



## Ashington Parish Council

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**Minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 7.45 p.m. in Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington**

**Present:** Councillors M. Woolley, R. Strudwick, J. Gichovi-Elias, B. Norton, K. Wood, D. Harbour, R. Brennan, T. Kearney, N. Carver, R. Lancaster, N. Clark  
Parish Clerk Karen Dare

**District Councillor Roger Arthur**

**District Councillor David Jenkins**

**5 members of the public (including Peter Grace, Chairman, Ashington Residents Association)**

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The 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.

### **346/14 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

Neighbourhood Warden Jayne Jeffrey (annual leave), PCSO Tina Dunning (off-shift).  
County Councillor Philip Circus (business)

### **347/14 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand.

### **348/14 APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 6<sup>th</sup> November 2014 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Councillor Gichovi-Elias and seconded by Councillor Norton, and agreed.

### **349/14 REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS & PCSO**

PCSO report (see Appendix 2).

Questions: None

Wardens report (See Appendix 1).

Questions for the Wardens from Councillors:

The Chairman, on behalf of the Council, thanked Jayne for all of her hard work & dedication during 2014.

#### Youth Worker

Report (see Appendix 3).

Questions: None

Update on the joint PC/Church Youth project – Paddy Donovan started work on 10<sup>th</sup> November and the Clerk & Chairman met with him on 26<sup>th</sup> November to introduce themselves and explain the work of the Parish Council. The first meeting of the Community Partnership group took place on 1<sup>st</sup> December and Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes.

#### Warden recruitment

Recruitment of a new Warden has begun with a closing date of early December. **C/F**

#### **350/14 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT**

Youth Shelter – the cheque handover from Sussex Police took place in November and the Youth Worker is organising a ‘grand opening ceremony’ for January when all donors and other interested parties will be invited to attend. Cllr Clark reported that he is aware of the roof leak and that he will replace the sealant in due course.

#### **351/14 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

District Councillors Roger Arthur & David Jenkins reported:

1. The Planning Inspector has completed his Inquiry into the Local Plan and will report on his findings in due course. In the meantime the window is still open for speculative developments all over the District. As soon as the Local Plan is approved this window will close.
2. HDC are moving offices in the new year and there will be much disruption. Any problems should be reported to Councillors. The Planning system should not be affected but any delays in receiving planning documents should be communicated to Councillors.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors for their report.

County Councillor Philip Circus had sent his apologies and had reported that he was chasing Roger Harding (Highways Engineer) for a meeting date to inspect the various issues that had been discussed in September.

Questions: Councillors reported that the Neighbourhood Warden did not have any IT services working as there was a problem with her connection to the server at HDC. This is affecting her productivity and HDC Officers are looking into the matter.

## **ACTIONS OUTSTANDING:**

**D** = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

**To list** = moved to the list at the end of the minutes until some progress is made

### **352/14 Ashington Multi Sports Court**

No news yet on the s106 application (expected within the next few days). The application is recommended for approval.

**C/F**

### **353/14 VAS Sign Billingshurst Road**

The Clerk has looked into the planning permission for the Equine Hospital and, at present, no highways amendments are required. Therefore, the Council should pursue the installation of the VAS sign.

WSCC have provided the following advice:

“The engineering advice is that the most suitable location to install a VAS would be on the southbound side of the carriageway on the grass verge near to the junction of Spear Hill. Although this location is close to the bend, it is free from overhanging vegetation and will have a clear view to detect oncoming vehicles. The Parish has a number of options of sign that can be used, for example: a bend warning sign, ‘30MPH’ sign highlighting the new speed or a sign that just says ‘SLOW’.

There are two types of VAS available, a mains powered VAS or a solar powered VAS.

