



Ashington Parish Council

**Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 4th February 2016 at 7.45 p.m. in Ashington School,
Foster Lane, Ashington**

Present: Councillors N. Clark (Chairman), N. Spiers (Vice-Chairman), S. Ball S. Cox,
L. di Castiglione, T. Kearney, G. MacPherson, J. Stillwell, K. Wood, M. Woolley.
Parish Clerk: Celia Price

Neighbourhood Wardens: J. Jeffrey, A Webster
Youth Worker: Paddy Donovan
Invited Guest: Rev James di Castiglione

District Councillors: P. Circus, D. Jenkins
6 members of the public

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.

031/16 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

Cllr R Strudwick (Personal)
Neighbourhood Plan Clerk: Karen Dare (Personal)
District Councillor: J Blackall

032/16 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand.

033/16 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting dated 7th January 2016 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Woolley, seconded by Cllr Stillwell and agreed by all.

034/16 NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

Neighbourhood Wardens Report (Appendix 1)

The Wardens gave an overview of the report inviting questions from Councillors and the Public.

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Questions from Councillors

Cllr Wood reported that there had been cold callers at 8pm around the village. The Wardens urged everyone to report such incidents via 101. If cold callers are seen by the Wardens they are always asked for ID and encouraged to move on.

Questions from the Public

Mrs Alford reported (on behalf of a neighbour) that two cars are regularly seen in the Scout Hut carpark at approximately 11pm on most nights. They are only there briefly and then drive off in opposite directions. The Wardens reiterated that these incidents should be reported as and when they happen either by calling 101 or via the Sussex Police website.

Neighbourhood Warden Service Level Agreement

The Neighbourhood Warden Service Level Agreement has been received from HDC. This has been circulated to Councillors. It was agreed a sub-committee will be formed to review this document and report to the meeting with a recommendation on 3rd March 2016. The sub-committee consists of Cllr Spiers (leading), Cllr Ball, Cllr di Castiglione and Cllr Stillwell.

035/16 Youth Worker Report (Appendix 3)

The Youth Worker gave an overview of the report.

Youth Worker Update (medium term plans)

Paddy Donovan (Youth Worker) gave a presentation for the medium term plans and vision for Youth work within the village. Approximately 25% of the village's young people are already engaged in activities managed by the Youth Worker and we have one of the lowest rates of substance misuse and crime. The presentation highlighted the ways this would be achieved, thanked volunteers and conveyed the passion the Youth Worker has for the young people in the village, he concluded by asking for support from the whole community in the form of encouragement for the youngsters, involvement in activities and help in improving the Youth Club building.

Questions were invited

Mrs Alford remarked that she did not hear the word 'respect' throughout the presentation and asked about this. The Youth Worker responded by saying that there are two 'rules' at the Youth Club and both include respect, these are the foundation for all the groups.

The Chairman thanked the Youth Worker and the Councillors and Public gave a round of applause.

036/16 Churchyard

James di Castiglione (Rector) and Antony Ray (Church Warden) presented to the meeting explaining a change to Church of England regulations which now means that there will be no new 'stones' to mark ashes buried in any Churchyard (the reason for this predominately is that Churchyards in general are running out of space). Details of the deceased whose ashes are in Ashington Churchyard will be recorded in both a 'physical' and 'virtual' book. Those that are buried may still have a headstone to mark their grave.

It was then explained that the aim is to have a beautifully managed Churchyard. Historically, the Churchyard has been maintained by a team of volunteers however this is no longer viable and

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Mark Adsett has been employed to work alongside a small team of volunteers to keep the Churchyard looking beautiful. Part of the Churchyard (where the Victorian gravestones are) will also include a wild flower area.

Questions were invited

It was asked if a tablet was already in place, could this be updated. The answer is yes.

Cllr Ball asked where the Book of Remembrance will be displayed. The best way to allow access to all is being investigated by the Church but it is thought that both a physical book, which will be displayed somewhere in the Church or grounds will be kept along with a virtual book accessible via the Church website.

