



Ashington Parish Council

**Minutes for the meeting held on Thursday 6th April 2017 at 7:45p.m. in Ashington School,
Foster Lane, Ashington**

**Present: Councillors: J. Stillwell (Chairman), N. Spiers, S. Ball, T. Kearney, G. MacPherson, R. Strudwick,
K. Wood, M. Woolley.**

Parish Clerk: Celia Price

Warden: Bryony Sparks

Youth Worker: Paddy Donovan

County Councillor: P. Circus

District Councillor: J. Blackall

5 members of the public

0 young people

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.

090/17 APOLOGIES

Cllr Currell, Cllr Cox and Cllr di Castiglione. District Councillor Jenkins

091/17 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

The Chairman reminded Councillors that previous declarations still stand. Cllr Stillwell and Cllr Spiers declared an interest in the grants action outstanding item 98/17. Cllr Stillwell declared an interest in item 99/17

092/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting dated 2nd March 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Ball, seconded by Cllr Strudwick and agreed by all.

093/17 APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

The minutes of the Annual Assembly dated 2nd March 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Kearney, seconded by Cllr Strudwick and agreed by all.

094/17 NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDENS

Neighbourhood Wardens Report (Appendix 1)

The Chair welcomed Bryony Sparks, the new Warden, who then gave an overview of the monthly report. Questions were invited from Councillors and Members of the Public. There were no questions.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

095/17 Youth Worker Report (Appendix 3)

The Chair welcomed Paddy Donovan, the Youth Worker who then gave an overview of the monthly report and gave a short presentation. Questions were invited from Councillors and Members of the Public. The following comments were made

- It's good to see the Wardens are hoping to add another Youth Club session on Friday evenings giving even more opportunities for our young people.
- Walking football was started for the 'older' community but it has been great to have some young people join in and they have been an absolute pleasure.
- There is a new club planned for some cross-generation integration where once a quarter the youth and elderly will meet for afternoon tea. They will take it in turns to host.

096/17 YOUNG PERSONS ADJOURNMENT

None present

097/17 REPORT FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Circus advised that he will not be standing for re-election as County Councillor but will continue in his District Councillor role.

Cllr Blackall reported that planning permission for The Glebe Doctors Surgery has been approved. Cllr Circus had expressed concerns regarding the effect of a new pharmacy on the Ashington Pharmacy and urges everyone to continue to support this local business. Cllr Blackall advised that the planning application for Horsham Football Club has also been approved.

Cllr Blackall went on to report that the new parking discs for rural carparks are now valid and to date over 26,000 discs have been issued (many of which are from outside local postcodes) and two extra wardens are being recruited to police rural car parks.

Questions were invited from Councillors and the Public

- It was originally indicated that parking discs would be individualised for each car but this is not the case.
- Clarification was requested for 'blue badge holders'. There is some confusion and conflicting advice coming from HDC.

Cllr Blackall confirmed that those receiving the highest level of benefit would be able to park for free. Members of the public are encouraged to check the website.

098/17 ACTIONS OUTSTANDING

Highways

- a) Old London Road
BP have installed the CCTV camera as promised. Unfortunately, it is facing the wrong direction, however this will be rectified and CCTV in operation sign erected. The Clerk has approached Highways about 'no through road' signage and is awaiting a response.
- b) London Road (grass verge outside The White Cottage)
Nothing new to report
- c) A24 Southbound, subsidence
The Highways Manager has confirmed that this work will be scheduled but is awaiting a date and confirmation of budget.
- d) Give Way Line Painting from North Bound Slip Road
The Highways Manager has confirmed this work will be scheduled but has no date.

General Maintenance

- a) Post Horses Pond Fence
A further inspection has taken place and the whole fence does need replacing. A verbal quote has been received in the region of £2000. Materials making up just under half of this cost. There are

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

funds available in the public open spaces budget. The Clerk has enquired and it has been confirmed that WSCC Rangers could work with the Ashington Rangers to carry out this task. All agreed for the Clerk to carry out further investigations.

b) Policy for hedge cutting.

