



**Ashmansworth Parish Council  
Minutes of Meeting held on 09 January 2025  
Ashmansworth Village Hall, 7:30pm**

**Chairman:** Cllr Alan Cox

**Present:** Cllr Andrew Bays, Cllr Kieron Black

**Clerk:** Amy White

**1. Apologies**

Cllr Angela Harris and Cllr Bailey were both ill.

**2. Declarations of interest**

None.

**3. To agree the Minutes of the Meeting held on 19 November 2024**

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 19 November 2024 were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.

**4. Actions/Updates from Meeting of 19 November 2024**

**Action:** Clerk to confirm with Cllr Harris the funding from the Crux Easton residents and once confirmed, purchase the defibrillator. **Actioned**, Cllr Harris will organise installation.

**Action:** Cllr Cox to liaise with residents about a trial position for the bench and how it will be fixed. **Actioned**.

**Action:** Cllr Bailey will go and check the Wayfarers signage (BOAT 18) regarding use of the path by motorcycles and whether there is any damage that needs to be reported. **Actioned**. The track is in good condition, the signage is clear, and there are sturdy posts at either end.

**Action:** Clerk and Cllr Cox to discuss whether /how to advertise the grant funding available for 24/25 **Actioned**. Grants can only be awarded to an organisation with a constitution and bank account: Cllr Black will liaise with the village hall committee to see if they may require any grant funding. See further information on item 6.

**5. Update from County and Borough Councillors (if present)**

No one was present.

**6. Financial Matters:**

- **Budget second draft**

The Clerk presented the second draft of the budget. This can be found at the end of the Minutes.

*The precept was agreed at £5200.*

**Action:** Clerk to send precept request to BDBC.

Village Hall: Cllr Black is getting a quote for a replacement lintel above a window in the village hall. The brickwork is collapsing. The council agreed that grant funding could be used for this one-off project.

There is some progress on the work for disabled access loos in the hall. The Clerk will send Cllr Black the possible grant funding opportunity from BDBC.

**Action:** Cllr Black and Clerk will work to obtain a quote for the lintel repair and for Cllr Black to write a grant fund form.

**Action:** Clerk to send Cllr Black BDBC grant funding opportunity for community halls information.

Church: The LCC has discussed obtaining an acoustic system for St James' church; AshyPC could assist with this via grant funding. Likewise there are some ash dieback trees which may need removing. Further quotes will need to be obtained before the PC can consider whether it can assist with funding.

**Action:** The Clerk will liaise with Alan Rowe, church warden regarding the opportunity for grant funding for the acoustic system and/or trees.

- **To acknowledge payments and note receipts**

The Clerk presented the payments made and payments for approval:

#### **Income and Payments since 19 November 2024**

<b>Invoice Date</b>	<b>Paid date</b>	<b>Explanation</b>	<b>Receipt</b>	<b>Payment</b>
27-Oct-24	20-Nov-24	HMRC Month 7		£ 37.20
27-Oct-24	20-Nov-24	November Salary		£ 153.52
20-Oct-24	6-Nov-24	Ionos Direct Debit invoice 203044625305		£ 4.50
20-Oct-24	6-Nov-24	Ionos Direct Debit invoice 203044625305		£ 0.90
30-Oct-24	19-Nov-24	Red76 Direct Debit Invoice 10883		£ 8.00
30-Oct-24	19-Nov-24	Red76 Direct Debit Invoice 10883		£ 1.60
6-Nov-24	12-Nov-24	HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 9746		£ 9.99
6-Nov-24	12-Nov-24	HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 9746		£ 2.00
27-Nov-24	27-Nov-24	November Salary (incl back pay)		£ 201.24
27-Nov-24	20-Nov-24	HMRC Month 8		£ 49.00
30-Nov-24	20-Dec-24	Red76 Direct Debit Invoice 11197		£ 8.00
30-Nov-24	20-Dec-24	Red76 Direct Debit Invoice 11197		£ 1.60
6-Dec-24	12-Dec-24	HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 10513		£ 9.99
6-Dec-24	12-Dec-24	HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 10513		£ 2.00
3-Dec-24	3-Dec-24	Purchase of defb via LondonHearts Grant scheme		£ 750.00
4-Dec-24	4-Dec-24	HCC County Councillor Grant for defibrillator	£ 750.00	
22-Nov-24	10-Dec-24	Ionos Direct Debit invoice 203044706685		£ 18.50

22-Nov-24	10-Dec-24	Ionos Direct Debit invoice 203044706685		£ 3.70
31-Dec-24	31-Dec-24	Unity Bank Charge 01/12/24 - 31/12/24		£ 6.00

**£**  
**Total: 750.00                      £ 1,267.74**

**Payments to be made 09  
January 2025**

27-Dec-24		December Salary		£ 159.56
27-Dec-24		HMRC Month 9		£ 38.60
6-Jan-25		HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 11283		£ 9.99
6-Jan-25		HugoFox Direct Debit Invoice 11283		£ 2.00
27-Jan-25		January salary		£ 159.36
10-Jan-25		HMRC Month 10 (incls catch up payments)		£ 92.95

**Total:                      £ 462.46**

**Bank Account as at 31 December 2024: £4687.04**

**7. To note receipt of Planning Applications received since last meeting:**

24/02777/LDEO Land At Manor Farm Barns Ashmansworth (No comment)

**8. Footpaths update**

FP2 stile replacement will be added to the Lengthsman task for their next visit.  
HCC Rangers have visited landowners in Ashmansworth to offer free stile-to-gate replacement and at least three stiles will be replaced.

**9. Highways**

The recent closure of the A343 for 3 days (due to the removal of 63 trees) in December caused chaos in the small lanes of Ashmansworth, despite repeated requests to update the emergency road closure network about the unsuitability of the diversion. Nick Adlam of HCC Emergency planning and resilience team has offered to discuss the future of emergency planning early in 2025 with parishes.

**Action:** Clerk to liaise with Highclere and East Woodhay PCs to organise a briefing with Nick Adlam regarding community resilience.

**10. Date of next normal council meeting**

Monday 10 March 2025

(Upgrade of the Gigabeam broadband in Ashmansworth will be 11 January 2025).

**Actions from 09 January 2025 Meeting**

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**Action:** Cllr Black and Clerk will work to obtain a quote for the lintel repair and for Cllr Black to write a grant fund form.

**Action:** Clerk to send Cllr Black BDBC grant funding opportunity for community halls information.

**Action:** The Clerk will liaise with Alan Rowe, church warden regarding the opportunity for grant funding for the acoustic system and/or trees.

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