

ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting and Annual Parish Assembly of the Council

Date:	22nd May 2019	Time:	7.30 pm
Place:	Ashmansworth Village Hall		
Present:	Cllr Alan Cox (Chairman) Cllr Sally Burch	Cllr Kieron Black (Vice-Chairman) Cllr Angela Harris Cllr Andrew Bays	
In Attendance:	Sadie Owen (Clerk) Cllr Tom Thacker (County)	Cllr Graham Falconer (Borough) 6 parishioners	
Apologies:	PCSO John Dillingham		

1. Welcome and Apologies

Cllr Cox welcomed everyone to the Annual General and Parish Meeting.

2. Election of Chairman and Vice Chairman

Cllr Cox formally stood down as Chairman. Cllr Black presided as Chair and thanked Cllr Cox for the past year of service. Cllr Black queried whether there were any candidates wishing to step forward as Chairman. There were not. Cllr Black proposed and Cllr Bays seconded that Cllr Cox be re-elected. Cllr Cox resumed chairing the meeting.

There were no other candidates wishing to stand as Vice-Chair and so Cllr Cox proposed and Cllr Burch seconded that Cllr Black be re-elected. Unanimously agreed.

3. Presentation of Achievements and Financial Report for 2018/19

See Appendix A for the Chairman's report.

4. Members reports

See Appendix A for Cllr Graham Falconer's report.

Cllr Thacker's report – Cllr Thacker commented that HCC covered an area of approximately 13,000 residences and 10 parishes.

Finance – Cllr Thacker reported that council finance had been impacted by cuts from central government of over £21 million, which had led to an increase in council tax.

Responsibilities – the main responsibilities of the council included adult social care, schools, children services and highways. With an ageing population, adult social care was costing approximately £1.4 million per day.

Cllr Thacker reported that the council were trialling schemes to mitigate the costs including 'Keeping them at home policy', to try to relieve the burden on the NHS by encouraging independent and semi-independent living arrangements.

Highways – Cllr Thacker reported that roads had been adversely damaged by the poor weather of 2018/19 resulting in an increased burden to the highways team. HCC has received £2 million extra funding from central government, which has been invested in the purchase of two pothole repair machines.

Cllr Thacker reported that Crux Easton Lane would be closed for 4 days from 4 June to allow Open Reach to lay ducting.

Funding options - Cllr Thacker reported that a new fund had been created to encourage traffic management initiatives. The fund is not available to create traffic regulation orders but can be used towards initiatives such as painting lines on the road, village gateways, SID purchase and installation of fingerposts etc. Cllr Thacker encouraged the parish council to investigate available grant schemes to assist with funding local projects.

Waste & recycling centre – Cllr Thacker reported that there had been no update to the position and that HCC were hopeful of cross-border reciprocity amongst recycling centres.

5. Police report

See Appendix A for the police report.

6 Public discussion and questions

There were 6 parishioners in attendance. Cllr Cox agreed to investigate removal of grass cuttings from the village green, regulations relating to septic tanks and how to combat speeding through the village.

Cllr Cox

1. Planning applications

- a) 19/01021/LBC Ashmansworth House: Strip section of roof, remove battens and bitumastic felt. Install breathable felt, new battens and tiles to match existing. Replace 4 no. sash windows and 3 no. dormer windows. Repair other windows. Replace uPVC guttering with cast aluminium. Remove 3 dormers, 3 layer felt roofs and replace with lead. Install architrave and lintel moulding to external door. No objections.

Clerk

2. Financial payments and insurance renewal

- a) Insurance Renewal- the Council approved a policy renewal of £330 with Came & Company. The council agreed to sign up to a further three-year long-term agreement. Clerk to process.
- b) Payments Approval – the Clerk presented the financial statements (Appendix B). The payments were unanimously agreed. Clerk to process.

Clerk

Clerk

3. Date of next meeting

The meeting closed at 9.05 pm. Next meeting, Tuesday 6th August at 7.30pm.

Appendix A: Achievements and Financial Report for 2018/19

Ashmansworth
Parish Council



ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2019

22nd MAY

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Ashmansworth
Parish Council



Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Apologies
- Elections
- Presentation on Achievements and Financial Report
- Report from Borough / County Councillors
- Report from Police
- Report from the Village Hall committee
- Public discussion and questions

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Ashmansworth
Parish Council



Parish Council

Elections for 2019/20

- Election of Chairman
- Election of Vice-chairman

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Ashmansworth
Parish Council



Who were we last year?

• Alan Cox	Chairman
• Kieron Black	Vice-chairman
• Andrew Bays	
• Sally Burch	
• Angela Harris	
• Sadie Owen	Clerk

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Ashmansworth
Parish Council



Our Role

- Cover villages of Ashmansworth and Crux Easton
- Lowest level of democracy
- Provide guidance on Planning Applications
- A link to Borough and County Councils on what is planned and what we want
- Focus of local interest eg: Neighbourhood Watch
- Non-political
- One of the smallest in the county, limited budget
- Thanks to all members for their hard work!

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What do we do?

- We meet every 6-8 weeks, in the Village Hall
- We had 12 new Planning Applications in last year. All of these were approved, except for 1 we objected to and is still pending. Also 5 tree applications OK.
- Concern at reduction in plastic Recycling facilities
- Lots of interest in Road Repair and Safety
- We supported an initiative to make us Hedgehog friendly
- We have updated our joint emergency plan (with Highclere and East Woodhay)

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What do we do, 2?