Advice received suggests that hedge and tree maintenance should be carried out during the winter months (as it currently does), the Clerk has been unable to find any further guidelines despite approaching several third parties. Cllr Wood has 'The Hedgerow Regulations' from the Department of the Environment and passed this to the Clerk.

Grants

Cllr Stillwell and Cllr Spiers left the meeting. With the agreement of the Council, Cllr Woolley took the Chair.

- a) As requested during the grants discussion at the meeting held on 2nd March the Clerk contacted the Chairman of the ACCT regarding it's charging Policy for the Ashington Festival. The reply has been circulated to all Councillors. Following discussion Councillors all agreed to forward the email received from ACCT to the Gardening Club. It was also agreed that the Clerk will write to ACCT supporting the Gardening Club's request to waiver the fees on Festival Day on the grounds of equality.

ACTION: The Clerk to write to ACCT, co-ordinating with the Gardening Club's request for the waiver of fees.

Cllr Spiers returned to the meeting and took the Chair.

Youth Work / Warden Review

Nothing new to report

Mill Lane Culvert

Nothing new to report

CORRESPONDENCE

099/17 For action:

- a) Festival bunting

Correspondence was distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting following TPA's refusal to grant permission for the Festival bunting this year. The issue was discussed at length and all agreed it seems ludicrous that bunting is no longer allowed. The County Councillor and District Councillors have been approached by the Clerk and the Festival Committee have written to Nick Herbert. No further action is required by the Parish Council at this stage.

Cllr Stillwell returned to the meeting and the Chair

- b) Playground Safety Inspections

The Wardens have been responsible for visual weekly, visual playground inspections, however Neil Worth advised the steering group that this would no longer be possible. The Clerk has researched how other Parish Councils manage this function and this has been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting along with further information obtained by HDC Parks department. Councillors discussed the situation at length with the following action points for the Clerk

- 1) Contact Neil Worth at HDC and ask for clarification regarding why the Wardens are stopping the inspections.
- 2) Book two places on the HDC course scheduled for 25th July
- 3) Advertise for volunteers in the village newsletter, Facebook and in the County Times Column.

102/17 For information:

The following were distributed to Councillors prior to the meeting for information.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

- a) LCR Magazine
- b) Letter from resident
- c) ICM housing questionnaire
- d) NALC notification regarding S137 expenditure
- e) HDC – CIL Charging schedule
- f) SSALC – Devolution and the voluntary sector
- g) Southern Water – Stakeholder newsletter – Spring 2017
- h) NALC Chief executives bulletin 8
- i) Updated NALC Legal Topic Notes
- j) Southern Water – Drought Plan and Water Resources Management Plan
- k) HDC – S106 Funds

103/17 PUBLIC ADJOURNMENT

The Chairman invited questions and comments from the public and the following was raised.

- For information, bunting cannot be attached to anything other than lamp posts as it slips and cannot be kept at the correct height. Nick Herbert has written to TPA and the Festival Committee are awaiting a response.
- Has there been any further progress regarding the requirements of the village concerning health and medical needs?
Cllr Stillwell advised that she has spoken to the Pharmacy but their 'spare' room cannot be used for consultations etc. as there is no access to toilet facilities for members of the public. It was agreed that it would be a good idea for a working party to be set up to investigate the needs and requirements of the wider community. The findings can then be reported back to the Parish Council.
ACTION: The Clerk to advertise for volunteers to form a working party.
- Fly Tipping is not being cleared from London Road, and if it is, it is soon replaced by more.
ACTION: The Clerk to follow up
- The signs entering the village are not welcoming and are very difficult to read. In the short term Cllr Wood agreed to paint the lettering white to make it easier to read. In the long term the Clerk was requested to investigate options.
- Tree surgeons have been looking at the Oak tree opposite Yew Tree Cottage on Billingshurst Road. It is believed that there is no TPO on the tree but is a very old, beautiful tree. Can the Parish Council do something to protect it?
ACTION: The Clerk to get advice from HDC tree officers.
- The fence around Post Horses pond could use stock fencing that allows wildlife to pass through. Further discussion took place regarding the reasoning/need for any fencing around the pond.
ACTION: The Clerk was asked to obtain further advice.
- The Parking at Penn Gardens is getting worse as there is not enough parking at Mousdell Close and residents are parking in Penn Gardens, often near to the junction with Rectory Lane. There is little the Parish Council can do, however it was agreed that the Wardens will be asked to put their 'polite' notices on vehicles and HDC parking officers will be made aware.
- Horsham Football Club thanked the Parish Council for supporting the recently approved planning application.
- The multisport court surface is very slippery. It is planned that the court will be swept to keep it clear from loose gravel but it is anticipated a new surface will be required soon. It was asked that the Parish Council be aware of this future expenditure.
- Concerns regarding the use of volunteers for playground inspections were voiced.
- The developer sign at Mousdell Close is still there. Please can it be removed?
ACTION: The Clerk will report
- Please can the Cactus Garden sign on the Billingshurst Road be removed?
The Clerk advised that this has been reported several times already but will do so again.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