The engineer has recommended using a mains powered VAS, however due to the location of the nearest power source, the estimate for excavation to lay the power supply would be in excess of 8K. The total estimate for the mains powered VAS would be approximately 13-15K. Mains powered VAS's are more dependable and are less likely to be targeted by thieves. The activation speeds can also be lowered to alert more drivers of the bend as they have a constant source of power.

A solar VAS could be used but they are not as reliable as mains powered ones due to the reliance of sunlight. If triggered regularly they will not have sufficient power to be effective. Solar VAS' are generally cheaper to install but are susceptible to thefts and vandalism as we have seen in the past. The solar panels cost approximately 1K to replace but in some instances the whole VAS needs to be replaced due to the damage from the thieves. The County would be unlikely to replace the sign if damaged or stolen so the Parish may wish to look at insuring the sign.”

There was some discussion about the purpose of the sign – Cllr Brennan had discussed the issue with Frank Wilkinson some years back and understood that the sign would be placed on the northbound carriageway near Rosha House to slow traffic speeds along the road. However, all other Councillors considered that the purpose of the sign was to alert southbound drivers to the Spear Hill bend as this had been the cause of many accidents over the years (including 3 accidents in the past 15 months).

Councillors agreed:

1. The location proposed by WSCC is acceptable – verge on southbound side prior to the bend
2. The sign should be mains powered
3. The sign should read – Your Speed in a red circle at the top of the sign and Slow Down underneath. If this is not possible then 30mph in a red circle with Slow Down underneath.
4. Councillors agreed that the £13-15k project cost from Ashington s106 transport funds is value for money in that it could reduce the frequency of accidents and slow down traffic on the way into Ashington.

The Clerk noted that WSCC own documents still showed this section of Billingshurst Road as being 40mph, whereas the speed limit had been reduced some years earlier to 30mph and she will communicate this with WSCC. **KD C/F**

### **354/14 Freedom of Information document**

Councillors are asked to review the Freedom of Information document. The Clerk reports that no amendments are necessary. Agreed by all.

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **355/14 For action:**

1. Nominations are invited for the HDC Chairmans Trust Fund – the Clerk has passed this to the Warden

#### **356/14 For information:**

1. WSCC are reducing their PROW inspection cycle to every 15 months (from 9 months). Any volunteer Parish Path Inspectors should contact WSCC's Volunteer Management Team.

#### **357/14 General:**

1. The Clerk magazine
2. Annual Public Health Report 2014

### **358/14 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT**

The 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.

Peter Grace (Chairman ARA) –

1. the village 'Community Spirit' project was a village wide initiative and not being managed by the ARA or Parish Council or any other village organisation. It was simply a group of volunteers who wanted to help tidy up the village. One of the group members (Nigel Spire) is a WSCC Volunteer Manager and is able to organise volunteers to work on the highways and the plan is to tidy up public footpaths & bridleways, clean benches & noticeboards, organise litter picking and tidy up days etc. The Scout and Youth Groups would be joining in these events.

2. ARA had issued the first paper Newsletter recently and this will be produced every 2 months. Local groups & organisations should send articles to the Editor (Doreen Harbour)
3. Theresa Gilsean had taken over from Jimmy Girling in issuing Welcome Packs and these would be available to all new residents.
4. Youths were being sought to manage ARA Facebook & Twitter accounts.

The Chairman explained that Cllr Norton is the Parish Council's representative at ARA meetings but that he would attend on occasions and an ARA representative would attend occasional Parish Council meetings so that there is good dialogue between both parties.

Other members of the public reported:

1. Residents had all received a letter from the Church explaining the Chanctonbury Youth Project. She was concerned that the Youth Worker was spending time in Washington, Wiston & Buncton and Storrington rather than solely Ashington. Cllr Clark explained that Chanctonbury Church includes Washington, Wiston & Buncton and that there would also be some Church Youth Work in Storrington. Many Ashington youths attend school in Storrington so youth work in this area would include Ashington youths.
2. Some residents are leaving their bins out for weeks at a time. The Clerk advised her to report this to HDC.
3. Sussex Local is looking for articles for their publication. The Clerk reported that she had already been in touch with them.
4. There were cars parked on the pavement along Church Lane most days. The resident had reported this to the Police but they weren't interested. The Clerk confirmed that this is a Police matter and there is nothing that the Parish Council can do.
5. Another resident complained about dangerous parking on the pavement by builders vehicles at the corner of London Road/Hillcrest Drive. He was advised to report this to the Police if he saw it happen again.

