



Ashington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 4th June 2015 at 7.45 p.m. in Ashington School, Foster Lane, Ashington

Present: Councillors M. Woolley, K. Wood, T. Kearney, R. Strudwick, N. Clark, J. Stillwell, N. Spiers, S. Cox
Parish Clerk Karen Dare
County Councillor Philip Circus
Neighbourhood Wardens Jayne Jeffrey & Andy Webster
5 members of the public
Inspector Clare McKnight Sussex Police & PCSO
Invited Guest Geoff Armstrong (AR Planning) plus Richard Harrison from Taylor Wimpey Homes
Samantha Ball & Graeme MacPherson – Councillor candidates

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.

173/15 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

None

174/15 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand.

175/15 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 14th May 2015 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Councillor Strudwick and seconded by Councillor Stillwell, and agreed.

176/15 CO-OPTION TO FILL THE VACANCIES ON THE PARISH COUNCIL

Graeme MacPherson and Samantha Ball had been nominated and the Clerk had circulated a brief summary of their credentials.

Both candidates briefly introduced themselves to the Council. Councillors agreed the co-option of both candidates and they took their spaces at the Council table.

There were no other applications prior to the deadline of 31st May, however, there is one other candidate who has expressed an interest but was unable to attend this meeting. It was proposed that the final vacancy be re-advertised and that the Clerk follow up with the potential candidate so that the vacancy can be filled at the July meeting. Agreed.

For the record: the Chairman did receive a letter by post from a resident of Fairfield Way nominating Mr Tommy Walter for the position of Councillor, however, upon contacting the nominator in order that the correct procedure could be followed it was discovered that the letter of nomination was not genuine.

177/15 INVITED GUEST GEOFF ARMSTRONG A R PLANNING

Geoff's clients own 18 acres of land north of Rectory Lane (and to the west of Glebe Farm) and wish to ask the Council what its needs are for the village so that they can develop a planning application for the site.

The Chairman reminded those present that the Council has agreed to produce a Neighbourhood Plan and that until the Council is further through the process it was unwise to pre-empt what the village needs. There is a Housing Needs Survey 2012, Community Action Plan 2010, HDC Sport & Recreation Assessment February 2014 and various other planning applications that give some guidance as to what the village may need but until the Focus Groups have met and a residents survey designed and analysed there is little concrete evidence of needs for the village.

The owner of the site wants to develop the whole site in the long term, but bring part of the site forward for development quickly. They are currently commissioning the various site surveys that are required to accompany planning applications (ecology, landscape, highways etc). They suggested that the village could need additional open spaces, junior football pitches, car parking etc.

The owner wants to put a planning application in ahead of the Neighbourhood Plan and before HDC's Local Plan is adopted. They are intending to hold a public exhibition in the next few months with the intention to submit a planning application in September or October.

Geoff confirmed that the land had been submitted to HDC under its recent 'Call for Sites' and would, therefore be included within the SHLAA review expected in July 2015.

Geoff confirmed that Taylor Wimpey own Oakwood Copse (off Ivy Lane) but have no intention to develop this woodland.

The Chairman thanked Geoff and Richard for attending the meeting.

178/15 REPORT FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS & PCSO

PCSO report – Inspector Clare McKnight was attending on behalf of Sussex Police. A copy of the Horsham District monthly update for April 2015 has been put on the Parish Council's website and the Clerk has received a weekly update for week ending 22/5/15.

Inspector McKnight reported: Ashington is a very low crime area and much of the crime is 'low level'. There were 76 crimes in the Horsham District in the first 5 months of the year. The main headlines are:

1. Anti-social driving at the two northern roundabouts in Ashington. One persons' car has been seized and he will appear in court shortly.
2. Operation Dragonfly – targeting drink/driving, especially in rural areas.
3. Operation Eddystone – dealing with scams targeted at the elderly. £111,000 has been taken from victims but the Police have prevented @£1.5million from being taken. All were advised that the Police will never call you to ask for money.
4. Recently a group of youngsters with catapults damaged 106 vehicles in other villages but the Police managed to piece together intelligence from many sources and made arrests. The perpetrators are currently on bail awaiting their court appearances.