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

104/17 PLANNING.

The minutes of the planning meeting dated 15th March 2017 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by Cllr Kearney, seconded by Cllr Woolley and agreed by all.

105/17 Correspondence

None

106/17 Neighbourhood Plan update

We had a fantastic response to our Village Survey, with 317 Surveys completed which represents a response rate of @30%. This is the best response rate ever to a village survey in the past 12 years. The Surveys will take some time to analyse but the results will be published as soon as we can. We will use the results to produce our State of the Parish report.

In the meantime we have commissioned a Housing Needs Assessment report which will analyse housing need (affordable and open-market). The results will be discussed with HDC and agreement reached as to the level of new housing that can be sustainably accommodated in Ashington up to 2031.

The NHPlan Clerk is beginning the process of producing the formal documents needed to support the Neighbourhood Plan.

The NHPlan Clerk met with a second Planning Consultant and a quote is on its way and details will be provided in due course.

The NHPlan Clerk attended the Chanctonbury Nurseries Planning Appeal and made a presentation and answered questions on behalf of the Parish Council. She was also able to ask questions of the Appellant's experts.

107/17 Amendments

None

108/17 Applications

The Chairman asked the Clerk to leave the meeting.

DC/17/0495 – 1 Blakiston Close

Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for a single storey, rear orangery type extension.

The Clerk returned and was advised there were no objections.

DC/17/0671 – Westlands Farm, Billingshurst Road

Variation of condition to previously approved application DC/12/1276, alteration to the external appearance of the main building.

Plans were reviewed and discussed, there were no objections.

Horsham District Council

109/17 Approvals

DC/16/2643 - Carbank Ltd, East Wolves Farm

Installation of external flues to accommodate internal spray booth for repairing and painting of accident damaged motor vehicles.

DC/16/0798 - Lambs Barn, Rock Road

Conversion of existing double garage to bedroom with en-suite, erection of new car barn and stables

DC/17/0011 - 7 Brookside

Proposed porch extension to front elevation

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

DC/16/2497 - Eglantine Cottage, 22 Church Lane

Erection of detached garage. Application PERMITTED, however please note, the request for a new gated access from Ashdene Gardens was withdrawn.

DC/17/0129 – 21 Hillcrest Drive

Erection of single storey front and rear/side extensions.

DC/17/0321 – Willow Wren, Mill Lane

Installation of Boiler and associated work to replace the existing boiler with a new combi boiler in airing cupboard. (Listed Building Consent).

DC/17/0348 – 9 Mill Mead

Proposed two storey side extension

110/17 Refusals

None

111/17 Withdrawals

None

112/17 Appeals made/ decisions

DC/16/2235 – Small Brownfield Site to the East of London Road Petrol Filling station

To place on site a single, non-permanent residential unit changing the land from unused fallow to residential. To remove, replace and/or manage existing low quality planting and provide site access from London Road.