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

### **359/14 PLANNING.**

The Planning Committee met on 19<sup>th</sup> November and Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes. Agreed by all.

### **360/14 Correspondence**

Neighbourhood Plan update:

1. Public meetings – the Clerk has provisionally booked the Community Centre for 23/24 January and is waiting for their Secretary to confirm the dates. She will then organise publicity – letter to residents, banners, articles in local newspapers/magazines etc.
2. The Clerk had drafted a presentation for use at the public meetings and she would also prepare information ahead of the meetings for each of the Focus Groups.

**KD C/F**

### **361/14 New Enforcement Allegations/Information**

None

### **362/14 Amendments**

None

### **363/14 Applications**

DC/14/2484 Enlargement of first floor above garage utility rooms to provide 2 bedrooms, and single storey extension – 15 Turnpike Way

The Council has no objections.

### **Horsham District Council**

#### **364/14 Approvals**

DC/14/1420 DC/14/1420 | Proposed new service area (operating between the hours of 6am to 10pm) 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/14/1659 Surgery to various Oak, ash and Field maple Trees (Tree Preservation Order) - Woods Cottage Muttons Lane

DC/14/1851 Proposed sand school for private use with no floodlighting - Bowford Farm Goose Green Lane

DC/14/2100 Erection of first-floor side extension and front porch addition with pitched roof behind - 2 Broadbridge Cottages London Road

#### **365/14 Refusals**

None

#### **366/14 Withdrawals**

None

#### **367/14 Appeals made/ decisions**

None

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for 17<sup>th</sup> December at 7.30pm in Ashington Sports Pavilion.

### **FINANCE**

#### **368/14 Annual Review of Financial Controls and Internal Audit**

Councillors are asked to review the Council's Financial Regulations and Risk Management procedures. The Clerk had provided Councillors with a copy of the Council's current Financial Regulations (also available on the website for members of the public) and confirmed that the procedures are followed as written. The Clerk had previously provided Councillors with a summary of the experience and competence of the appointed Internal Auditor (minutes reference 501/07, December 2007).

By approving the Annual Return each year the Council is agreeing that these 2 statements are correct.

1. 'We have maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of Internal audit of the Council's accounting records and control systems **and carried out a review of its effectiveness**'
2. 'We have arranged for a competent person, independent of the financial controls and procedures, to give an objective view on whether these meet the needs of the council and **reviewed the impact of this work**'

In simple terms Councillors should ask themselves:

Are you 100% happy that the risk of financial impropriety is negligible – are the procedures for control and review effective? Have we taken action on any suggestions made by the Internal Auditor?

Agreed by all.

### **369/14 Annual Review of Assets and Insurance Cover**

The Clerk has provided Councillors with an up to date Asset Register for approval. The Council's insurance cover is due for renewal, cost £1,068.20. Agreed by all.

### **370/13 Budget & Precept 15/16**

The Clerk has prepared a preliminary budget & precept forecast for 15/16 and a Finance Committee meeting took place on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2014. Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes and the supporting documentation. Councillors are asked to approve the Finance Committee's proposals and their recommendation to defer precept setting to the January Council meeting.

The Chairman summarised – the Precept would remain frozen for the 5<sup>th</sup> year running, reserves are at 51% of expenditure (target is 50%), the Council has Earmarked Reserves sufficient to cover the debt of the Public Works Loan (towards the cost of building the Community Centre in 2003) and was in a healthy financial position and able to cope if/when the HDC Council Tax Support Grant was removed completely. Agreed by all.