Like all other organisations, Sussex Police is having to make significant cost savings. Cuts of £55million were made over the last 5 years and cuts of £50million are expected over the next 5 years. Previously 20 PCSO's covered the Horsham District and this has been reduced to 10 due to staff leaving and not being replaced. However, as a District, Horsham has good performance.

In order to manage with reduced numbers of PCSO's, from 8th June PCSO's will be clustered into groups. This will ensure that if one PCSO is absent (holiday, sickness, off-shift etc) others in their cluster can respond to issues. Generic email addresses are being set-up to enable better communication amongst the cluster. Parishes will have one named PCSO but others will cover in their absence.

Inspector McKnight reminded those present that 999 should be called in an emergency and 101 in a non-emergency. There was some discussion about the time it takes for 101 calls to be answered and it was suggested that online reporting via the Police website was a good alternative in a non-emergency situation. If residents do not report crimes then the Police will not direct resource to the area.

Given the level of cuts required the Police are reviewing their workload with a view to reducing their involvement in some issues that are not Police matters. All other local Government organisations are undertaking the same reviews.

Inspector McKnight praised the Parish Council for their forward thinking on employing Neighbourhood Wardens and a Youth Worker as these form a vital role in community development and in protecting our community. Other Parishes are considering Wardens.

The Chairman asked Inspector McKnight to recognise the role that the Wardens play in protecting our community and asked that the Police consider closer working links with the Wardens as these could benefit everyone. Inspector McKnight agreed to speak to Greg Charman at HDC about how the Wardens can better liaise with the Police and vice versa.

Inspector McKnight explained that it is now possible for Parishes to pay for their own PCSO's, however, if there was a major incident then that PCSO would be used as a District resource rather than a Parish resource and that there would be no way of recompensing the Parish for the temporary loss of their PCSO. The Parish Council had looked into this option some time ago but were concerned at the potential 'loss' of the PCSO elsewhere in the District and had agreed that a second Neighbourhood Warden was the better option for Ashington.

The Chairman pointed out that the Police & Crime Commissioner had conducted a residents survey to approve a 2% increase in the Police Precept in order that cuts to the Police service could be minimised, however, this does not seem to have made much difference given that major cuts are still expected.

The Police are trying to make use of new technology to enable mobile working so that less time is spent travelling to and from Police Stations (especially as some local Police Stations are earmarked for closure). Body-worn cameras are also being introduced.

County Councillor Philip Circus commented that the reputation of the Police is going to be damaged when the public hear that they are withdrawing from various services. Inspector McKnight responded that the Police are looking for ways to get communities to help themselves and use community resources to take action.

Community Speedwatch – Inspector McKnight is the co-ordinator for this initiative. There needs to be 6 volunteers and the problem area needs to be agreed with the Police and local residents. Firstly the Police will do a speed check of 100 cars to see if speeding is a real or perceived problem. If speeding is found to be a real problem then 'Roads Policing' are asked to do a risk assessment at the proposed speed check site. If the site is deemed to be safe then the PCSO will then do some speed checks and the Police can do some enforcement. If the problem persists then Community Speedwatch can start – volunteers are trained and times/dates booked. Community Speedwatch is not enforceable but offenders are issued with warning letters and persistent offenders receive a visit from the Police.

The Neighbourhood Wardens have the names of volunteers and will talk to the Parish Council about appropriate locations.

The Chairman closed the discussion by thanking Inspector McKnight and asking if she could look into the possibility of making resources available for the Ashington Festival on 15th August.

Wardens report (See Appendix 1).

Questions for the Wardens from Councillors: None

Youth Worker

Report (see Appendix 3).