Cllr Wood highlighted some anomalies for the Clerk to investigate.

113/17 FINANCE

114/17 Correspondence

a) Appointment of the Internal Auditor

The RFO has received two quotes from Internal Auditors. Both provide a comprehensive Internal Audit service, both are experienced and used by nearby Parishes:

1) £59 per hour, travelling expenses of 59p per mile (from Lindfield, West Sussex), no charge for travelling time, no VAT. Estimated time to complete Audit is 4 hours in Year 1, dropping to 3 hours subsequently. Therefore, approx cost is £250.

2) Conducts two audits per year (policies, procedures & other non-financial matters; accounts & financial matters). £50 per hour + VAT, 45 p per mile travelling time (from Farnham, Surrey), no charge for travelling time. Estimated time to complete both audits is 8 hours. Therefore, approx cost is £420.

Both costs will result in expenditure being over-budget.

Councillors discussed the options and it was proposed by Cllr Woolley, seconded by Cllr Strudwick and agreed by the whole Council that auditor 1) (from Lindfield @ £59 per hour) should be appointed.

b) Hours worked by the NP Clerk regarding Chanctonbury Nurseries Appeal

The NP clerk requested an additional 12 hours work be paid for time needed to prepare for and attend the Chanctonbury Nurseries Appeal on behalf of the Parish Council. Cllr Woolley, having attended the appeal suggested that the time needed was more like at least 24 hours and proposed 24 hours be paid. Cllr Woolley also proposed an additional payment of 8 hours to the Clerk. All agreed.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

Cllr Woolley proposed a vote of thanks to the NP Clerk for her hard work and support. This was agreed by the whole Council.

- c) Salary review for the Clerk and Neighbourhood Plan Clerk
 Clerk: Current salary SCP23 increasing to SCP24 with effect from 1st April 2017 (from £10.944per hour to £11.415per hour) = £440.856 additional per annum (based on 18hrs per week)
 NP Clerk/RFO: Current salary SCP34 increasing to SCP35 (from £15.516 to £16.001per hour) = £126.10 additional per annum based on 5 hours per week). Agreed by all.
- d) Additional Corrosion testing for London Road Lamp posts.
 TPA have advised that additional structural testing needs to be done on the London Road lampposts before permission is granted for the hanging baskets. The Clerk obtained email confirmation from Councillors for the additional expenditure of £510. The Clerk has therefore instructed Intratest to carry out the work (this is scheduled for later this month) after which time, permission for the hanging baskets will be re-submitted.

115/17 Income

None

116/17 Expenditure

Apr-17	SLCC	CILCA registration	250.00	1855
	Mrs Celia Price	Home Office - March 2017	10.00	
		Telephone	7.00	
		Office Outlet- Stationery	24.17	
		Arnold Baker - Local Council Administration (SLCC)	73.60	
		Co-Op (NP Youth Surveys)	6.00	
		M&S (NP Youth Surveys)	4.50	
		Mileage - Planning Appeal (21st March)	8.80	
		Parking - Planning Appeal (21st March)	4.40	
		Mileage - Planning Appeal (22nd March)	8.80	
		Mileage - WSALC Spring Conference	8.00	
		Maplins - Printer cartridges	28.99	
		Total	184.26	1856
	Mrs Karen Dare	Home Office - March 2017	5.00	
		Parking - Planning Appeal	4.90	
		Total	9.90	1857
	Mark Adsett	Landscape Gardening (March 2017)	508.33	1858
	Clare Barker	NP Expenses	8.75	1859
	Ashington PCC	Invoice: YW-201703 Youth Worker (March 2017)	1083.33	1860
		Invoice: 800121244 Salaries and Costs (February 2017)	1476.62	
	WSSC	Invoice: 800121800 Salaries and Costs (March 2017)	1476.62	
		Total	2953.24	1861
	HDC	Invoice: 6265324 Warden Scheme	41020.00	1862
	SSALC	Invoice: 10618 Cilca Registration (student fee)	320.00	
		Invoice: 10545 Spring Conference (2 delegates)	96.00	
		Total	416.00	1863
	West Sussex ALC	Invoice: 576 WSALC and NALC subscription 2017/18	752.14	1864

