

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1192.

7th JANUARY 2025

A meeting was held on Tuesday 7th JANUARY 2025 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm.

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mrs A Binns (AB), Mr A Howell (AH), Mr K Kissiedu (KK) Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mr A Thomas (AT) the Clerk Jean Sangster & County/District Councillor . Mr F Eagle

Declaration of Interests- JLg declared an interest in Planning Item re Green Gate Farm

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25.11.24 having been circulated were passed and signed.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle advised that the Council Tax will be increased due to costs and increase in NI contributions and Government cuts.

NCC will be discussing the Local Government Reform and vote on the proposal to cancel NCC Elections in May. Government are proposing to form Unitary Authorities with each having a Mayor and this would come into effect in the future This would mean that Breckland and NCC would cease and link in with Suffolk. Consultation on Reform

FE had had meeting with Luke Denney Highways and hopes these will continue on a regular basis.

He asked that people express their opinions on the new Ward changes that are proposed as Ashill will join Holme Hale and Bradenham.

At this point it was suggested the Clerk should contact Breckland regarding the Parish boundary and ask to extend this to include all properties in Hale Road as far as Burys Hall Cottages.

FE will advise the result of vote by NCC.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Advised that there are numerous potholes from Fairholme to Granary Fields and these will be reported.

A resident requested a copy of the 'Time-Line' report given at November meeting.

Dunnetts Close Resident advised that the gas works have now been completed by Cadent.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Reply received regarding request for 30mph sign in Watton Road to be moved. This requires further investigation.

Report pot hole at Horns Corner.

New bus stop has been installed opposite School.

Dog Waste Bin – Will be installed shortly.

Playing Field – All looking fine and moles under control.

Quotes for maintenance of Playing Field for 2025 received as follows :-

Groundscape - £1605-00 with extra cuts @ £80-00 per cut

TTSR - £1595-00 +VAT with extra cuts @ £95-00 +VAT per cut.

Quotes for Maintenance of Limes & Acacia as follows :

Groundscape - £810-00

TTSR - £ 795-00 + VAT

Quotes for maintenance of Churchyard as PC contribute 2/3rd of this as follows :

Groundscape - £1550-00

TTSR - £1698-15 =VAT

After due consideration it was proposed by AH seconded by JL that Groundscape should be awarded the contract for all areas for 2025 season. This was agreed with one abstention due to reservations committing all areas to one company.

Football Club– Agreement for hire of Field by Shipdham United has been sent and Treasurer has requested details for payment. Also sent Agreement for Community Centre changing rooms. They are looking to see if the field can accommodate 3 pitches for the future.but this would mean the removal of the present goal posts

Community Centre CCTV – Installation now completed and Wi-Fi will be discussed further at Comm. Centre next meeting. The Clerk felt that letter should be drawn up and signed for confirmation of hand-over of equipment from PC to Comm Centre. This was agreed.

Footpaths – Warden reported that sign still not replaced and handrail not installed.

Police –Next SNAP Meeting is in Feb at Narborough. Date to be confirmed.

Speedwatch – Nothing to report.

Car Parking Charges – Nothing further to report.

Allotment Rents – The Members felt that the rules need to be discussed further and Clerk to send copy of present rules to each Member. AT to oversee allocation of plots.

Website/face-book – Mr Long has updated the PC website and is happy to continue with this. It was pointed out that the village face-book is nothing to do with PC. Request that organisations inform of any changes to their circumstances.

CADENT GAS – JL reported that a team had carried out some investigations near Reeves Farm and she was told that they are looking into a new main being placed in road.

High Grove Solar Farm – Action group held meeting and are continuing to communicate with local Parishes. A meeting has been arranged at Swaffham Town Hall for 21st January at 6.00pm for Parish Councils and RL and JLg have offered to attend to support the Group. Bev Racher and Mark Aiken Have also been invited to represent the Group.

Meeting with Terry Jermy MP – An evening meeting will be arranged with him for later in year.

Wayland Partnership – Next meeting is to be held on Monday 13th January and AB to attend in place of AS.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

Breckland – Notification of Boundary Changes.

Breckland – New Housing Targets increased by 45%.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

4 Applications submitted for OLD HALL Cress. Rd. Returned with No Objections

PL/2024/0918/FMIN – New entrance drive/parking & garage at No 13 Low Common was discussed and to be returned with no objections

PL/2024/1171/FMIN - Residential development of 5 new dwellings to replace barns at Green Gate Farm Cressingham Road. Clerk to hold this until members have had time to look through the plans.

FINANCE

ACCOUNTS –DD PAYMENT TO SSE ENERGY for Oct.& Nov. Power - £970-41

BUDGET & PRECEPT FOR 2025/2025

The Clerk having issued the Budget Statement in November now requested amendment to Staff Salaries due to increase in NI contributions and minimum wage increase.

The PC is however in a good position financially and after much discussion it was proposed by RL seconded by AH that the Precept be increased by 2% which was agreed by all.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Resident expressed concern regarding the removal of goal posts and was assured that they would be resited.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AT will deal with tree on The Limes.

Check that person hiring Marl Pit wishes to continue and if so to request payment.

JL expressed concern regarding the delivery of post as this is affecting whole village.

Clerk to write letter of complaint.

Date of next monthly Meeting is **TUESDAY 28th JANUARY 2025 AT 7.00PM in the Community Centre.**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 9.05pm.

Signed

Date