### **371/14 Correspondence**

None

### **372/14 Income**

None

<b>373/14 Expenditure</b>		<b>Cheque no.</b>	
Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£500.00	1597
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17	
	Wardens Grant (agreed last meeting)	£49	
	Postage	£6.36	
	Total	£72.36	1598
WSSC	Salary and on costs (November)	£1078.30	1599
ACCT	Planning committee 15/10/14	£3.80	1600
	Bingo Club (October)	£37.75	1601
Horsham Matters	youth worker (Sept, Oct, Nov)	£648.00	1602
Broker Network	Annual insurance	£1,068.20	1603
Information Commissioner	Data protection renewal	£35	1604
S. Fenn	Responder expenses	£65.40	1605
HDC	Dog & litter bin emptying	£305.50	1606
Ashington PCC	Youth Worker Nov 2014	£722.22	1607

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

### **374/14 MEETINGS**

The Clerk & Cllr Gichovi-Elias had attended the Wardens Steering Group meeting.

Cllr Gichovi-Elias had attended an ACCT meeting. She reported that ACCT are looking to upgrade their cctv systems and would need to apply for a s106 grant for the funds. It was agreed that the Clerk contact Andy Phillips for information and add this to the agenda for next meeting. **KD C/F**

The Clerk & Cllr Clark had attended a Chanctonbury Youth Project Community Partnership meeting (minutes circulated separately to Councillors).

Cllr Carver had attended a Western Hospitals NHS Trust meeting and reported that the Chief Executive had been awarded the title of best in the UK and that the Trust had received other awards. An independent review of the recent decision to outsource the

MSK contract to the private sector had been agreed and both parties involved had agreed to abide by the findings of the report.

**375/14 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS**

1. Cllr Wood reported that the owner of 9 Chanctonbury has installed an electric cable on the back of their fence and he is concerned that it is vulnerable to tampering. Clerk to investigate. **KD D**
2. Cllr Harbour reported that there is a nasty dip in the Co-op car park surface. Clerk to report to Clokes Management. **KD D**
3. Cllr Clark would report the pothole in Timberlea Close to WSCC via the LoveWSussex App.
4. A resident had asked Cllr Lancaster to raise the question about whether the speed limit on Hole Street could be reduced to 30mph as several residents had reported near misses whilst turning into or across fast moving traffic. The Clerk would raise it with WSCC but Councillors & residents should be realistic about what action could be taken if accident data did not support the proposed changes. **KD D**
5. Cllr Strudwick reported that water was again flowing across the slip road outside Monza Garage. Clerk to ask WSCC to clear the gullies and possibly install salt bags again this year to stop the water freezing and creating a significant hazard. **KD D**
6. Cllr Clark reported that he had been informed by the owner of Broadbridge Farm that the option on his land for a compost site had expired and would not be renewed. He is looking at alternative options for use of his farmland.

The next meeting will be held at **7.45pm on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015 at Ashington School, Foster Lane.**

The meeting finished at 9.15pm

Signed.....

Date.....

## **376/14 APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS**

### **CRIMINAL DAMAGE AND THEFT**

There are still ongoing issues with criminal damage at the community centre. Criminal damage has been done to wooden posts on recreation ground. I am trying to identify offender or offenders.

Once again this month I have had numerous reports made to me of petty theft from gardens and outbuildings.

I have asked all residents who have reported to me theft issues to call through to police on 101.

I can get property marking pens which I am recommending to residents to use to mark their property. I am also telling residents to make sure all property is secure, making sure there are locks on gates etc. Also making sure nothing is left of value on full view for offenders to see.

I can get security products like window locks, door chains, shed alarms, segment light timers etc. at cost from Horsham District Council if any resident would like any information on these products they can call me.