Cllr Stillwell asked if the deceased are buried can they have a stone? The answer is yes, it's only newly buried ashes that the new regulations apply to.

Mrs Alford commented that she was pleased to hear about the improvements in Churchyard maintenance.

The Chairman thanked the Rector and Church Warden for a very informative presentation.

037/16 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT

None Present

038/16 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Billingshurst Road VAS sign – At the meeting on 7th January Cllr Wood asked Cllr Circus to find out who is funding the new VAS sign at Midhurst. Cllr Wood reported the Midhurst sign is no longer there.

Barriers (by the playing field) – At the meeting on 7th January the Chair asked Cllr Circus to obtain copies for the Parish Council of the guidance documents used by the authorities to determine where barrier installation is needed. Cllr Circus has requested this information and is awaiting a reply. **C/F**

Cllr Circus reported that it is looking likely that the District will move to two-weekly refuse collections. Council tax will be increasing by 1.2%. He went on to say developers continue to apply for unacceptable developments but he is hopeful that now the HDPF (Horsham District Planning Framework) has been adopted such applications will be rejected in support of the plan. Finally, from the County perspective the major issue continues to be the STARS schools consultation. There is a great deal of support for an additional secondary school, but viability needs to be investigated. He also advised that Operation Watershed is back. The Clerk confirmed information has arrived but not in time for the meeting so this will be circulated in the next few days.

The Chair invited questions

Mrs Alford asked if residents can be 'forced' to recycle. Cllr Circus responded by saying there is no legal compulsion to recycle.

It was also asked if larger bins will be provided. Cllr Circus confirmed that larger families or those with exceptional circumstances can apply for a larger bin. He also reiterated it is likely to take two years before fortnightly bin collections start.

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Actions Outstanding

039/16 Social Media

The Clerk has emailed all Parish Councils in the Horsham District and at present no others have an active Facebook page (although she is awaiting information from Billingshurst), and many have it on their agenda. She has also researched 'out of area' pages and they all seem to be well reviewed. On contacting HDC, the Social Media Team are very supportive and willing to share their policies and guidelines which are currently under review but should be available in the 'next few weeks'. The Clerk proposes to wait until these documents are available before doing a report for decision to Councillors – All agreed. **CP C/F**

040/16 Mill Lane Road Culvert

The Clerk has requested the full report from Opus and WSCC and received the following response

"At present we only have the 2 page 'single option' report from Opus. Following further site investigation it is unlikely that this option would be viable and may in fact put additional properties at risk of flooding. Opus are currently working on a report that will include further options. I will send a report of this report to the parish as soon as it is available".

The Clerk will request (via email) that Cllr Circus investigate.

C/F

041/16 Neighbourhood Watch

Meeting date to be confirmed

C/F

042/16 Review of Emergency Plan

Cllr Spiers is meeting the HDC emergency planning officer at the end of February and the sub-committee are also meeting soon

C/F

CORRESPONDENCE

043/16 For action:

1. CAGNE Gatwick – do the PC want to join the action group (emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting). All agreed not to join the group at this stage.
2. Purple Bus Agreement. The bus will be in the Community Centre Car Park (Church end) every Tuesday (term time only) until 22nd March from 7-9pm. The Youth Worker has coordinated this. ACCT have given permission for parking. Councillors received the agreement prior to the meeting and all agreed for the Chair to sign.
3. Action for Rural Sussex questionnaire regarding the Parish's place of safety. All agreed Clerk to complete.

044/16 For information:

1. Sussex Police November Newsletter (emailed to Councillors)
2. CAGNE Gatwick – letter to WSCC (emailed to Councillors)
3. SALC January 2016 newsletter (emailed to Councillors)
4. Clean up for the Queen (emailed to Councillors)

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5. First Communication from the Chair of Smaller Authorities Audit Appointments (Via SALC) (emailed to Councillors)
6. The Queen's 90th birthday celebrations (emailed to Councillors)
7. Sussex Police Commissioners letter (emailed to Councillors)
8. WSCC Highways Capital Works programme (emailed to Councillors)
9. Three Counties devolution bid event – postponed until May (emailed to Councillors)
10. The Clerks Magazine (SALC)
11. Clerks and Councils Direct Magazine