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

Ashington Community Trust	Invoice: 41139 Hire of meeting room 2 (6/2/17 - NP)	16.00	1865
Ashington Festival	Grant (see PC minutes 2/3/17 item 085/17)	100.00	1866
Ashington Gardening Club	Grant (see PC minutes 2/3/17 item 085/17)	100.00	1867
April 2017 Total expenditure		<u>47401.95</u>	

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

117/17 MEETINGS

The Clerk met with District Councillor Paul Marshall on Thursday 9th March

The Clerk attended the CILCA introduction day on Monday 13th March

The NP Clerk met with HDC Planning department on Thursday 16th March

The Clerk and Neighbourhood Plan Clerk attended the Chanctonbury Nurseries Planning Enquiry on Tuesday 21st and Wednesday 22nd March.

Cllr Woolley attended the Chanctonbury Nurseries planning enquiry on Tuesday 21st March

The Clerk and Cllr Spiers attended WSALC Spring Conference on Thursday 30th March

Cllr Stillwell and Cllr Ball and the Clerk attended the Neighbourhood Warden Steering Group on 31st March

Cllr Stillwell attended the monthly Youth Partnership meeting on 4th April

118/17 MINOR MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Spiers advised that the annual village litter pick day is scheduled for Saturday 22nd April. Meeting at 9:30 at the Church. All welcome.

Cllr Spiers reported that the WSALC conference attended by himself and the Clerk on 30th March was very worthwhile. Insight into the capabilities of the Parish On-Line mapping service was enlightening and it is hoped that there will be training in May which should be attended to ensure we make the most of this service as it has been funded by WSCC for the next 3 years.

The next Planning Meeting at **7:30pm on Wednesday 26th April 2017** at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane.

The next Finance Committee meeting is at **7:45pm on Wednesday 26th April** at the Sports Pavilion, Church Lane

The next Parish Council will be held at **7:45pm on Thursday 4th May 2017** at Ashington School, Foster Lane.

The meeting closed at 9:55pm

Signed.....

Dated.....

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

Appendix 1
Warden report – March 2017

Criminal damage/ theft

No reports made this month of criminal damage.

UV Pens

We now have a supply of ultra violet marking pens to mark personal property in our office. Any resident wishing to have a pen can contact us on 07764146367/07764146368. UV pens act as a way to help reunite owners with their property if they were lost or stolen.

Anti- social behaviour

There has been an incident of a resident's door being knocked on late at night. Police are aware of the incident. We are trying to ascertain who we think is involved in the incident and we are bearing in mind on our patrols.

There have been reports of youths hanging around Mill Lane being noisy and anti-social late at night. We have managed to identify the youths involved who have been spoken with we will patrol around this area when on patrol.

There was a report of youths hanging around the Community Centre. We viewed the CCTV and were able to identify the youths involved, who were also involved in substance misuse. We have identified them from the cameras and are working with the Police on this matter. Continually working with known ASB offenders to offer support and deter ASB behaviour.

There have been two reports of abandoned vehicles. When we have looked into this, they have been taxed and insured. The vehicles have since moved on and all details were submitted to operation crackdown.

We are currently dealing with three neighbour disputes. Mediation has been offered to one set of neighbours and support as well as reassurance visits to check things don't escalate with any of the parties involved.

Cold callers

Residents have been reporting this month that they have had visits from cold callers knocking on doors. They have mostly been courteous and not gone to properties that have no cold caller stickers. There have been leaflets that have gone to every house in the village giving advice on doorstep callers and giving residents the contact numbers they can use to report this to Trading Standards. We have advised residents that if they see anything suspicious then they should call it through to the Police on 101 or 999 in an emergency.

Fly posting

This month has seen reports by residents of fly posting material across the village. Following these reports those involved were spoken to and all fly posting has now been removed.