- Village details on Website and Facebook
- Chairman sends round messages and alerts via bcc email. Would we be interested in forming a "[Nextdoor](#) Ashmansworth" social network?
- Budget to spend our Precept to benefit Parish

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Concerns

- Access to Newbury Recycling
- Some potholes repaired but others appeared
- Cross Lane verges damaged during previous winter - promises they would be repaired now withdrawn
- Roadside litter, though residents have been collecting it – council cannot, due to insurance!
- Would like residents of Crux Easton to use more of our services, Taxi-share, village hall, table tennis...
- Still concerned at A343 junctions
- Grass cuttings left on village greens – very untidy
- Extra tasks for Lengthsman?

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Village Green after mowing!



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Clerk's Report 1

- The parish council has kept its precept at the same level this year, despite continued cut backs from both county and borough.
- Communication with the wider community is important to the PC and all our agendas, minutes and other documents are available on our website. We also have a Facebook page, and would encourage anyone with an account to like the page (@cruxashy).

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Clerk's Report 2

- The lengthsman did some great work in clearing the ditches at Crux Easton last year and has also been busy around the parish mending stiles and clearing footpaths.
- We have renewed our contract with the current mowing contractors for a further two years and hope that they continue with the great work that they have carried out to date.

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Financial Report

- Income was as expected but less than last year due to ongoing cuts.
- Income of £748 in BDBC Grants & £4,123 Precept.
- Expenditure roughly as expected.
- Reserves have been built up by a small amount. Opening balance £4,468, closing £5,301.
- Annual return figures are not yet available – audit booked for June 4th.

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The Year Ahead

- The Precept for 2019/20 has remained at last year's amount of £4,123.
- This is in line with budget spend predictions and will also allow the council to make some small donations.
- The Lengthsman scheme will continue for 2019/20 and we again have a budget of £1,000 to allocate to local works. Please do let us know about any suggested tasks.

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Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council Ward of Burghclere, Highclere & St Mary Bourne

includes **Ashmansworth**, Ecchinswell, Newtown, Sydmonton and Bishops Green

Your representatives:

- Graham Falconer, Vice Chair Scrutiny and Audit and Accounts, Performance Panel
- John Izett, Portfolio holder for Regeneration & Property
- Conservatives now have 2 seat majority in May

Boundary Commission Review

- November 2018 for May 2020
- 3-Councillor Wards – East Woodhay to amalgamate with us plus another parish under the name of Evingar
- Reduction from 60 to 54 councillors
- All-out elections May 2020

Borough report

- The New Council
- The reorganisation in 2020 - Evingar
- The BDBC Local Plan Review
- Housing
- HWRC
- Fly tipping
- Finance

County Council Issues

- Councillor Tom Thacker
- County Council Report
- Roads
- Recycling
- Lengthsman

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Roads

- Some pot holes repaired but new ones now need doing
- They repair only the worst ones, leaving adjacent ones, which then need doing shortly afterwards, so very costly
- Concern at poor drainage at Doiley Bottom which caused surface water to freeze and cause accident during the winter still not done!

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Broadband

- Great appreciation for the Gigabeam service
- Very reliable and fast, with excellent service!
- Some routers have failed due to electrical spikes, but cured by replacement part

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Neighbourhood Watch

- Contact with our PCSO John Dullingham
- Generally quiet during past year
- Warn residents of local threats
- Thanks to co-ordinators:
 - Sally Burch for Ashmansworth and
 - Angela Harris at Crux Easton

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Police

- PCSO John Dullingham is our local police contact and sends his apologies
- There is a new Inspector Hannah Luchesa who has taken over from Paul Pressley.
- Another quiet year with no major incidents affecting us
- Keep using Neighbourhood Watch and Hampshire alerts

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Policing Priorities

- Burglary non-dwelling
Incidents increasing in relation to sheds and outbuildings. Secure outbuildings with alarms/CCTV, record details and serial numbers of garden machinery with smartphone photos and report any suspicious activity.
- Burglary business premises
Several instances reported this year, including 2 to the Burghclere Sports pavilion.
- Vehicle crime
Don't leave valuable possessions in cars on display, and make sure vans with tools are locked at all times.

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Contact

PCSO 12960 John DULLINGHAM
Hampshire Constabulary,
Tadley Police Station, Mulfords Hill,
Tadley, Hampshire, RG26 3HZ
External: 101
Twitter: @HighclerePolice
Email: john.dullingham@hampshire.pnn.police.uk
Website: www.hampshire.police.uk
Alerts: <https://www.hampshirealert.co.uk/>

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There but not There Campaign

- Installation Art - large metal silhouette, by War Memorial in November, greatly appreciated
- Smaller Perspex one in Crux Easton Church
- All money raised went to H4H Combat Stress

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Conclusions

- Thanks to all for their hard work, turning out to meetings on cold dark evenings!
- Welcome suggestions and assistance from everyone, especially for Community Enhancement
- What more would you like us to do?

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Parish Council Meeting

- Planning applications:
 - Ashmansworth House
 - Others?
- Financial payments & Insurance renewal
- Date of next meeting

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Appendix B

Financial statement : Ashmansworth Parish Council
Meeting date : 22/05/2019

Balances:

Statement No: 22/05/19 Balance	Balance after reconciliation - 22/05/19
£7,644.69	£6,818.69

Payments since last meeting date :

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			0.00

New Items for payment

Date	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
	Mrs S Owen	Clerk salary April	125.32
	HMRC	Month 1 Tax/NIC	31.20
	Mrs S Owen	Clerk salary May	115.48
	HMRC	Month 2 Tax/NIC	29.00
	Came & Company	Insurance	330.00
	HALC	HR consultancy fee	180.00
	GLEAM	S Owen	15.00
TOTAL			826.00

Receipts since last meeting date :

Receipt Date	Payer	Details	TOTAL AMOUNT
01/04/2019	BDBC	Parish precept and grant	2,343.50 (incl. above)
TOTAL			2,343.50

Payments not yet presented

Cheque No	Payee	Details	TOTAL COST
TOTAL			0.00