045/16 General

HIGHWAYS

1. Cllr Kearney and the Clerk met with WSCC highways officer to discuss several issues in the village. A report has been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting and in summary:

London Road Verges. WSCC will provide a licence to install bollards along 40m off London Road. This will have to be done at Ashington Parish Council cost. Work must be carried out by a WSCC approved contractor and they must also approve the bollards. WSCC will not accept any responsibility for damage or maintenance. The highways officer will provide all the necessary support, including the licence, a list of approved contractors and bollards. The Clerk will obtain quotes once the information is received from the Highways Officer. **CP C/F**

London Road footpath/layby ownership. The Highways Officer will confirm who owns the strip of footpath/layby from the nursery to McKinnons Garage. It looks like the footpath ends by the nursery with a crossing point and is taken over by a layby but he will confirm and also advise if this is WSCC or privately owned.

Grit Bin Location. The Highways Officer will provide maps for the roads requested highlighting the areas owned by WSCC we can then apply for a licence. He is happy to come out again once we have identified possible positions.

BP Garage Signage. The Highways Officer confirmed this would have been agreed with HDC planning and will follow this up on behalf of the PC.

STARS SCHOOLS CONSULTATION UPDATE

The Chairman, Cllr Ball and the Clerk attended a meeting hosted by Jay Mercer, Interim Director of Education at the HDC offices yesterday (Wednesday 3rd February). The meeting was for all Parish Councils affected by the STARS schools consultation. The public consultation closes at midnight on 12th February. In summary: Parish Councils were given the opportunity to ask questions and make comments on the proposals to increase all First Schools in the area to include Year 6. To close Rydon Community College and re-open it as an annex to Steyning Grammar School. A wide range of issues were discussed and debated and all will be considered by the Officers in preparing their recommendations.

046/16 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

Mrs Alford commented about the rubbish around the village and asked if the rent from Ashington Autos could be used to employ a litter warden.

This led to a discussion about litter in general and it was agreed this should be added to the March Agenda for further debate.

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Mr Girling asked if there are plans to do a litter pick for 'clean for the queen' and could the Church family be included. Cllr Spiers will be organising this and will include the Church as in previous years.

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

047/16 PLANNING.

There was no planning committee meeting this month.

048/16 Correspondence

1. Report from Mrs Jones re: planning application process (emailed to Councillors prior to the meeting)
The Chair thanked Mrs Jones for the report and advised the report had been sent to all Councillors for their consideration.
2. Chanctonbury Nurseries Update – nothing to report
3. Hoots House Update. The Clerk and the NP Clerk met with the developer of Hoots House and subsequently received a request for an agreement in principle that the Developer (Dearden Homes) can use either the drainage pond or have access to SW surface water drains. (The request and report have been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting). All agreed to a without prejudice, agreement in principle subject to the usual the usual reports eg engineers, legal documents, payment of PC legal expenses etc. Cllr Woolley suggested a contribution for the community benefit should also be discussed. The Clerk will advise the developer so he can prepare the documents for a future meeting.

CP D

049/16 Neighbourhood Plan update

The inaugural meeting of the Ashington Neighbourhood Plan volunteers took place on 1st February 2016. Karen Dare made a short presentation on Neighbourhood Plans and conducted a question & answer session. Twenty four people attended the meeting (a number of others sent apologies but are still interested in being involved) and volunteers came forward for both the Steering Committee and the Focus Groups. It is expected that the first meeting of the Steering Committee will take place in mid February when a project plan can be agreed and started.

KD C/F

The NP Clerk advised that a Parish Profile (population, households, housing, transport etc) based on the 2011 Census is required for the NP. This can be produced by ACRE (Action in Rural Sussex) for 120GBP + VAT. There are other options and this information has been emailed to Councillors.

All agreed to use ACRE and approved the expenditure from the NP budget.

050/16 Amendments

None

051/16 Applications

DC/16/0131 Four Acres, Rectory Lane

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Erection of 4 dwellings (instead of 3 as previously agreed DC/14/2444) – This is a non-material amendment, namely a minor amendment that the Parish Council are not required to comment on.