Questions: None

It was agreed that the Clerk invite Ashington Youth Club Chairman, Jamie Chalkley, to attend a future PC meeting to introduce himself. **KD D**

A meeting of the Community Partnership group took place on 2nd June and Councillors will be provided with a copy of the minutes in due course.

179/15 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT

None present.

180/15 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

County Councillor Philip Circus reported:

1. New Council at HDC – John Blackall will come to the next Parish Council meeting to introduce himself. In the future Philip Circus will attend Ashington PC meetings as District and County Council representative, with David Jenkins and John Blackall attending other Parish Councils.
2. The District Local Plan is moving forward. District Councillors are concerned at the amount of money HDC is spending on planning appeals and Councillors need to decide if it is appropriate to fight appeals as they can be costly.
3. He had visited the Kate's Cakes slip road with Margaret Alford and he was convinced that a Give Way sign is missing from the slip road. He will take this issue up with Highways Officers.

Questions:

The Chairman expressed concern that the Parish 'highways list' that had been presented to County Councillor Circus and WSCC Highway Officers had not moved forward on many items and that all communication from WSCC to the PC had ceased – Officers are not responding to messages at all. There was still no remedial work done on the Church Lane speed bump even though many WSCC Officers had witnessed vehicle groundings and the Chairman was aware of at least one successful claim for damages as a result of this speed bump. There was still no VAS sign on the Spear Hill bend even though the money for the project was with WSCC. There had been yet another accident at this bend within the past few days.

County Councillor Philip Circus to speak to Highways Officers again.

The Chairman thanked County Councillor Philip Circus for his report.

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

181/15 VAS Sign Billingshurst Road

WSSC have been asked to produce a project plan but nothing has happened yet. There was yet another accident at this location in the past few days. **KD C/F**

182/15 Annual inspection of Council land

Clerk to fix a date. **KD C/F**

CORRESPONDENCE

183/15 For action: None

184/15 For information:

1. Construction of Rampion offshore windfarm is due to begin shortly
2. WSSC – next Chanctonbury CLC meeting is 8th July, not 3rd June. On the agenda will be a discussion on the future organisation of Storrington Area Schools. County Councillor Philip Circus explained that ours is the only area in West Sussex that still has an intermediate school, it does not fit with the National Curriculum. Consultation on this issue was due to begin shortly and there is a drop-in session before the CLC meeting for residents to ask questions. He explained that parents do not like uncertainty and it is important for WSSC to make a decision and stick with it. He said that it is important to keep the Rydon site as some form of educational establishment, rather than selling it off for housing as rumours were suggesting, particularly with all of the house building occurring in the area.

185/15 General: None

186/15 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.

Members of the public reported:

1. Brian Norton gave the Council more information about the recent Billingshurst Road accident. He explained that the road had been closed for @2hours and that vehicles were diverted up Spear Hill, although large vehicles could not go this way and had to wait. A lot of debris from the accident had been left at the roadside. Clerk to report to Highways. **KD D**
2. Ray Farrell asked:
 - a. The Clerk to report the pothole outside Ashington Autos and the damaged speed bumps in Rectory Lane. **KD D**
 - b. What is happening about the equine hospital – it was explained that the barns were in the process of being removed. Clerk to contact the owner for an update. **KD D**
 - c. What is happening about the petrol station? No-one had any updates.

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

187/15 PLANNING.

The Planning Committee met on 27th May and Councillors have been provided with a copy of the minutes. Agreed by all.

188/15 Correspondence None

189/15 Neighbourhood Plan update:

The Clerk & Chairman are beginning to get to grips with what needs to be done. There are a few other parishes which are further ahead in the process and providing useful information. The Clerk is beginning to get documents ready so that Focus and Steering Groups can be started.

KD C/F

190/15 New Enforcement Allegations/Information

None

191/15 Amendments

None

192/15 Applications

DC/15/1127 Notice of intention to remove 1no. existing equipment cabinet and the installation of 2no. new cabinets on a proposed new concrete plinth extension. In addition, the replacement of 3no. existing telecommunications antenna with 3no new telecommunications antenna at a height of 17m on the existing 18m high radio tower, together with development ancillary thereto - Hutchinson 3G UK Limited Aerial Mast Sewage Works London Road
The Council has no comments to make.

