

ASHILL PARISH COUNCIL

1232.

24th FEBRUARY 2026

A meeting was held on Tuesday 24th February 2026 in the Community Centre at 7.00pm.

The Chair welcomed all.

In attendance: Mr A Ketteringham (AK) Chair, Mr R Leighton (RL) Vice-Chair, Mr A Howell (AH), Mr J Leggett(JLg), Mrs J Lusher (JL), Mrs A Shepherd (AS), Mr A Thomas (AT), the Clerk Jean Sangster, 12 Members of Public & Mr F Eagle (FE) District/County Councillor.

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs A Binns (AB) due to illness, Mr K Kissiedu (KK) due to work commitments.

Declaration of Interests – AH Declared an Interest in Item on Local Plan.

This meeting was also attended by Mr Mark Aitken who has been working with local Parishes to build a case against the planned Solar Farms.

The latest information on the High Grove site is that it has been put back and the meetings with MP and local Councils have been cancelled. RWE are still doing evaluations and awaiting National Grid. His main concern is the routes in and out of the site and this is something that each Parish should question with RWE and also how the Community Funds are to be shared.

Mark was asked if he has accepted that this will go ahead and he explained that he was putting forward ideas to keep asking of scheme and questioning RWE on various matters and the longer we can continue along this line, the better it will be for the village with more information.

Concerns expressed regarding what the village will get back and it was suggested by a member of the Public that RWE pay the Council Tax for each house for 2 years to compensate for inconvenience.

FE assured that the County Council was objecting to using Dunnetts Close as an access and also the concerns of what routes they would use should a road need to be closed.

AK thanked Mark for all the hard work he has put in and also expressed thanks to the HOG for their continued work.

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 27.01.26 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record, agreed by all and signed.

Report from County/District Councillor – Fabian Eagle

He said he was very pleased that Government had now agreed that County Council Elections will go ahead in May which had saved him having to make a decision on whether to stand down.

Still no decision of how many Authorities there are to be and if there will be a Mayor for each.

The problem with potholes is being addressed as too wet at moment to make a permanent repair.

County Council is supporting businesses but funding for High Street Matters has been put back.

Breckland is offering 18 – 30 year olds the chance for self-employment training and help.

He also advised that he is putting some of his Members funding into the Partnership Scheme for Ashill application for kerb.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – A question was raised as to why there are NO basketball nets and it was explained that these had been broken twice so it had been decided not to replace again.

Request was made for a light across car park and this will be discussed.

Query regarding bus shelter – it was explained that new bench is for bus shelter on Green.

Vice-Chair of Comm. Centre Committee asked if the field could be booked for a Fete on 5th & 6th September and this was discussed later.

Various potholes to be reported and fly-tipping in Cress. Road is still a problem.

Parishioner asked if there is to be a footway installed in front of The Willows and if this is included in their plans. It was explained that the new footway that should be installed from new development will join the one stipulated in front of Willows and in front of new houses that Mr

Rowe is going to build

This prompted a request from Councillor for letter to be sent to Mr Rowe to ask for his site to be tidied up.

MEETING CONTINUED

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – AK, JLg, AB and Clerk had met with Luke Denny (Highways Engineer) and all matters were discussed and noted by him. He raised several queries and Clerk will reply by email to these. New matters reported to him were a flooding problem near Womack House, flooding problem near Saham Hall (not in our Parish), potholes in Dunnetts Close again. He confirmed that grit bins have been filled and that banks along Sw. Rd and Watton Rd will be investigated.

We should hear in March if we have been granted Partnership Funding for Kerb.

A request had been received for a dog bin to be placed on green area in Acacia Avenue and also for one on green area on Limes. This was discussed and proposed by AH seconded by JLg that one be sited opp. 8 Acacia and the other on corner of green on Limes near grit bin. This was passed by 6 votes with one against.

Play Equipment – Checked and much the same as last month. Gate spring has been ordered and loose bolts tightened.

Quotes had been received for rubber mulch installation under swings and Sovereign had suggested that 'wet pour' be placed in middle as this wears better. Much discussion followed and as Councillors are concerned that the swings may have to be replaced in near future consideration to be given as to replacing now with new surface. It was agreed that Clerk get quotes for these. Also agreed to request Play Inspection.

Playing Field – Fencing has now been installed on perimeter and AK expressed thanks to AT and Parishioner for their help. New 'No Dogs on Field' sign to be placed on edge of field.

Community Centre – There had been no meetings but the question for Fete being held on two days was discussed. The Members stipulated that there should be NO damage to football pitches and area to be avoided and no heavy vehicles. Agreement will be drawn up when confirmed by C.C.

Footpaths – Crossings Rails. Still no news but LD was going to pass this to relevant person.

Police – Next SNAP Meeting is to be held on 20th April 2026 at Narborough at 7.00pm

Speedwatch – Mr Street has now recovered from operation and hopes that sessions will recommence shortly. Agreed not to have Bin stickers.

High Grove Solar Farm – Reported as above.

LGR-Devolution – No further news.

Local Plan – Call for Sites – Nothing to report at moment.

.gov.uk email addresses – KK to be asked to assist Clerk and RL.

Seat for Bus Shelter – Now on order.

Street Lighting – K & M Lighting has confirmed that visual inspection carried out on each visit. Two lights on The Woodlands require work to be carried out by UK Power and this is in hand.

Community Transport – Still to be dealt with.

Breckland Community Land Transfers – Nothing further to report as Breckland has advised there is no land in Ashill owned by them.

AW – Clerk has received a quote from another company for water supply to allotments but Members decided to stay with AW.

Defibrillators – JLg has dealt with condensation problems.

CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

Keep Britain Tidy - Great Spring Clean – Decided not necessary to join this as our own Litter Pickers do a grand job throughout the year.

Breckland – Notification of company who will be dealing with Food Cadies.

RWE – Notification of route and dates for delivery of transformers to Necton March to May.

Woodland Planting – Request for details of trees planted under their Scheme so they can be inspected. AT to deal with this.

PLANNING

3PL/2021/1429/D - Reserved matters application for Residential development of 8 Dwellings & garages site adjacent The Willows. This had been returned with comments.

PL/2025/1977/CLEUD – Erection of Porch at 4 Holmere Cottages The Green

Certificate of Lawfulness (existing Use). Discussed with no objections.

FINANCE (a) Accounts

£687-00

K & M Lighting Services Ltd Maint Street Lighting Feb.	£120-50
Mrs J Pickard Play field Warden Feb.)	
Jean Sangster Clerks Salary Feb. + 22hrs	Undisclosed
Expenses Feb.	£135-89
BROXAP Ltd New Bench for Bus Shelter	£500-40
A Ketteringham Fencing Posts for Play Field	£118-27
Fensecure Ltd Spring for Gate	£63-00
WAVE (AW Business) Supply to Allots.	£32-05

Clerk advised that Community Centre has now paid the outstanding bill but new up to date invoices sent. Cubs had still not paid their Invoices.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Concerns expressed re Dog Bins.

Request for a light to be placed on car park at C.C. will be investigated.

Meeting Closed at 9.30pm

Date _____

