**ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL**

The Annual Parish Meeting was held on Tuesday 24th April, 2018 followed by the April monthly meeting of the council.

Before the meeting the Police Beat Manager introduced herself and gave information and answered questions on how Ashill is to be policed. She hopes to attend as many meetings as possible throughout the year.

Reports for the year were presented by The Chairman Richard Leighton, Community Centre Jean Sangster, Wayland Partnership Representative Marcia Forsyth, Neighbourhood Watch Representative Ted Hinds, District Councillor Frank Sharpe, County Councillor Fabian Eagle, Ashill Welfare Charity Trustees, Alan Ketteringham . The Chairman read a report from The Tree Warden. Accounts for the Parish Council and The Ashill Welfare Charity were presented and adopted.

Items discussed during both meetings included:-

**HIGHWAYS** – Residents are requested to report pot-holes through the County Council Web-site and not on Facebook or similar sites. Cressingham Road is booked to be surface dressed sometime during the year. Following the Anglian Water work all roads in the village are in need of resurfacing.

**PLAY EQUIPMENT –** The MUGA is nearing completion and it was agreed to look into holding an Official Opening. The surface has to be left for six weeks before any lines are painted. The Roundabout will be re-instated before the summer school holidays. The Multi play equipment and seats all require cleaning. ROSPA will be coming shortly to carry out the annual inspection.

**PLAYING FIELD** – There was nothing to report on the football team. Moles are still causing a problem on the field. The work on the storage containers is progressing. The AVA will be offered storage space in the containers for which a small charge will be made.

**SAXON GREEN** – The road name has now been agreed with Breckland Council as, Allotment Garden Close.

**SPEEDWATCH SCHEME –** Due to illness there was nothing to report.

**CAR SCHEME –** Sarah Skeggs was thanked for her work throughout the year. More drivers are urgently needed please contact The Clerk if you are interested.

**FOOTPATH MAPS –** The Chairman will organise a footpath map to be placed on The Green with paper maps that walkers could purchase.

**LYCHGATE –** The plaque recording the re-dedication has now been fixed.

**BUS SHELTER** – will be power washed and a new plaque fitted shortly.

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**COMMUNITY CENTRE –** During the year the community centre has been partly decorated and new curtains fitted, it is now a very pleasant venue for events. The outside toilets have been refurbished and it is hoped that the School will make use of them when they start using the MUGA. Coffee mornings held monthly are a great success. Thanks were expressed to the Committee for all their work throughout the year.

**BOTTLE BANKS –** The return from the bottle recycling was down on last year even so £883 was received for the village. Residents are encouraged to recycle their glass bottles at the bank and not in the black bins.

**ALLOTMENTS –** It was agreed to leave cutting the hedge until the winter. More information will be obtained regarding providing a new allotment site.

**ASHILL ESTATES –** The County Councillor informed the meeting that the County Council were not looking to sell any land.

**COMMUNITY GARDEN –** The Trustees had met with members of the garden committee and it has been agreed to carry out the work in three stages, firstly to plant spring bulbs between the existing trees, and then to see how to proceed.

**NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH SCHEME –** If any resident is interested in restarting the scheme which over the years has lapsed, please contact Mr Ted Hinds.

**COMMEMORATION OF WORLD WAR I –** It was agreed on Sunday 11th November 2018 the Beacon will be lit and the bells rung at 7.05 p.m. This is a national co-ordinated celebration.

**BRIDGES ON THE COMMON –** Grants are being applied for to replace two bridges.

**CHURCHYARD -** The work on the trees is now finished.

**ADJOURNMENT FOR PUBLIC TO SPEAK** – Matters brought to the councils attention included, whether or not trees had been removed from The Green in front of the new houses. If the existing allotment site is sold for building then perhaps is should be offered as separate plots to residents in the village rather than being sold to a developer. Japanese Knotweed was reported on land bordering Fairholme Close, this will be reported to Breckland Council. The flint wall bordering the pavement at The Glebe is in need of attention the owner will be contacted.

**PLANNING –** There were no objections to the continuation of change of use permission for The Dog Training Centre at The Hollies, Swaffham Road. Since the last meeting permission had been granted for Car Port at Willow Barn, extension at 25 Fairholme Close and Log Cabin at 4 Chapel Yard.

**BUILDING SITE ON HALE ROAD** – Children have been seen playing on the site, Clayland will be contacted and asked to make the site secure on all boundaries.

**NEW COUNCIL MEMBERS –** In 2019 the Parish Council will stand down and need to be re-elected and the Chairman suggestedany residents who would be interested in serving on the Parish Council are advised to attend meetings during this year to see what is involved.