Horsham District Council

193/15 Approvals

None

194/15 Refusals

DC/15/0491 Demolition of former mill building and construction of 8 semi-detached and 1 detached Dwelling – The Mill, Mill Lane. On the grounds of: loss of an employment site, no assessment of possible contamination of the land, overdevelopment.

195/15 Withdrawals

None

196/15 Appeals made/ decisions

None

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for 17th June at 7.30pm in Ashington Sports Pavilion.

FINANCE

197/15 Correspondence

None

198/15 Income

None

199/15 Expenditure

			Cheque no.
Mark Adsett	Gardeners contract payment	£508.33	1658
Mrs K. Dare	Clerks expenses (home & telephone)	£17	
	Postage	£2.05	
	Bingo club supplies	£72.13	
	Total	£91.18	1659
WSSC	Salary and on costs (April)	£	1660
ACCT	Planning committee 27/05/15	£3.80	1661
Ashington PCC	Youth Worker May 2015	£1083.33	1662
Languard Ltd	Weedkilling	£138.00	1663
HDC	Litter & Dog bin emptying	£305.50	1664

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

200/15 MEETINGS

The Clerk, Cllr Clark & Cllr Stillwell had attended a Chanctonbury Youth Project Community Partnership meeting on 2nd June (minutes circulated separately to Councillors).

The Clerk, Cllr Clark & Cllr Stillwell had attended a Wardens Steering Group meeting on 2nd June.

201/15 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

1. Councillor Wood reported that during the recent weedkilling the Council's contractors did not put up any warning signs. A dog owner had expressed concern about possible effects on his dog's health. Clerk to contact the Contractor. **KD D**
2. Councillor Spiers asked what was happening about the village sign that was outside Monza Garage but had been dumped at the Chairman's back door. The Chairman explained that a contractor had been engaged to fix the sign but was waiting for the person who moved it to put it back outside Monza Garage. Cllr

Spiers suggested that the Clerk contact Darren Rolfe of WSCC Community Rangers as it is possible that they could re-instate the sign. **KD D**

3. Cllr Kearney reported that he had witnessed a Rabbit lorry using the width-restricted Wiston Road early one morning. He had reported it to the Police and to Rabbit.
4. The Chairman informed those present that ex-Chairman Karen Hayler had recently given birth to a baby boy, Oliver. Congratulations from everyone at Ashington Parish Council.

The next meeting will be held at **7.45pm on Thursday 2nd July 2015 at Ashington School, Foster Lane.**

The meeting finished at 9.35pm

Signed.....

Date.....

202/15 APPENDIX 1: REPORT FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

Criminal Damage

There have been several reports of criminal damage along London Road. Mostly resident's gates damaged and signage ripped off fences. It has been reported to the police and we are aware of the offender. When we see the offender we will be speaking to them in regards to their behaviour. Any reports of criminal damage must be phoned through to the police non-emergency number on 101 or if in an emergency 999.

Anti-Social Behaviour.

Once again a very busy month with anti-social behaviour issues across the village involving people of all age groups. Meetings have taken place with police regarding these issues and we are looking at ways of dealing with the anti-social behaviour. Lots of the anti-social behaviour has been regarding neighbourhood disputes, mediation has been suggested but those involved have declined the service. We have been dealing with these disputes and trying to find a solution and compromise for all parties involved. Some of the disputes have turned very aggressive and have been reported to the police.

We will continue to monitor the situation regarding these incidents.

The person who is on the receiving end of anti-social behaviour can experience a significant drop in their quality of life and can have ongoing devastating effects on their everyday living. We need to make sure that all complaints of anti-social behaviour are dealt with in the correct way. We must stress that all reports of anti-social behaviour must be phoned through to the non-emergency police number 101 or if in an emergency 999. Once reported this provides a data record of all incidents.

