

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1214.

26th AUGUST 2025

A meeting was held on Tuesday 26th August 2025 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm.

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) 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 & 5 Members of Public. Apologies for absence were received from Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair due to other commitments.

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

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 22.07.25 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record agreed by all and signed.

This meeting was attended by Kirsty Edmonds from West Norfolk Community Transport Scheme who came to give information on the ways they can assist the local people in getting to appointments etc.

They run a Dial a Bus and a Community Car Scheme both of which can be accessed via their website. Details on leaflets were handed out. The Car Scheme is run by volunteers on same basis as our own scheme ran and they are always looking for further drivers.

They can also provide a minibus for group hire for outings with a driver but the group would have to become a member of the Scheme first at an annual charge.

The Dial A Bus runs on a Wednesday from Ashill to Swaffham allowing 2 hours for shopping.

All details can be found on their website : info@westnorfolk.co.uk

Thanks were expressed to Kirsty for her time to visit.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – There were no questions raised at this point.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Mr Eagle advised that in 2 weeks time there will be a Highways report on damage to roads and sustainable development.

He also stated that he was now a sub-member of the Economic Growth panel which is promoting grants for businesses.

He recommended that the Parish take over the village verge cutting for a fixed term and AK said that this is being looked into with LD.

He advised that people visit the newly opened Norwich Castle following complete refurbishment which is completely accessible to everyone.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Following meeting with Luke Denney we are awaiting figures for the lowering of kerb and the verge cutting.

After inspection of logs outside Caradoc Ch. St. he felt that these were not on the Highways land. Concerns expressed regarding the repairs carried out to potholes in Dunnetts Close and agreed to contact FE on this matter.

Report pothole opposite entrance to Uphall.

Question of who is responsible for digging out TROD on Sw. Rd as this is now so narrow it is not fit for purpose. To be investigated.

AH asked who is responsible for hedge by 30mph sign in Watton Rd. and advised that this is owner of property and this will be followed up.

AH also requested that Council ask again if possible to have a notice for Ch.St. for HGV's stating that 'Not Suitable for HGV's' and Clerk will contact Highways.

Play Equipment – Monthly check carried out. Annual Inspection carried out and very comprehensible report received. Only minor problems found and no urgent action is required other than the outstanding issues being dealt with. AT offered to go through report.

Following Clean-Up it was requested that the weeds on car park be sprayed and this will be dealt with. Thanks expressed to volunteers.

26th August 2025 Cont.

1215.

Playing Field / Football Club – AT reported that there are now several posts broken on southern boundary and need replacing. Agreed to deal with this next month.

PW has been dealing with a mole on field but traps keep getting removed. Nothing seen on cameras.

Football – Clerk advised that still not received a copy of their Insurance and it was agreed by all Members that she give a deadline for receipt of this on WhatsApp.

Very little contact from them and Comm. Centre still awaiting confirmation that they have changed their fixture for 7th Sept.

Community Centre – AB reported that Committee had held Bingo which raised £857-00 and the Car Boot raised £170-00. Details of Fete were given and confirmed that dog poo bags and bins will be in place. Clerk asked if they were using the new equipment purchased by FE for the village use and AB will find this out.

Future events planned are :- Christmas Craft Fair and a Bingo on 9th Dec.

Proceeds are being spent on further replacement lights and new partition doors.

Footpaths – Still no rails in place. Clerk to chase up.

Police – No-one able to attend SNAP meeting on 25th July at Necton but reported that badly attended. Next SNAP meeting is on 14th October at the Sw. Town Hall at 7.00pm.

Speedwatch – No report. There will be no sessions for 3 months.

Allotments – the two problem plots have been given up and holder of Plot 2 is also having to give up so agreed to get quote for spraying all 3 plots. There is someone interested in taking half plot.

High Grove Solar Farm – AK is still to arrange meeting with Mr Scarlett to compare notes. On Thurs. 28th Aug. meeting at Spartek Watton to look at height of panels. A walk is arranged at Bradenham on Sun. 21st Sept.

GR-Devolution Consultation – Information from NorfolkALC on how things will take place.

Local Plan – Call for Sites – No further information at present time.

VJ Day Events – Beacon Lighting went well and approx. 80 people attended. Thanks expressed to all concerned.

.gov.uk email addresses – KK is dealing with this and also website.

Pickleball – Clerk has now received 4 quotes but this will be put on hold until next Spring.

Tree Project – AT reported that this is now completed.

Former Surveyor's Land – AK advised that applications for grants closed 4 weeks ago and has received acknowledgement.

Ashlink – Editor advised that he had received several complaints regarding lack of PC minutes in previous edition. The Clerk has compiled a draft of July minutes condensed and this will be looked at and JL and Clerk will do same for this month and ensure that these are submitted before 10th September.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

NorfolkALC – Recycling Survey. Households requested to give feedback.

ElectRoad – Eco EV Charge points. Considered not viable for Parish.

Funding – Nth Pickenham Windfarm Comm. Fund – Trustees already made application.

NorfolkAgeUK – Activities and events.

Civility & Respect Campaign – Breckland. PC already signed to this.

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Returned between meetings - PL/2025/0911/FMIN for erection of one double storey dwelling & Garage at Ashill Fruit Farm Sw. Rd. No objections but requested Agricultural Covenant be placed on prop.

Discuss – PL/2025/0220/FMIN

Second application for 2 Self Build Dwellings for family use at Lower Homestead Farm Watton Rd. First Application Refused by Planning Directorate

Return with no objections but comments as previous application.

FINANCE - ACCOUNTS**PAID Direct Debit.** SSE for Power supply – to be advised

It was proposed by JL seconded by AH that the following accounts due for August be paid:-

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lights Aug.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Aug.)	
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Aug.+29.5hrs)	Undisclosed
Expenses Aug.	£112-05
PKF Littlejohn LLP Annual external Audit	£378-00
The Play Inspection Company Ltd Annual Inspection	£278-40
Watton & District British Legion Wreath for VJ Day	£28-50
Jean Sangster Reimburse for Key Box	£28-67
WAVE (AW Business) Supply to Allots	£216-21

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

Completion of Audit received with no problems.

Clerk advised that UKPowerNetworks have now responded to query over Wayleave and payment to made in arrears on 31st Dec. 2025

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Concern expressed regarding the use of the MUGA for Pickleball. It was felt that this could cause conflict with the youngsters as courts could not be booked as this is a public open space and if children were playing on there they would not be happy to be turned off.

This will all be discussed with players.

It was pointed out that the village pond is extremely dirty and in need of cleaning out. Suggested that Trustees look at Environmental Grant.

Report of sewer leak on green area of Acacia Avenue. AS will report to AW.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The question of presentations to people on retirement from organisations was discussed and this will be considered in future. JL thanked AH for the impressive posters he has done for facebook.

Date of next monthly Meeting is **TUESDAY 23rd SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 7.00PM in the Community Centre.**

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed

Date