With the dark winter nights upon us I have been reminding residents to leave lights on when leaving their home unattended. It is also a good idea to make sure curtains or blinds are pulled.

### **DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**

There has been Several intelligence reports given to police this month on various locations across the village that are causing concern regarding illegal drug usage.

### **YOUTH**

Youth are congregating in the alcove recess area of community centre on a regular basis. When I am working I will move them on from this area. Litter and petty damage to the building are a problem. I will be checking CCTV to see if I can recognise offenders. All intelligence gathered will be passed to the police.

I have met with the new youth worker and I have to say it is very good news to now have the youth worker in place. I am looking forward to working closely with him regarding youth activities within the village. I am still trying to attend Thursday youth club on a regular basis when working shifts allow.

I still need to discuss the youth shelter **OFFICIAL** opening with him. Sussex police have handed over a cheque for £250.00 towards the youth shelter project to the Parish Council.

Some of the youth this month have been brilliant. They have volunteered their free time to help me with projects across the village for the elderly/vulnerable groups. Some of them want to put on a fund raising event for the elderly/vulnerable group so that they can provide more event's for them to attend or help financially towards the events that are already arranged throughout the year. I am so pleased with them wanting to help in this way and I will support and help them to achieve this. Suggestions have been a music evening with the local youth providing the bands to play at event. I will sit down with them in the New Year and come up with some fund raising ideas that perhaps their parents can come along to and support their fundraising efforts.

I continue to work closely with several youth from the village regarding personal issues that they are dealing with. Sometimes just being there for them to have a chat is enough. More serious issues I am sign posting them to relevant agencies.

Some youth have been put forward for anti-social behavioural contracts and I am working with the ASB Team at the moment regarding these issues. It has been lovely this month to have, shall I say, the more challenging youth of the village interact with me more and I have been able to have some very interesting and sensible conversations with them. Several youth are actually dealing with their drug/alcohol issues and stopping altogether with the substance misuse. I am still trying to get a convenient time for the substance misuse officer to give some sessions on substance misuse. It has been agreed and funded by the Parish council to provide six to eight evening sessions for all youth to attend if they so wish. I also think some outreach work will be made with the substance misuse officer and myself. I will liaise with the youth worker on this subject and hopefully we will move this project forward.

### **ANTI SOCIAL DRIVING**

There are still problems at the roundabout at the top of the village with speeding cars going round the roundabout. Most reports of this anti-social driving are after 11pm at night. If anyone witnesses this issue they must call through to the police.

### **PARKING**

Parking is becoming a big issue across the village again. I have received complaints of parking issues with residents saying that cars are parked dangerously and that they can't see when pulling out of their drives etc. I do realize that this is a problem for those concerned but sadly all cars that have been reported to me have not been parked illegally. The problem is there are no parking restrictions in Ashington . I have also noticed that most properties have two or more cars per household so therefore some are having to park on the roads as their driveways only hold one car. I think that residents will have to be tolerant of some of the parking issues and if it is really a problem perhaps they could speak directly to the offender whose car they feel is causing a problem.

I would just like to say also that there have been several complaints of me being parked outside resident's properties for long amounts of time. Although I feel I don't need to justify reasons, I would like it known at all times I am working and dealing with issues across the village. Some issues are very personal and confidential so I will not discuss these matters with anyone other than those concerned.

### **ROAD SIGNAGE**

Several damaged road signs have now been repaired or replaced by new signage. Hopefully over the next few weeks all damaged signage will be fixed. The damaged signage had been reported to highways over the past months.

### **ELDERLY/VULNERABLE**

Two more community link alarms have been installed this month with several more elderly/vulnerable residents requesting one. I will liaise with the community link manager to get them installed before Christmas for those concerned.

I am handing out winter warm packs this month so all elderly/vulnerable will be ready for any bad weather that may come our way. Small key ring torches have also been handed out to those that need them.