Bullying

This month has seen us deal with several cases of bullying across the village, safeguarding referrals have been made this is very upsetting with those concerned and we have been trying to reintegrate those concerned back into the community. We have also been dealing with the supposed bullies to try and highlight that their behaviour is unacceptable. We have referred some to the relevant agencies.

The Youth.

Still working with and attending a monthly meeting with the youth worker. Lots of outreach work is being done with the youth, our more challenging youth are engaging more and we are able to advise and try and help them correct their behaviour.

There have been several complaints of the youth's behaviour in regards to language, especially on the rec area. Those concerned have been spoken to; however it is very difficult to monitor this we are continually moving them on from the community centre and co-op and other hotspot areas around the village. The rec is one area that they feel they can meet up with their friends and just be themselves.

We have been directing them to the youth shelter, but we desperately need to put a light in the shelter. A majority of the youth have expressed an interest in trying to fundraise and find a solution to getting a light in this area. Older youth that drive when seen we are giving advice on their driving and personal safety while on the road. Most are engaging with this. We are looking to see if West Sussex County Council is still running their safer driving courses. We have a few names that would like to attend.

Parking

Once again once again there have been many issues with parking. Unfortunately there are limited no parking restrictions in place within the village, if you feel that a vehicle is parked dangerously then please call the police non-emergency number on 101 and report the registration of the vehicle. If it is a neighbour perhaps just a gentle word with them will help to resolve the problem. Many properties within Ashington now have two or more cars which lead to the parking issues. When we see bad parking or parking on pavements or obstruction the pavement we do speak to the driver concerned and this normally resolves the issue.

Neighbourhood Watch.

We have managed to have a meeting with Brian Jacobs, and it has become apparent of the valuable work that he is doing across the village regarding the neighbourhood watch. Following the meeting we would like to offer him our support and move the neighbourhood watch scheme forward, hopefully enabling a neighbourhood watch street co-ordinator to be in every road in Ashington. If anybody would like to volunteer as a neighbourhood street co-ordinator, please contact us and we will pass your details over to Brian.

Community Speed watch

We would very much like to start up a speed watch scheme within the village again, we are currently looking for volunteers to come forward and train for this scheme. We have had a fair bit of interest from the church volunteers, anyone that would like to volunteer if you could contact us and we shall pass your details on to the relevant people concerned.

Street Briefings.

On 22nd of May we did a street briefing at Penn Gardens, we were there from 6pm until 7pm. It gives residents a chance to come speak to us if they have any issues or concerns that are bothering them. When time allows we will be doing more street briefings across the village.

Scams

We have been going around the elderly vulnerable and many residents in the village to highlight the risk of telephones scams, and if any of them have become a victim of these calls we have told them to call the police straight away. Five residents so far that we know of have been victims of scams, where the scammers have tried to ask for their bank details etc.

Elderly/Vulnerable.

Several residents have been referred this month to Liaise which is a front line debt and benefit agency. This has proved helpful to those who find themselves with financial worries.

Two more community link alarms have been fitted at resident's property this month. Trips to Eastbourne and Littlehampton are in the planning process; hopefully this will be in July and August.

A new club for the Gentleman of Ashington has been organised together with help from the church volunteers. The first trip will be the end of June where a visit to Shoreham Airport will be made. I think there has been quite an interest and I know that the mini bus has been booked for the trip. Hopefully this will prove to be popular and we will be looking at perhaps making it a monthly trip for the gentleman to visit places that would interest them.

I have been generally supporting those within the elderly/vulnerable group with issues that are bothering them.

Lunch club and vintage tea and bingo all figures attending are good, all clubs are managing to pay the overheads.

Fly Tipping.

Have reported several fly tipping sites around the village, however there seems to be a back log with removal at the moment, we will keep chasing however and they will be gone eventually.

