

## ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Extra Ordinary meeting held on Thursday 05 February 2026 at the New Ash Green Village Association Meeting Room, Centre Road, DA3 8HH commencing at 7.45pm.

Present: Cllr S Fishenden  
Cllr M Aspinall  
Cllr R Brammer  
Cllr C Clark  
Cllr J Clucas  
Cllr S Glover (arrived 7.47)  
Cllr S Hobbs  
Cllr P Kirtley  
Cllr I MacLeod  
Cllr M Manley  
Cllr V Ngwenya (arrived 7.58)  
Cllr G Pender  
Cllr J Scott

In Attendance: Alison de Jager – Parish Clerk  
Karen Law – Deputy Clerk/Finance Officer  
Megan Johnson – Assistant Clerk  
1 Member of the Public

### 9059/26 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr F Cottee (holiday), C Gorton (holiday) and Cllr V Ngwenya (late arrival) Cllr M Manley PROPOSED that the apologies and reasons for absence were accepted. SECONDED: Cllr J Clucas and AGREED.

### 9060/26 Declarations of Members Interests and Dispensations

None.

### **CLOSED SESSION**

***Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. That due to the confidential nature of the next item, the public and press were asked to leave the meeting.***

### 9061/26 New Ash Green Clinic and Children's Centre

- a. **Consultation results** – (Cllr S Glover arrived) The report is attached to these minutes. The detailed report was RECEIVED and NOTED.
- b. **Proposed purchase:** The Chairman gave an update on the Parish Council's position and that a response is awaited from the seller's Agent.

### 9062/26 Finance and Governance

- a. **Budget 2026-27:** (Cllr V Ngwenya arrived). The Deputy Clerk/Finance Officer discussed the proposed budget for the New Ash Green Clinic and Children's Centre should the purchase progress. She then took members through the individual draft 2026-27 budget lines. Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that budget is AGREED without amendment. SECONDED: Cllr M Aspinall FOR: 12 AGAINST: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 0

b. **Precept Demand:** Cllr S Fishenden PROPOSED that the Precept is set at £321,661, being a 33.58% increase. New Band D will be £32.64 per annum, or £0.63 per week. SECONDED: Cllr M Manley. FOR: 12 AGAINST: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 0

The meeting closed at 8.44pm

Signed: ..... Date: .....  
Chairman

## **ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Agenda Item: 3.2 – Extra Ordinary Parish Council 15 January 2026

Report Title: Clerk's Report

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The community consultation on the potential purchase and use of the former Children's Centre building as a Parish Council office and community facility ended on 01 February 2026.

The consultation received a high level of engagement, with 304 responses submitted, being a 11.16% response rate. The full consultation results are attached.

### Consultation Responses

- The majority of residents were aware that the Parish Council office is located at Ash Green Sports Centre.
- Knowledge of the children's centre building was mixed.
- There was very strong support for retaining the building for community use.
- There is a need for a dedicated community building within the parish.
- In principle, most residents supported the Parish Council purchasing a community building for public use.

Responses showed support for a range of multi-use uses.

A majority of residents indicated support for an increase in the parish precept of approximately £26.85. However, affordability was also raised in concerns.

Overall, the consultation indicates high community support, in principle, of the Parish Council purchasing the building.