Horsham District Council

052/16 Approvals

DC/15/2887 Carbank

Change of conditions - Permitted

053/16 Refusals

None

054/16 Withdrawals

None

055/16 Appeals made/ decisions

DC/14/1695

Appeal - Land South of Ashington House, London Road - outline application for up to 40 homes

FINANCE

056/16 Correspondence

1. The Clerk reports that the quarterly bank reconciliation has been checked and signed by the Chairman.
2. Lloyds bank letter apologising and detailing compensation payment following Clerk's complaint. The Clerk requested that she claim £30 for additional telephone expenses. All agreed. Cllr Kearney proposed the Clerk receive £100 for time as detailed in the letter from Lloyds bank and thanked her for her perseverance. All agreed.
3. A third signatory for the Lloyds bank current account is required. Cllr Kearney is happy to take on this role. All agreed.

057/16 Income

Lloyds Banks – Compensation	£460.55
Interest of Investment Account	£1248.46
ARA Tea and Coffee money	£14.35

058/16 Expenditure

Month	Payee	Description	£	Chq No.
Feb 16	Mrs Celia Price	Home Office - January 2016	10.00	
		Telephone	7.00	
		Telephone (compensated by Lloyds Bank)	30.00	
		Postage	1.73	
		Giff Gaff - Mobile Phone Top Up	10.00	
		Total	58.73	1729
	Mrs Karen Dare	Home Office - January 2016	5.00	
		Travel Expenses	8.00	
		Parking	1.60	

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		Total	<u>14.60</u>	1730
Mark Adsett	Landscape Gardening (Jan 16)		508.33	1731
Ashington PCC	Invoice: YW-201601 Youth Worker (Jan 16)		1083.33	1732
Ashington Community Trust	Invoice: 411162 Hire of Room for planning meeting 16/12		3.80	
	Skate Park Insurance (April 2015 - April 2016)		<u>255.00</u>	
		Total	<u>258.80</u>	1733
WSCC	Invoice: 8001136829 Salaries and Costs		980.94	1734
Proludic	Invoice: 7198 S97866 Turnfly Handle (Foster Lane Park)		200.40	1735
D. S Newland	Invoice: 2901 Repairs to Warmingshurst Play Area		<u>370.00</u>	1736
February 2016 Total Expenditure			<u>3475.13</u>	

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

059/16 MEETINGS

The Clerk attended the Horsham District Clerks meeting on 19th January 2016

The Clerk and the NP Clerk met with the Developer of Hoots House on 21st January 2016

Cllr Kearney and The Clerk met with WSCC Highways on 26th January 2016

Cllr Ball, Cllr Clark, Cllr Wood and the Clerk attended a STARS Schools Consultation meeting on 26th January 2016

Cllr Clark, Cllr Spiers, Cllr Ball, Cllr Cox, Cllr Di Castiglione, Cllr Kearney and Cllr MacPherson attended the Neighbourhood Plan meeting on 1st February 2016.

Cllr Stillwell, Cllr Spiers and the Clerk had attended a Chanctonbury Youth Project Community Partnership meeting on 2nd February 2016.

Cllr Clark, Cllr Stillwell, Cllr Spiers and The Clerk had attended a Neighbourhood Warden Partnership meeting on 2nd February 2016.

Cllr Clark, the Clerk and the NP Clerk met with Chris Lyons (Director of Planning) at HDC on 3rd February 2016

Cllr Clark, Cllr Ball and the Clerk met with Jay Mercer (Interim Director of Education) at HDC on 3rd February.

060/16 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Ball requested that The Youth Worker be invited to attend meeting bi-annually. All agreed. Cllr Stillwell commented that street lighting and footpaths were inadequate along Rectory Lane from Merios Way along to Penn Retreat. She also requested confirmation regarding the charges for delivering leaflets. Mrs Alford confirmed that any leaflet drop requested by the Parish

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Council would not be charged. Other organisations incur a cost of £25. The Parish Council will request the delivery of the new Warden leaflets.