203/15 APPENDIX 2 – PCSO Report April

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

204/15 APPENDIX 3 Report on Ashington Youth Centre

Overall Priorities for Summer term (April-August)

1. Trial and review second evening of youth work. Using alternative format to Thursday night sessions.
2. Embedding new initiatives and strategies to make positive culture shifts within AYC. These include:
 - Members sign a contract of membership.
 - This is in response to direct feedback from core youth members.
 - Our ongoing aims are to develop a culture in which young people have a sense of ownership of the youth club as opposed to simply being consumers to another service.
3. Ensure Safeguarding training is undergone by all AYC volunteers, review related policies, and implement DBS checks
4. Implement 'Team time' for all AYC volunteers – a space for training, development of team relationships, and continuing vision for AYC.
5. Overseeing the development and establishing of a 'Youth Club facilities development' team

May 2015 / Impact

Attendance

- Attendance has remained regular, hosting on average been 35-40 young people each week.
- In addition to this, due to regular correspondence with Jamie Chalkley (AYC Chairman and leader of Monday night Youth Gym) it is notable and worth celebrating that adding the different 10-15 regular young people attending the youth gym, the AYC as a whole, engages over 50 young people from Ashington each week.
- We have seen a steady and regular engagement of 'new' young people we haven't had in the youth club before. In most cases, this engagement can be attributed to the recent use of my time on Monday evenings, engaging with young people around the community, outside the confines of the youth club

Tackling ongoing concerns regarding anti-social behaviour amongst young people in Ashington.

- To specifically tackled behaviour within AYC we have began implementing strategies developed by our team of youth leaders and young people. One such example has been the introduction of membership contracts for young people to be held accountable to which include a number of terms of their membership to the club.
- A large strategy we are adopting is to encourage and equip our young people to fulfil their potential in becoming positive leaders within our community, by guiding and inspiring them, rather than lecturing and chastising. These young people have a lot of voices 'telling them off'.
- I have found that over the past 6 months, using an alternative relational method I have gained the trust of young people I have engaged with. Building on this, I intend to inspire them to develop healthy behavioural patterns.
- The next steps this term involve:
 - A) Developing the second evening of youth work,
 - B) Continued collaborative work between AYC, SYW and Wardens including SYW joining community patrols with Neighbourhood Wardens.
 - C) Continuing to trial and introduce new and alternative strategies to heighten levels of ownership, involvement and pride towards their community.

Delivering second evening of youth work – progress of plans

- As stated in previous reports, the original plan was to begin delivering a Monday evening youth session from April 20th. These plans included working alongside Neighbourhood Wardens and Dann Morris (Horsham District Substance Misuse Officer). Due to good and understandable reasons, they were unavailable to be present to ho ahead with plans.
- Due to this, I did not want progress to be delayed, and took alternative action. I used my time on Monday evenings engaging with young people within the community, initiating games and activities on the recreation ground as well socialising and befriending young people around the village.
- To further understand and engage with anti-social issues in communities, I am continuing to work alongside the Ashington Wardens, joining them on their evening patrols of the community.
- After a number of very positive and constructive meeting with Dann Morris as well as taking on board the advice from the community partnership group, we have put together a number of focussed sessions, aiming to inform, equip and motivate young people away from substance misuse and towards becoming positive leaders within our community.
- These focussed sessions will run from June - mid August.

- These sessions will include topics of: Information, Health & Fitness, Methods of Addiction Management, First Aid Response Training, Motivation and Hearing Personal Life Stories & Testimonies from Guests.
- Contrary to what has previously been anticipated, due to the prospective nature of these sessions I hope that they would engage not only young people exhibiting anti-social and negative behaviour, but young people of all backgrounds
- I have an ongoing relationship with Dann Morris, having worked together delivering 'Mocktail apprentice' sessions in surrounding schools (Steyning Grammar School, The Weald, Rydon Community College) serving Ashington young people. As well as this, Dann himself has established a positive presence across the area being both recognised and respected within these topics due to his continued work in schools.

