for them to do to make their property safe and secure.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE

A report of criminal damage has been made to us this month. Drain pipes at the community centre have been damaged. They have been broken off from brackets. We will check CCTV. All evidence that we get from CCTV will be passed to police.

BONFIRES

There have been lots of complaints regarding residents having bonfires. Damage to neighbours property from ash etc. and smoke entering their properties. We have

suggested to those that have been affected by these issues to talk directly with the neighbour concerned who is having the bonfire. Following this suggestion most of the issues were dealt with in a friendly manner. Those with the bonfires were unaware of the problem it was causing.

THE YOUTH

Have been doing lots of interaction and educational work with the youth this summer. It has been really good fun working closely with them and it has led to a change in their behaviour around the village. Not so many complaints received of ASB.

Most of them have been bored and are always looking for things to do. Some have volunteered to help litter pick and anything else we need a helping hand with.

We feel that they would have benefited with the youth club perhaps being open more in the school holidays over the summer period

Lots of youth have approached us about doing a mini-bus trip out of the village on a regular basis. We will speak to the youth worker about this possibility, as we believe that it would be something that would work well as a diversionary activity. This is still a topic we need to raise with the youth worker as the youth still asking about this service.

ANTI SOCIAL DRIVING

There have been several incidents of anti-social driving across the whole village this month, some driving very dangerous. We have reported all details of cars, description of drivers and incidents they have been involved in to Operation Crack down.

CARNIVAL

What a fantastic and busy day for the village. What amazing fireworks.

The atmosphere throughout the day was brilliant. It was lovely to see the community coming together to enjoy this very popular day.

We dealt with three incidents of underage drinking on carnival day; all youth were collected by parents.

We did not have to deal with any incidents that required the police to attend.

ELDERLY/VULNERABLE

How very proud are we of our Fifty Shades of Grey older residents of Ashington.

Following their success in winning first place in the carnival float parade little did we know the impact it would have with the media? There was a write up in the County Times which caused an interest with the national papers. Over the next few days The Fifty Shades of Grey group had appeared in the Daily Sun, Mirror, Mail and the Express and numerous websites. They were even all interviewed by a local reporter to give their view on how the float and the day went joining in with the Ashington Carnival. They were even tweeted a congratulations personally to them all from the Author of the book Fifty Shades of Grey.

We have to say a big Thank you to all the community that helped make this possible for the elderly/vulnerable group to take part. It was lovely to see the youth and older residents in this event.

Due to winning first place in the carnival the group won £100. This money was used for an afternoon/evening trip to Littlehampton. We had a stroll around the town followed by a visit to the amusement arcade. We then had a lovely stroll along the river then onto the restaurant for a fish and chip supper by the river. This was paid for with the winnings.

Some elderly/vulnerable have needed some extra help this month due to health and personal issues they may be dealing with. Some residents have sadly been admitted to hospital following health issues. We will remain to support them.

Three safeguarding referrals have been made this month to social services to get those vulnerable residents the help they need.

Two more community link alarms have been fitted this month to elderly/vulnerable residents in the village.

The mini bus that we use in the village has now gone for repair following the damage it received. It is hoped it will be back in service in the next two weeks. We have use of a spare minibus at the moment

WARDEN

It has been an extremely busy month attending numerous meetings with agencies to try and find solutions too issues we are having with in Ashington.

Once the new information leaflet regarding wardens has been proof read by the steering group it will be printed and delivered to all houses within Ashington.

We are working at increasing the partnership working with relevant agencies.

299/15 APPENDIX 2 – Police Report

A copy of the Horsham District monthly update for July 2015 has been put on the Parish Council's website www.ashingtonpc.org.uk

300/15 APPENDIX 3 Report on Ashington Youth Centre

Overall Priorities for Autumn term (September - December)

1. Trial and review of new rhythms in weekly AYC programs. Agreed within CPG to trial new format for Autumn term.
 1. New Timings
 2. New Age groupings
 3. Working with Wardens to establish youth drop in sessions Monday & Thursday PM.
 4. Topical Session Structure
2. Grow attendance of members engaged with AYC
 1. Establishing a new group of YP in new age group.
3. Develop and establish more effective communication strategy to Young People, Parents & Community.