Please refer to Horsham District Councils website for guidance on fly posting.

Fly tipping

There have been two reports of fly tipping in Old London Road, which have been reported to the cleansing department at HDC and have been removed. There is more fly tipping at the Old London Road which has been reported to HDC to be removed.

If anyone spots anything suspicious or they witness someone fly tipping they need to get registration details and description of the vehicle and offenders and then report to police on 101 or 999 in an emergency. They can also report to Horsham district council or via the wardens.

Litter

This month has seen a drop in the amount of litter. We have litter picked a couple of the hot spot areas. We still need to liaise with those concerned who have arranged previous litter picks across the village.

Dog Foul

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

We are in the process of placing up new codes of conduct for dog owners. One will go up outside the coop and the other will go on the recreation ground. That will support the new public spaces protection order coming into place across the district. In the newsletter that we have sent out we have put an article in about the new dog foul laws and about the fines that people could face if they don't pick up their dog mess. We have done regular dog foul patrols at hot spot areas this month which are Hill Crest Drive, Church Lane and Rectory Lane.

Parking

There have been lots of complaints this month of vehicles parking on pavements across the village. Hot spot areas are Warminghurst Road, Rectory Lane/Rectory close. This is really causing an issue for resident's safety as many have to walk out on the road to get past vehicles that have caused an obstruction by parking on pavement. It is the driver's responsibility to make sure at all times their vehicle is parked in a safe manner and not causing obstructions. We will be taking details of all vehicles parking in a dangerous manner across the village and passing all intelligence to the police and parking enforcement department at Horsham District Council.

Youth

We have been planning regular meetings with the youth worker to come up with ideas between us to benefit the youth of the village. One of the ideas being that we would like to open up on a Friday evening every week for the older youths for a drop in session between 8pm and 10pm. We are waiting confirmation from the youth worker to see if the youth club committee agree with us using the premises for this purpose.

We are continuing to work with some of the youth on a one to one basis and have found we are receiving a large footfall into the office from them. This is another reason it would be good for the Friday night drop in session so they know they can visit then to discuss any issues. We are continuing to work in partnership with the youth worker on this.

We have received funding to go ahead with starting the new elderly vulnerable/ youth tea. We need to try and secure a venue for this activity. We hope this to take place on a quarterly basis promoting intergenerational work across the village. It is our idea that this club will see the elderly providing tea for the youth and the youth supplying for the elderly.

Lots of the older youths have been passing their driving tests. We have been passing them advice on safe driving and are looking at if we can get any driving safety courses for them to attend.

Due to the youth club's wheelie bin being stolen we have spoken with HDC for a replacement to be provided.

Warden's newsletter/ advertising

We are now pleased to say that our quarterly newsletter is in the process of being delivered across the village. A very big thank you to a volunteer in the village that has delivered these for us. The newsletter is our first newsletter and we were put together quite quickly; hopefully the next quarterly newsletter will be a bit more informative and deal with any issues that are happening across the village. The good thing is it has advertised all our activities that take place across the village. It also introduces the new warden.

Elderly and vulnerable

We have received good news that we have received a grant towards a new project to visit the lodge hill outdoor activity centre for the elderly/vulnerable to take part in. We will be working on this project over the next few weeks. Hopefully the first visit will be successful and working with the Age UK it will be a project that can be passed across elderly/vulnerable residents across the district. This is very exciting for the Ashington elderly/vulnerable group to be the pilot scheme.

Board Games have proved successful over the winter months. We have stopped this club now until September 2017. The club has provided an activity to promote inclusion and prevent loneliness throughout the winter months.

Lunch club in April will see an Easter Bonnet Parade. All hats will be judged and a prize will be given for Best Hat. The prize will be donated by the CO OP.

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

Thanks to the new warden newsletter advertising all activities in the village we have been approached by some residents wishing to attend the clubs available. Hopefully this will build numbers that attend and help to keep all the clubs financially self-supporting and run for many years to come.