DBS , Safeguarding & training

- Ashington Youth Club is now registered with CCPAS. This is a service provider to administer DBS checks on all volunteers: www.cpas.co.uk
Currently waiting on CCPAS to verify and confirm me as AYC's lead recruiter.
-
- In light of advice from CCPAS and safeguarding professionals, as AYC, we are adopting the policy of having both DBS checks and safeguarding training being renewed within three years.
- Along with 2 of our key AYC volunteers, on May 9th we attended part 1 of 2 Youth Worker training days organised by 'Sussex Clubs for Young People LTD'. We will be attending part 2 of this training on June 6th.
- These sessions include topics such as:
 - Communication with young people
 - Current issues of adolescence
 - Challenging behaviour
 - Equality and Diversity
 - Health and Safety
 - Boundaries
 - The creation of safe environments for young people.
- As a result of liaising with various parties, I have secured a number of safeguarding training opportunities for our team of volunteers.
 - Thursday evening May 28th – I have booked Liz Burt (Horsham-Matters Youth Projects Manager) to deliver safeguarding training at Ashington Youth Club, free of charge. I want to make this evening a priority for AYC volunteers to attend.
 - In light of there not having been any safeguarding training for some time, I put in place measures to that all of our team; new and old, will have had training by the end of the summer term. I have organised further training opportunities in July (4th & 7th). These

further sessions will be organised and delivered by Debbie Bath (Ashington Church Safeguarding officer).

- With this now booked, by September, all of our AYC volunteers will have undergone up to date safeguarding training.
- Furthermore, I am continuing to work alongside AYC Chairman to revise youth club child protection policies and procedures.

Other development updates & plans

Trips & Activities

- Through networking with with local clubs, organisations and members of the community, I am working towards delivering a number of trips and activities over the summer term to provide new and empowering experiences for young people in Ashington. These include:
 - Air rifle shooting
 - Archery
 - Kayaking
- As well as providing what I hope will be positive and empowering activities for our young people, these activities will maximise use of local resources as well as further developing links with other stakeholders and organisations within the Ashington community.

Introduction of AYC Volunteer 'Team time'

- The first 'Team time' is took place on Thursday evening of half term, May 28th. AYC was open for a session during the afternoon, but closed during the evening, enabling us to invest in our voluntary team.
- 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
- On this first session together, Safeguarding training was delivered by Liz Burt (Horsham - Matters Youth Projects Manager), as outlined previously within the above section, 'DBS, Safeguarding & Training'.
- This first session was well received, gathering volunteers from various different aspects of AYC with the neighbourhood wardens. Looking ahead, 'team time' will be something we adopt on a regular basis.

Social Media

- We have introduced and began using social media to both engage young people and keep them up to date with relevant information regarding youth provisions and the youth club.
- In particular, we are using the platform: Instagram which enables us to develop dialogue amongst young people regarding relevant youth issues and provisions.

Community visibility

- In response to both feedback from young people and the community partnership group, over the coming months, we will be working with our young people to organise a number of sessions o include a village litter pick.
 - In particular - I envision one of these being in the lead up to the Ashington carnival.
 - This is working towards one of our aims of raising ownership and pride amongst young people towards Ashington. As well as this - it is important to demonstrate these feelings and proactive nature of young people to the wider community to instigate changes in perception towards young people.
- ▬ Over the remainder of the summer term leading up to the Ashington carnival, we intend to work with our young people to produce an entrance into the carnival.

Holiday time provision

- In consultation with my line manager (James di Castiglione), I have agreed annual leave in June as a result of getting married.
 - This leave will cover the period of June 15th - 26th as well as Thursday July 2nd.
 - In preparation for this, I have organised cover for these dates ensuring youth services are still delivered.

Paddy Donovan. 1.6.15

205/15 APPENDIX 4 Funds held on behalf of others

First Responders Funds: £3713.26

Bingo Club: £213.51