August 2015 / Impact

Second evening of Youth Activity

- Our desire is also to have the Youth Club open a second evening. To do so, I will be working alongside the neighbourhood wardens to have the Youth Club open as well maintaining 'outreach' style youth work, engaging with young people around the community.
 - As agreed within our CPG meeting, I will be out in the community, continuing to engage Young People, until 7pm when the the Youth Club will be one for a Monday evening drop-in until 9pm.

- Due to feedback from Neighbourhood Wardens and members of the community, it has been brought to our attention that the skatepark is a focal point for concerns. Due to this, the skatepark will be a priority whilst being around the community engaging young people.

AYC 'Team time'

- During the 2 week closure of the Youth Club in August we held another AYC 'team time'
- The aim is to develop these aspects of our voluntary team:
 - team relationships
 - vision/direction
 - training / skills
 - a space to recruit and introduce further volunteers.
- My overall approach behind the introduction of this initiative is this:
Happy & inspired volunteers = Happy & inspired young people

Overview of AYC 12 month plan - 2015/16

- Over the following 12 months, I will be working towards introducing and establishing the following changes. I will be doing this with the cooperation of Ashington Youth Club Management Committee.
- These changes have been developed due to direct feedback from AYC committee & volunteers, members of the community, Community Wardens and Community Partnership members.
- I believe that these changes will enable us to not only provide a more comprehensive youth provision, but a more effective one to combat issues that we have been dealing with in recent years including disengagement from youth provisions and anti-social behaviour.
- The main implication of these changes is the need for more volunteers. Due to this, building a larger volunteer team is a vital part of establishing these new changes.
- **New age groups**
 - New age groups will be based upon school years:
 - Yrs 6-8
 - Yrs 9-11
 - I believe that these age groups will alleviate issues such as older youth negatively influencing younger vulnerable youth as previously raised.
- **New timings / session format for Thursday evenings**
 - To accommodate an additional age group, I am proposing altering the timings of our youth evenings.
 - 18:00-19:20 : Yrs 6-8
 - 19:30-20:50 : Yrs 9-11 *(Emphasis on enforcing crossover period between sessions)
 - 21:00-22:00 : Youth Drop-in *(available for all young people)

- **Monday Evening “Drop in clinic”** *(Important to label/advertise as drop in, rather than club night)
 - 7-9pm - With support from the community Wardens, we are establishing a second evening drop-in facility for young people to attend.
- While we haven't placed an age restriction on this session, it was agreed amongst the CPG that it is discretionary by parents to decide the suitability of the session for their young people.
- **Monday Afternoon**
 - An idea voiced to young people, as well as a desire voiced themselves, is to use the youth club as an 'after school drop-in' centre for young people to have a space to complete their homework with others.
 - Amongst our CPG, it was agreed that community priorities were providing evening provisions for Ashington's young people - Therefore, this afternoon session will be something I will be building a volunteer team and further establishing evening sessions before launching this later on in the year.

Community visibility & Social Media

- With the support and cooperation of editor Di Clarke, we will have regular input into the Ashington Village Newsletter, continuing to highlight and increase community awareness of youth provision within Ashington.
- I am working with local graphic designers on a voluntary basis to further establish up to date signage and branding for Youth provisions in the community which I believe will increase our ability at engaging young people positively in the community.
- I have continued to use social media as a further platform of keeping young people informed of youth provision in the community. In particular, I have had a positive response from our younger age group using regular activity on Instagram.

⊃ Looking ahead, with the help of volunteers, we hope to have an informative website and regular email newsletter established by the autumn term, in line with the beginning of the new academic year. Paddy Donovan. 3.9.15

301/15 APPENDIX 4 Funds held on behalf of others

First Responders Funds: £3828.34

Bingo Club: £264.19