There have been several referrals made by us to the gentleman's club that arranges trips on a quarterly basis for some men of the village to attend. This is a good time for them all to enjoy and have a build on friendships within the elderly/vulnerable male group.

Britain is in the grip of a loneliness epidemic within the elderly/vulnerable groups a new study has revealed. Millions of pensioners are keeping a stiff upper lip and suffering in silence due to loneliness and lack of anyone to talk to about their feelings. They can sometimes spend a day without speaking to anyone. We would like to encourage everyone across the village to take five minutes to speak to an elderly neighbour or friend. By running clubs and regular welfare visits to those that have requested them we hope that they do not feel isolated and lonely within their community.

Mini bus

We can report that there is a new person who has agreed to take over the running of the village minibus. They will be dealing with all the accounts, maintenance etc. We will be helping them with the bookings of the minibus. We have the bookings diary in our office.

Appendix 2

Senior Youth Worker's report - March 2017 - Headlines & Highlights

Youth Club Nights

- = Our Thursday night youth nights at the Youth Club continue to be** extremely well attended **with new members joining regularly.**
- = Every Thursday evening session since January has seen** at least 30 young people attending each session, **including a number of evenings where we have reached our limit of 36 young people and unfortunately had to turn young people away.**
- = On Thursday evenings, young people can now be seen queuing outside the youth club from 6:20pm ready for the youth club to open.**
- = We are however,** exploring reformatting **age groups as to accommodate the most amount of young people to work towards the youth club being a** social hub for young people in Ashington.
- Another encouraging sign over the past month has been an** increase in new volunteers **including Parents volunteering for youth club sessions. This has enabled us to run our two evenings a week with around 7 volunteers per week.**
 - This month I have been able to recruit 2 new volunteers as well as organising for 4 new parent helpers.**
 - There is still an element of a few faithful volunteers volunteering every week. To be able to fulfil any** future vision of having a youth club open every day, we would need more volunteers **form the community engaged with the youth club.**

Further Training, Development & Networking

- = This month I attended a safety-net training day on 'Understanding Challenging Behaviour' with a number of local youth workers and individuals who work with challenging young people across Sussex.**
- = This day proved to be both highly encouraging in our current approaches as well as useful to our ongoing efforts to provide the best possible youth service for young people in Ashington.**

Visibility in the community, Comms & Social Media

- = Throughout the Spring term, I have been working on further** developing communications **of youth provisions across mediums to make the relevant information as readily available as**

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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

possible. I have received particularly positive feedback from Parents, Young people, Volunteers and members of the community concerning this.

- This includes a monthly email which reaches 85 individuals with up to date information surrounding Youth provisions and AYC activity calendars. This is predominantly parents, but also includes AYC team, PC members and relevant members of the community.
- During the Spring term, I attending Rydon school twice to deliver assemblies surrounding youth work and youth provisions. I will be delivering one assembly during the Summer Term in May.
- One of our AYC volunteers has kindly made a video promoting the youth club for us to use across social media.
- With the addition of a new community warden; Bryony Sparks, we have established a regular rhythm of meeting to increase our communications and effectiveness in working with young people in the community.

Tuesday Night Snack Wagon & Purple Bus

- During the spring term, the Snack Wagon mobile youth project was able to come to Ashington on Tuesday evenings. Unfortunately, the project had to stop at the end of March.
- Looking forward, WSCC have confirmed that the Purple Bus, another mobile youth project is available to come to Ashington during the Summer term on Tuesday nights.
- However, for this project to run, we need to have at least one additional local volunteer from the community to support the youth workers overseeing the project each week.
- Please do encourage any local individuals to be in touch with myself if they are able and willing to help with this project during the Summer Term, or else the Purple bus project won't be able to run.

3.4.17 - Paddy Donovan, Senior Youth Worker // paddy@ashingtonyouth.co.uk

Appendix 4

Funds held by the Parish Council on behalf of others

Ashington Rangers	£287.00
First Responders	£ 2845.73
Bingo Club	£ 264.19

D = Minuted but deleted from next agenda.

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