Cllr Clark reported that he had used the 'Love West Sussex' App to report an issue and had found it very useful.

The Annual Meeting for the Parish Council will be held at **7:45pm on Thursday 3rd March at Ashington School, Foster Lane**

The next Parish Council will be held at **8:00pm on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at Ashington School, Foster Lane.**

The next Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for **Wednesday 17th February 2016 at 7.30pm in the Community Centre – Committee Room 2 (Please note change to normal venue).**

The meeting finished at 9:40pm

Signed.....

Date.....

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Appendix 1
WARDEN REPORT DECEMBER 2015/ JANUARY 2016

Due to annual leave and sickness, we were unable to provide a report for December. As such please find this as a combined report.

CRIMINAL DAMAGE/THEFT

There has been a report to us this month of an attempted break in to shed/garage to a property in the village. It is believed the thief was disturbed. All information has been reported to the police.

There has also been a worrying issue of a person asking an elderly/vulnerable person for their key safe number. Luckily the person was unsuccessful. We have made arrangements for the key code to be changed and in fact the keys have now been removed from this area.

This is not a police report so therefore will not include any issues or incidents that have been reported directly to police.

ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Very few calls the past few months in regards to anti-social behaviour, all complaints have been or are being dealt with. We are working with relevant agencies to try and find solutions to the anti-social behaviour. We would just like to state that not all anti-social behaviour revolves around the youth, the issues we are dealing with at the moment involve older age groups within the village.

There have been reports of youths acting in an anti-social manner at the community centre, when seen we are asking them to move on from this area. We are also educating them regarding their litter, asking them to use the bins provided around the village. The main issue is noise which has been disturbing hall users; they are not causing any criminal damage. They are very compliant when asked to move on. We are still directing them to the youth shelter, over the last month the youth shelter has been very busy with the youth congregating in this area.

At the moment we are dealing with neighbourhood disputes involving anti-social behaviour. We are working very closely with both victims and offenders to try and come to some type of resolution. Mediation has been offered, some have accepted while others have refused.

Meetings have been arranged with relevant agencies to tackle the issues. They are using the Warden Office as a location to meet with those concerned. This is good for the villagers as it provides easier access for services when required without the need to travel to the nearest towns.

Names and addresses of those causing a lot of anti-social behaviour across the village have been given to police. When dealing with these offenders all intelligence is also passed to the police.

We have added the Nursery School in Rectory Lane to our regular patrols. They have been experiencing youth using their play area for a place to meet. Damage and litter has been made in this area. All intelligence will be passed to the police.

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YOUTH

We would like to say a very big thank you to the youth, who over the Christmas period volunteered a lot of help with the elderly vulnerable events that took place. The youth were actually involved with helping prepare for the events by making posters, wrapping raffle prizes and making table decorations. They also helped on the day by providing free labour to help set up, prepare and serve the guests. Following the event they also stayed to help tidy and clear.

We have been attending youth club as and when our shifts allow, the Monday session is proving very popular with the youth providing them a nice warm and safe environment to mix with their friends. We have been continually sign posting youth towards the youth club and attendance numbers are increasing.

We have spoken to the youth worker about the run down and neglected appearance of the exterior of the youth club building. We have received lots of complaints from residents of the village about this. The youth worker, us and any volunteers who wish to help will look into ways if possible in which to improve and repair the building and surrounding area.

Due to issues at the youth club in previous months, due to anti-social behaviour we have been working very closely with the police. They are now doing regular patrols when in the area and calling into the youth club when time allows.

Due to the issues with litter in the skate park we have spoken with the youth worker about delivering educational sessions to the youth on how to dispose of their litter. Also highlighting the problems this brings to the environment and the community they live in if the litter is just left.

LITTER

Litter has been really bad over the last few weeks. Partly due to the weather and high winds blowing bins over and causing the rubbish to scatter around the village. We have spoken with the youth regarding their litter and making sure they use bins provided. We have also noticed a lot of the litter is being thrown from vehicles especially down Rectory Lane and London Road.

