



2023/01a

## **ASHENDON ANNUAL VILLAGE MEETING**

**DRAFT Minutes of Annual Village Meeting held in The Village Hall  
Monday 17th April 2023 at 7.30pm**

**Chair:** Chris Rand, Chair  
**Clerk:** Venetia Davies, Clerk  
**Attendance:** 10 Parishioners including Cllr Ashley Waite.  
Les Curtis, Fiona Jacob, Sian Miller and Mark Wakeling were also present.

### **1. Apologies**

Cllr Paul Irwin, Peter Johnson, Roger Pike, and Kevin Nash.

### **2. Minutes of previous Annual Village Meeting held on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Minutes were accepted by the meeting as a true record and signed by Chair, Chris Rand

### **3. Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

### **4. Book Group**

The Book Club continues to be well supported with 8-10 ladies attending the meeting and 20 or so members in total. This year, 6 very diverse books have been read and the group have been lucky enough to welcome a guest who talked about the life of a curator in a museum and visitor attractions. The group is a friendly group who meet in members homes, taking it in turns to host but hope to be back in the pub, sometime soon!

### **5. Buckinghamshire Council - Cllr Paul Irwin and Cllr Ashley Waite**

**Cllr Ashley Waite:** Roads are the worst they have been for a considerable time. The newly formed 'Buckinghamshire Highways' is now in operation and is an alliance between Buckinghamshire Council and Balfour Beatty Living Places and Atkins (as well as a number of specialist framework contractors). The new arrangement covers all elements of highways maintenance and repair, including pothole repairs, gully cleansing, street lighting, winter gritting and resurfacing works, as well as larger improvement and development programmes. The county's network is almost 2,100 miles of highways and 1,500 miles of footways. Fix My Street is being expanded and relaunched. Most of the parishes in the area have received some funding from the Haddenham and Waddesdon Community Board (H&WCB). Out of sixteen Community Boards in the county, H&WCM board has had the highest level of contributory funding. The Council has won several court cases against fly tipping. There are now four community buses. Commercial trips are now offered which contribute to, and enable, community activity. Food banks continues to go from strength to strength. The lending library will be in operation soon.



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**6. Parochial Church Council, Peter Johnson presented by Richard Bates**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#) The retirement of Peter and Felicity Smettem from the Parochial Church Council and in Peter's case, Church Warden was noted as was the tremendous legacy they leave behind. There are three services each month, Lego Church, Holy Communion, and an informal service of morning prayer.

**7. Community Allotment, Mark Wakeling**

Mark Wakeling has had to step down as project leader but a meeting is planned for interested villagers to participate in a community allotment and will be promoted on Facebook. The meeting voiced that this would be a wonderful initiative for children. Les Curtis has kindly offered to donate farm manure.

**8. Community Speed Watch, Richard Philips**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#) The latest research shows 21% of road traffic speeding. The SID will be moved to all part of the village to monitor speed.

For questions, queries, or suggestions, please contact Richard Phillips, 1 Forge Close, Ashendon. Email: [therichardphillips@hotmail.com](mailto:therichardphillips@hotmail.com).

**9. Dominoes, Kevin Nash presented by Chris Rand**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#)

**10. Gatehangers Association**

There was no report.

**11. Ashendon Parish Council, Chair, Chris Rand**

The Parish Council has enjoyed a reasonably busy year. Over the 12 months, a considerable amount of work has gone into Boughton's Peace, a new defibrillator has been installed at Upper Pollicott and a defibrillator training course has taken place. The Bouncy Fun Day was a great success and will be repeated this year, thanks to Clare. The SID has been installed in the village and data is being collected. Huge thanks were paid to the Speed watch team. It was appreciated that the SID is required in different areas of the village but Chris Rand noted that, after 4 months of equipment breakdown, some catching up was now required. The Parish Council has instructed some tree works which may be subject to planning permission. The PC eagerly awaits a feasibility study from Buckinghamshire Council for the well documented Wotton Road/White City footpath. If approved, the Parish Council is hopeful of a sizeable grant from HS2. The Parish Council continues to help the APFA with a contribution towards its grass cutting. Chris asked the meeting to continue to report the state of the roads via Fix My Street. [A Financial Report](#) was circulated which detailed expenditure in 2022-23, grants and projects received and planned expenditure for 2023-24. The Precept was raised from £16,000 to £17,000 to reflect the increase in costs incurred by the Parish Council.



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**12. Ashendon Playing Fields Association (APFA), Andy Theobald.**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#) The meeting thanked the APFA for the new play equipment which, along with the MUGA, was celebrated as a wonderful asset for Ashendon. The provision of a further bin was discussed.

**13. Ashendon Village Hall, Richard Bates**

[Report filed and available to view here](#)

**Diary Date:** Quiz Night, Saturday 7th October 2023.

**14. Red Lion Social Club, Luke Jamieson.**

The Red Lion Social club continues to meet every month. There is a new treasurer and secretary. The club ran a number of events last year, including a pub quiz in March, a celebratory Platinum Jubilee event, a progressive supper with proceeds to the food bank, a conkers competition in October and a very well attended children's Christmas party and Christmas auction.

**Diary Date:** A Coronation Feast - Sunday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2023 in the Village marquee on the Playing Fields. £6.00 Adults, £3.00 Children.

**15. Danny Fahy, PSCO, Waddesdon & Haddenham Neighbourhood Police Team**

There was no report.

**16. Community Oil Buying**

The scheme, co-ordinator by Roger Pike, continues to run well.

**17. Women's Institute, Sue Rand**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#) New Members are welcome to join. The group meet on the second Tuesday of the month.

**Diary Date:** Fish and Chip Van Village Hall, Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May at 8pm.

**18. Ashendon Voices, Fiona Jacobs**

[Report filed and available to view here.](#) The group meet on Tuesday afternoons at 2pm. Men are also welcome to join.

**Diary Date:** Ashendon Voices Concert in Ashendon Church - Saturday, April 22nd at 7.30pm.

**Closing Comments**

Chris Rand thanked everyone from the various organisations in the village for taking the time out to make things happen for Ashendon Village. Ashely Waite commented on the support and generosity of the village. Chris thanked contributors and attendees of the meeting for their contributions and attendance.

**Parish Council AGM – Monday 15th May 2023 at 8pm**

**Ashendon Village Hall**