

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1194.

28th JANUARY 2025

A meeting was held on Tuesday 28th 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 & 5 Members of Public.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Shepherd (AS) – no reason given. The Chair advised that the Clerk is required under Standing Orders to record reasons for absence.

Declaration of Interests – There were none.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 07.01.25 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record and signed.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle reported that Breckland has a grant available for new businesses. He is unsure if there will be any money to spare in his budget as County Councillor.

He spoke about the Government proposals for devolution and the changes that could mean Norfolk and Suffolk joining together with an elected Mayor.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Concerns raised regarding the old BT boxes in Church Street and although they have been secured it was felt they should be removed and Clerk to deal with this.

Various potholes to be reported.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Reply received from Luke Denney regarding potholes in Hale Road which he has passed to his Technician to inspect. He also confirmed that letters were to be sent to the residents on Woodlands shortly. The hedge and trees recently cut back were done by UK Power Networks. Potholes to be reported – entrance to Woodlands, o/s building site in Hale Rd, Horns Corner, o/s Womack House.

Information from NCC that part of Browns Lane on boundary of Parish is to become a Roadside Nature Reserve. Clerk to check where this is.

Dog Waste Bin – This is ready to be sited.

Play Equipment – This will be checked in next few days. Information regarding Inspections from Sovereign Playgrounds to be checked out. All work to PE has been carried out by JLg.

Playing Field – The Clerk advised that when she went to complete the grant application it had closed early so it was proposed by AH seconded by AB that PC take money from capital fund to buy the ZipWire and this was agreed and Clerk to place order with ActionPlay&Leisure now that new quote confirmed at £14965.56.

The trees in copse at top of field are to be inspected.

Football Club – It was reported that some of their nets have been damaged and a compound for goals will be considered next season but in the meantime Teams are requested to remove nets in between matches as a requirement from Insurance Co.

Community Centre CCTV – Installation now completed and Wi-Fi connected. Request to be made for JLg to have access on his phone on behalf of PC. The Chair of CC felt that an extra camera might be beneficial at back over containers but it was proposed by RL seconded by JLg that this be left for time being and this was agreed.

Police – SNAP Meeting held at Narborough but not advised until day before and nobody able to attend.

Speedwatch – The Co-ordinator had supplied figures for 2024 from Norfolk Constabulary Speedwatch database which he feels indicates that speeding through Ashill is increasing. He now has 10 volunteers with 3 of these joining in last few months.

Allotments – AT had contacted one of the people interested in taking on a plot but he felt that these are still in a terrible state with rubbish and suggested that this be cleared to one side of plot and PC will then take away. These will be checked and agreed if necessary to ask HG Services to clear.

High Grove Solar Farm –RL and JLg and two members of Action Group had attended the Swaffham meeting which resulted in the suggestion that Parishes get together and letters be sent to MPs and Ed Miliband. Article to be placed in Ashlink asking residents to send in their objections as well. It was proposed by AK seconded by JLg that RL compile a letter to be sent to all concerned

Meeting with Terry Jermy MP – Nothing further arranged.

Trees on Limes – AT to deal with these.

Wayland Partnership – The Clerk had sent apologies for not attending last meeting but their minutes do not show these. Various reports from other local Parishes and Breckland Council who advised that a new Link facility opened at Breckland Business Centre so residents have access to services in one building. Men's Shed and Watton Food Hub are both very well supported. Copies of minutes to be circulated.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

NorfolkALC – Special Resolution that the Norfolk Assoc.converts from a co-operative society to a company limited by guarantee and members requested to vote on this by 7th March.

Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries – Request help from Local Councils to back Campaign for safety of e-bikes and scooters. Agreed to support.

Norfolk Strategic Flood Alliance – This included details of 'Trash Screen' which Chair felt could be placed in ditch between Green and OAC to prevent flooding on other side of Green. Some Members felt that this was not the responsibility of PC but Clerk to get details and cost.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

PL/2024/1171/FMIN - Residential development of 5 new dwellings to replace barns at Green Gate Farm had been returned with comments of concern from some Members.

PL2025/0028/CLOPUD – 48 Acacia Avenue for extension to rear of property was discussed and to be returned with no objections. Clerk finding access to new Planning Portal quite difficult and this will be reported to Breckland.

FINANCE - ACCOUNTS

PAID – CPRE Membership Fee £60-00 sent by cheque but this not yet cashed.

DD PAYMENT TO SSE ENERGY for DEC – Not yet received.

The following accounts were passed for payment proposed by AH seconded by AB :-

K & M Lighting Services Street Light Maintenance Jan.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Playing Field Warden Jan.)	Undisclosed
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jan. + 51hrs)	Agreed at Nov. Meeting
Expenses Jan.	£76-89
Ashill C.C. Payment from Shipdham FU paid to PC in error	£105-00
Mr J Leggett Play Equipment repairs	£66-49

The Current A/C and Business Savings A/C statements circulated for confirmation

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Query regarding Allotment Rules to be dealt with.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Break in at Green Farm reported and people advised to be vigilant.

JLg reported that resident of Acacia Avenue concerned about overgrown pavement from Acacia to Green. This will be reported to Highways.

THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING – This is arranged for Tuesday 15th April 2025.

Date of next monthly Meeting is **TUESDAY 25th February 2025 AT 7.00PM in the Community Centre.**

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and declared the Meeting closed at 8.35pm

Signed

Date