Two of the elderly/vulnerable group have been experiencing problems with their heating systems in their homes. Due to financial issues they are unable to pay for repairs and replacements of heating equipment. Horsham District Council has loaned heaters to

those concerned. I am looking into ways of getting financial help for those concerned by applying for grants etc. One grant has already been received for a service to heating equipment for one resident.

Brilliant news we now have several volunteers to drive the minibus. We just have to wait for them to do minibus test. Several residents have also come forward to be escort on the minibus.

Now that we have more drivers and escorts hopefully in the New Year we can arrange a trip to Storrington once a month for some of the elderly/vulnerable group. Sadly the bus they used regularly has been stopped. The elderly/vulnerable like using the local bank in Storrington as they feel the staff know them and will help with any financial issues they may have.

It has been suggested by local resident that more would like to use the shopping day trip runs on the mini bus so it has been suggested that if enough residents can be found to use the minibus 6 to 10 needed then another shopping trip day will be arranged. I can't stress how valuable this service is too the elderly/vulnerable. Those that have used this service for the last three years it has become part of their weekly routine. It enables them to get out and have a chat and also be able to do their shopping on a regular basis.

We had a Christmas shopping day in Bognor which went well. The weather managed to stay dry. Although lunch was not planned we found ourselves stopping off at Morrison's on the way home where everyone had lunch. This was followed by some shopping.

Next trip will be Christmas lunch and local garden centre shopping on the 10<sup>th</sup> December.

### **VINTAGE TEA CLUB**

This is proving to be a success. We had nineteen attend this month. Pat and Lisa once again provided a grand tea for all those that attended. All served on beautiful china.

Tables all decorated with a vintage theme.

Thank you to all those residents that attend and provide raffle prizes. Without their support these events would not be able to take place.

Due to the success of this event I have booked dates for next year. Thank you to community centre for supporting us in these events.

### **CHRISTMAS LUNCH CLUB**

The Christmas lunch club will be taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> December.

Pat along with her volunteers has been very busy over this last month arranging, preparing and providing the food for the Christmas lunch.

Volunteers from across the village have offered to help on the day.

Local businesses and residents have donated prizes for the raffle. All proceeds will go to lunch club to help towards running costs of the lunch club throughout the year.

A grant application has been made to the Sussex Police fund for £500. This is to help with the running costs of the lunch club. Hopefully it will give some money which will go towards providing the entertainment for the lunch club throughout the year.

Pat and other residents involved with the lunch club are also trying to get grants from organisations to help keep this valuable event going.

Due to success of the lunch club and the number of residents attending it has been decided in the New Year that a volunteer committee will meet on a regular basis to discuss what is needed for the coming year as regards entertainment, setting budgets,

and what equipment is needed to make things easier to cater for large group. Also a list of volunteers and what they can do to help. All these meetings will be recorded and minutes taken for all to read. . It just stops a lot of confusion and duplication of what people are doing.

A good idea was suggested by a lunch club attendee that is to have a suggestion box of what people feel they would like to see happen at these monthly lunch club meetings. Then perhaps it will help us with new ideas to move forward with into the New Year. After all it is a lunch club for all the elderly/vulnerable of the village to enjoy. I believe everyone should be able to have an input into this valuable event.

### **WARDEN PARTY**

The warden party was a success and it was lovely to see everyone that attended and supported this event.

Thanks to the generosity of local businesses, cubit and west, co-op, Indian restaurant, Ashington autos, Horsham district council, Chairperson of Horsham district council, Employees donating raffle prizes who work for Horsham district council. Many thanks also for the generosity of local residents who donated so many prizes for raffle. Due to everyone's generosity with donations and those that attended the event and brought raffle tickets the sum of approx. £320.00 was raised. Most of the money raised will be given to lunch club to help with running cost throughout the year. A small amount of the profit from raffle will also be used for small projects for the elderly/vulnerable across the village. One project will be to help fund the use of minibus costs for transport to and from organised clubs for individuals who may wish to attend. Another project is to try and purchase a second hand wheel chair which can be used by anyone within the community when needed to help them attend the organised events within the village. Thank you to the Parish Council for sponsoring the refreshments at the warden party. Everyone enjoyed their small tipple very much.

