

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1211.

22nd JULY 2025

A meeting was held on Tuesday 22nd JULY 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), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), the Clerk Jean Sangster, County/District Councillor, Mr F Eagle & 9 Members of Public.

Declaration of Interests – AH Declared an Interest in Call for Sites item.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 24.06.25 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record agreed by all and signed.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Complaints regarding the repairs to potholes – not done in a sustainable way.

Question raised regarding the perch seat for bus shelter – confirmed this is in hand.

Complaint that mobile sprayer had carried this out with no effect on weeds on estates – too dry.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle advised that the new assessment of villages for Local Plan now meant Ashill had been downgraded from a Service Centre to a Secondary Parish which could be better for the village.

Many concerns re Solar farms and felt that this should be a local decision not Government, flooding from panels in Saham Toney and Holme Hale had raised concerns also.

LGR and Devolution means that there will be an Election in May 2026 for a Mayor for Norfolk and Suffolk. There will be a short list issued. If this goes ahead there will be no Police Commissioner position as Mayor will take on this role. Concerns raised regarding cost of these elections.

He stated that the High Street initiative had proved very successful with a presentation by Director of Local Bus and Trade.

Fete and event equipment has started to be purchased and will be available for use by Ashill at Fete in September. Thanks expressed to FE.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Meeting arranged with Luke Denney to discuss Partnership scheme on Tuesday 5th August at 2.00pm. Also various other concerns will be discussed at same time.

Report potholes again at entrance to Uphall, Dunnetts Close, drain cover in pavement at entrance DC and BT cover by BT box o/s 8 DC.

‘Slow Down’ sign was not removed by Highways so check with FE where this came from.

Low Common ‘no through road’ sign – request that this is clearer.

Play Equipment – Monthly check carried out. Annual Inspection carried out but report not received as yet. Volunteer Cleaning of equipment, clearing of weeds at Comm. Centre and tidying of Green to be carried out on 27th July. Request for PC to pay for hire of small hall for 4hrs was granted.

Playing Field / Football Club – Info from ShipdhamUFC that training will be on a Tuesday and Wednesday and will not be using small hall for refreshments. Friendly matches at beginning of August.

Request for poster to be displayed on fence when matches being played was granted.

Also request that old goal posts are taken down as full size pitch will be needed next year It was Proposed by JLg seconded by AS that this could be done and arrangements to be made to take down and store at Green Farm. All agreed.

AK had met with DB Manager and it was suggested that they use the compound adjoining the Containers for storage of line marker but must ensure this is covered by their Insurance along with goal posts. (Clerk still awaiting Policy from ShipdhamUFC).

They have also requested the brambles at the top of field are cut back and this will be arranged with M P Dennis but leave around pond.

Community Centre – AB reported that Committee has arranged a Car Boot Sale at the Comm. Centre on 16th August. Request that they can use first half of tennis court was granted and refreshments will be served 9.00 to 2.00pm

Footpaths – Reported that lots of poo bags are being left on paths and not taken to bins. Report on Facebook.

Police – Next SNAP meeting is to be held on 25th July at Necton at 7.00pm

Speedwatch – No report. SAM2 now repaired and back. Thanks expressed to AS.

Allotments – Follow up from complaints- AK had spoken with holder of Plot 2 who advised that could no longer continue to work this. Letters to be sent to holders of Plots 16 & 18 to ask if they wish to continue or hand back.

High Grove Solar Farm – After 4 attempts Members were satisfied with letter and this was sent in and acknowledged that this was received.

Mr Racher has requested that an overlay map of proposed sites be displayed on main notice board over existing Ordnance Survey Map and this will be dealt with.

GR-Devolution Consultation – AK and AS had attended the meeting at Breckland and reported that there are concerns that rates will increase as several areas have large debts so joining with them will have effect on everyone. County Council are voting for one Authority. All agreed that the consultation has been left too late and not enough information has been given out.

Local Plan – Call for Sites – Following work with Local Planners it was decided by Council that Ashill should no longer be a Service Centre but downgrade to a Secondary Village. No figures available as yet.

VJ Day Events – Agreed to light Beacon on Saturday 16th August at approx. 8.30pm when there will be a short spell of reflection led by Revd Morrow. Area to be fenced.

.gov.uk email addresses – Agreed PC to join NorfolkALC for this to be managed.

Grant Long has now handed over all responsibility of Facebook to AS, JL and KK and also website to be taken over by KK and JS. Thanks to be sent to GL for all the work he has done for the Parish over the years.

Fir Park Street Lights – All now checked and working.

Pickleball – Clerk has attempted to get further quotes for this work but having problems.

Tree Project – AT reported that he had completed questionnaire. Copse in need of thinning.

Wayland Partnership – Meeting to be rearranged.

Former Surveyor's Land – AK has applied for the grant for fencing this. Clerk has no confirmation of ownership from Solicitors.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

Norwich Western Link – Update.

Power for People – Government has committed to local selling for Community Energy Schemes.

Breckland – Good Practice Mentors Workshop.

BOOST Breckland – Project aimed at 16 -30 years old unemployed and not in education.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

No new applications received and no approvals granted to date.

FINANCE - ACCOUNTS

To be PAID Direct Debit. SSE for Power supply – to be advised

The following accounts due for payment in JULY were passed for payment proposed by JLg seconded by AH :-

K & M Lighting Street Light maintenance Jul.	£ 120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play Field Warden Jul.)	
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Jul.+ 24hrs)	Undisclosed
Expenses Jul.	£117-88
Westcotec Ltd Repairs to SAM2	£63-00
NorfolkALC Website Fee	£84-00

Current & Business A/Cs circulated and confirmed as correct.

Clerk advised that the Recycling Credit received from Breckland was £710-92 for year 24/25

Thanks to be expressed on Facebook and ask Parishioners to continue to use this facility.

Clerk's Appraisal has been completed successfully.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Concerns expressed re LGR and how this would affect Parishes.
Question raised – Can Pickleball be played on grass to be investigated.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

AH raised the matter of the repair to gate on Common. Trustees have in hand.

He also advised that people need to be vigilant about their property as the burglary at Green Farm had resulted in no prosecution.

JLg requested funding for drinks to be provided on Clean-Up Saturday.

The School Head is now moving to a new position and thanks from village to be sent to him for all the hard work he has done for the children of this Parish over last 12years.

Date of next monthly Meeting is **TUESDAY 26th AUGUST 2025 AT 7.00PM in the Community Centre.**

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed

Date