Over the next few weeks as the weather improves I think there are plans for a village litter pick day to take place.

There has also seen an increase in the litter on Old London Road and top of village by new garage site. We will liaise with the Manager to see what arrangements they have for litter picking their site and surrounding area.

SUSPICIOUS VEHICLES

Thanks to the observations of local residents, several suspicious vehicles have been reported to us. We have then given all details and intelligence to police. We have been reminding residents when they witness something suspicious that they should report directly to the police, recording and given as much information as possible about the suspicious act which has taken place. We are also reminding all residents to call 101 to report to the police, or 999 in an emergency. There is also the option of using the Sussex police website to report.

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ANTI-SOCIAL DRIVING

There have been several reports to us over the past few weeks of the speed of vehicles using Rectory Lane. Only this week there was an incident where an animal was knocked over. We have concerns as quite a number of pedestrians use a very narrow path and with the road not being wide enough in some places; we have seen cars mount the pavement at speed. Registration details have been taken, we have reported to police our concerns with the speeding issues.

Anti-social driving at the roundabout at the top of the village seems to be a lot quieter since the opening of the BP petrol station on Old London Road. We have not received any phone calls regarding anti-social driving on the roundabout since the petrol station opened.

OLD LONDON ROAD

There has been an issue since the garage has been built with traffic using the Old London Road. Vehicles are coming out of the garage and turning right thinking that they can access the A24, not realising that it is actually a dead end. We have witnessed this at all times of the day; as such a sign stating that it is no through road could resolve this issue.

There has also been an increase in the number of large Lorries that are parking for extended periods of time on this road.

COLD CALLERS

We have dealt with an incident this month of a cold caller calling at a home in the village. A young person was home alone and the cold caller was acting in a strange way which unnerved the occupant of the house. We were able to attend and offer reassurance. We also asked that the young person report to the police. We followed on with a patrol of the area to try and identify the offender.

If a resident feels something is suspicious with the cold caller they must call the police to report the incident on 101 or 999 if an emergency.

FLY TIPPING

Three reports of fly tipping incidents this month all have been reported to Hop oast cleansing department and following patrols have noticed that they have been removed. Park lane seems to be the major hot spot area for fly tipping followed by the Old London road.

FLY POSTING

Busy few weeks with removing fly posting from street furniture throughout the village, we have been making contact with some who have been guilty of the fly posting. We are reminding them of the laws and the fines that they can face if they continue to fly post. We have stated that there are notice boards across the village that can be used, and if they contact us we are more than happy to display their poster of their event in the noticeboards.

PARTNERSHIP WORKING

Regular monthly meetings with the police to discuss issues we may be having in the village.

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A new monthly meeting has started with the Community safety team and fellow neighbourhood wardens. This is proving useful for sharing information. It also gives us a joint approach on problem solving issues we may have in the village.

DOG FOUL

There has been an increase in dog foul reports this month, hot spot areas include: the alleyway between Willard way and Meiros way this area is particularly bad, and is a worry as a lot of children uses this alleyway to get to and from school. We will look at replacing dog foul signage in the area, we have been asking anyone who sees offenders not picking up their dogs foul to please report to us. We will be arranging some early morning and late evening patrols in the hot spot areas. Hillcrest drive is another hotspot area.

ELDERLY/VULNERABLE

We are still working closely with the independent living team on a day to day basis regarding residents across the village, we have had quite a bit of contact with social workers, occupational health therapists, discharge nurses and carers regarding some elderly/vulnerable issues this month. We have been working closely with this group so that those residents affected can return to their homes following illnesses/accidents. We are also working closely with the families of those concerned.

We have seen an increase in our welfare visits as many within our elderly/vulnerable group have been dealing with life changing incidents within their personal lives. We have been helping them by reassuring them and signposting to relevant agencies who specialise in the issues that they have to face.

We have also been checking with in the elderly/vulnerable group that everyone is ok over the Christmas period. Most are going to relatives.

Community link alarms and fire alarms are being tested on a regular basis.