I would also like to say thank you to members of the parish council who voluntarily give up their free time on a continual basis to help me deliver projects across the village for residents. Without their input I would really struggle to do as much for residents as I do now. Their support and help is very much appreciated.

Once again the community centre has played a big part in making the warden party and other events within the village a big success with their continued support.

Finally I must say a big thank you to the youth of the village who gave up their free time to help at the warden party. Some even took leave from their place of employment just so they could help. I really enjoy seeing the youth and elderly residents of the village come together in events like this. Without the help from the youth the warden party would not be as successful. They worked so hard all day waiting on tables, talking with the elderly/vulnerable, taking orders from me, which is not easy ha ha, but doing everything that was asked of them some horrible jobs included. And all this is voluntarily. I am so proud of all the youth that attended the event. Their input into the village and the community is very valuable.

### **BINGO**

Christmas Bingo is on the 19<sup>th</sup> December @ 7pm. We will be having a Christmas themed party with lots of prizes to win. We will be serving mince pies and sausage rolls in the interval. We will also be serving mulled wine and sherry for those who wish to have a small drink.

## **WARDEN**

The new warden position has been advertised and hopefully there will be some interest in the position. Closing date for the applications is the 7<sup>th</sup> December 2014 with interviews following within a short period after this date.

I must apologise to everyone because I have no computer access at all. I have spoken with the IT Department at Horsham District Council and they have stated I need a new computer due to all the updating to systems that they are making in Horsham.

As you can imagine it is very difficult without computer access to retrieve all my emails etc. I am hoping that the problems will be fixed in the next few weeks. I will as soon as I can be responding to all emails.

**I WOULD JUST LIKE TO END THIS REPORT BY WISHING EVERYONE A MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**377/14 APPENDIX 2 – PCSO Report November**

My name is PCSO Tina DUNNING and I am the new Police Community Support Officer for Ashington, replacing PCSO Bryony SPARKS. I also cover Pulborough, West Chiltington, Thakeham, Watersfield and Coldwaltham. I very much look forward to meeting you all in the near future but, in the meantime, here follows a brief report for the period since your last meeting on 06/11/14.

Thankfully there has been very little crime in Ashington and the surrounding area during the period.

On 07/11/14 there was a report of youths gathering at the Ashington Community Centre in the early evening and drinking alcohol. Police attended and details of the youths were taken before they were dispersed.

On 13/11/14 a male stole thirteen bottles of champagne from the Co-operative and this was caught on CCTV. Further investigations are being made into the identity of the male.

Between 13/11/14 and 17/11/14 there were issues with a particular vehicle 'drifting' in the early hours and the driver behaving anti-socially. PC BURT stopped the vehicle on 17/11/14 and the driver was issued with a Section 59 Notice whereby the vehicle was seized.

**378/14** APPENDIX 3 Report on Ashington Youth Centre  
Some numerical reports for the youth centre since I began (Nov 10th)  
attendance over the weeks - 25 // 28 // 32

Main actions going forward have been:

- \* Working alongside the young people to identify the needs and desires of the the young people for **their** youth centre
- \* Enforcing the idea to the young people that the youth centre is something in the community purely for their benefit. Developing their sense of ownership of the building.
- \* Identifying capital costs for funding applications.
- \* Theme that we'll look at over the next few sessions - looking at christmas being more than just a time to get presents.  
Get the youth involved with making a few christmas boxes for orphans/children's charities.

Paddy Donovan  
Senior Youth Worker

**379/14** APPENDIX 4 Funds held on behalf of others  
First Responders Funds: £3221.14  
Bingo Club: £211.14