The Christmas Lunch Club took place on the 2nd December 2015, Once again a great success. We would like to extend a very big thank you to the Rotary Club for the kind donation which they made to Pat. This meant that all elderly/vulnerable members were able to have free Christmas lunch.

We would like to take this chance to say thank you to the local primary school children who visited us on the Christmas lunch club and chatted and generally helped serve the elderly/vulnerable guests.

Hopefully the children will be joining us for the February lunch club for an afternoon of tea and games. This intergenerational activity is very valuable for the village, allowing for different generations to mix.

Live entertainment and a large raffle were part of the afternoon festivities.

We took a minibus full of elderly/vulnerable residents to a local restaurant for Christmas lunch. This is the 4th year that we have arranged this event. Everyone that attends looks forward to this event.

Thursday minibus shopping trip took place on the 14th Jan 2016. We had a full mini bus and we visited ASDA supermarket. Rather than run this event on a weekly basis we have decided to change to a monthly trip. The next trip will be to Morrison's on the 11th Feb 2016. The reason we have changed this is because at present due to some villagers not using the minibus there is space on the Tuesday

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shopping trip for new comers so therefore there is not such a demand for a second shopping day trip. All can be accommodated on the Tuesday bus.

WARDEN

This is purely a report from us as wardens and is not a report of police related issues that they may be dealing with separately from us that have happened in the village. There will be reports of incidents that we do not become aware of until we have been updated. This is a good sign to us at it shows that residents are reporting crime related incident to the police directly and not coming through us.

Appendix 2

Horsham District Monthly update is on the Parish Council website www.ashingtonpc.org.uk

Appendix 3 – Youth Worker Report

Main Headlines - January

Feedback from new format

- Increased Attendance & New members
 - This term (From Jan '16), since implementing new formats, we have welcomed 13 new members amongst our younger youth sessions (10-13yr olds) as well as noticeable increases in regular attendance to between 25-30 young people.
 - Amongst our older group, we have welcomed 16 new members since September.
- Attitudes towards new format
 - After what could be considered a teething stage, our older group (13yrs+) have grown accustomed to new formats to AYC sessions, although it has resulted in them having less time on a Thursday evening.
 - On the other hand, the younger group of youth have been exceptionally receptive, providing positive feedback to an extended session.
 - This has also enabled us to cover a number of topics more sufficiently as well as allowing space for young people to develop their own social community within the youth club which has led to young people inviting their friends to a more appealing youth night.

Topic covered during January AYC sessions

- Sessions in January have included topics surrounding:
 - Setting & Achieving goals
 - Youth involvement in Ashington Carnival
 - Knowledge and attitudes surrounding alcohol.
 - Employment
 - Romantic relationships

Feedback form local Police concerning Drug concerns amongst young people

- After a previous CPG meeting, it was arranged to meet with the local Police inspector.
- As a result of this, a PC was able to drop-in during a Thursday session. The PC was able to briefly talk with a number of our young people about their role within the communities.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

- Furthermore, the police have asked their staff to pay particular attention to the youth club, skatepark and surrounding areas .

The Purple bus

- I have arranged for Dan Sneller and the Purple bus team to come to Ashington on Tuesday evenings until Easter. (February & March).
- The Purple bus is managed by West Sussex Youth Services seeking to overcome the obstacles and disadvantages faced by young people living in rural areas.

Areas of concern & Observations

- Need for focused employment sessions & 16+ sessions
 - Within our older group, there are a number of individuals who are either NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training) or are currently disillusioned with their post GCSE education, yet unable to gain successful employment. The outcome of this has been that they lack a number of current skills to gain successful employment. Within our volunteer team and community, there is both a willingness and ability to develop a program of practical workshops to remove barriers to employment for our young people.
 - A further observation has been the growing number of 16+ aged young people. Therefore looking to the future, it is important for us to develop a space to support their transition from adolescence into adulthood. I envision this being in place by September with the new academic year which will provide sufficient time to develop structures and volunteers.

Appendix 4

Funds held by the Parish Council on behalf of others as at 29th January 2016:

First Responders	£ 3371.65
Bingo Club	£ 336.32
ARA	£ 708.85

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