

ASHMANHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL



Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 20 March 2012 at 7.00pm in the Preston Rooms

Present:	Councillor Mrs R Buxton - Chair Councillor G Saunders – Vice Chair Councillor N Coleman Councillor I Sharp Councillor H Buxton Councillor G Hunt Councillor Miss S Hewitt
Officer	Mrs G Sharpe – Clerk to the Council
In Attendance -	Cllr Nigel Dixon (District and County Councillor) 21 Parishioners

The Chair welcomed all attending and stated that this was not a Parish Council meeting but the Annual Parish Meeting. After the usual reports, parishioners could raise any matters of concern to them or the village.

1 Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 March 2011

The Chair read the minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on 15 March 2011. They were agreed to be a true record and then signed by the Chair.

2 Police Community Support Officer Report

PCSO Jeanette Boardman was unable to attend but sent the following report.

The number of crimes recorded for Ashmanhaugh for the period 16/03/11 – 16/03/12 are:

Criminal damage to a vehicle	2
Exposure	1
Assault	3

Of the crimes recorded 4 were detected and the offenders dealt with.

3 Annual Report by the Chair of the Parish Council

The Chair read the Annual Report. This report will be published in the next edition of the Ashmanhaugh Newsletter and on the Parish Council website:

<http://ashmanhaughpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk>

ASHMANHAUGH PARISH COUNCIL - ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR 01 APRIL 2011 to 31 MARCH 2012

The past year has seen many changes with Ashmanhaugh Parish Council. We have seen the departure of an excellent chairman and a big thank you must be offered to Neal for doing such a great job running the council for over 8 years. We have also seen three new councillors join and I must offer my thanks to Geoff Hunt, Ivan Sharpe and Harry Buxton for taking on this very important responsibility. Thanks must also go to Tom Hannant and Gordon Beales for their very many years of service as parish councillors.

This year has seen the Council very busy in its continued quest to protect and promote the interests of the village. We have attended many meetings to help raise the profile of the village and the needs and wishes of the parishioners. We have received considerable support from our District and County Councillor, Nigel Dixon as well as the Norfolk Association of Local Councils, North Norfolk District Council, the Safer Neighbourhood team and our Member of Parliament Norman Lamb.

The Council has been fortunate that Neal has continued editing the bi-monthly Parish Council Newsletter, a big thank you to him for his continued support on this. Parish Council meetings are held on the first Tuesday in May, July, September, November, January and March at 7.00pm in the Preston Rooms. Parishioners are encouraged to attend whenever possible.

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Financial Matters

Below are the income and main points of expenditure from the draft accounts, which will be finalised in May 2012.

Unrestricted Income Precept **£2,700**

Major Expenditure

* Subscription to Norfolk ALC	£ 82
* Insurance	£ 195
* Training/Fees	£ 181
* Mazars External Auditors	£ 50
* Salaries/NIC/Stationery/postage etc.	£1,472
* Grass Cutting on the Common	£ 100
* Hire of Preston Room	£ 153
* Grant to Ashmanhaugh PCC - (Churchyard maintenance)	£ 150
Total	£2,283

The precept for 2012/13 has risen by £200 in order to ensure the Council is fully covered for any unexpected eventuality and to ensure we can meet the demand of rising costs over the coming and future years. The council has the responsibility not to overspend against its income and will ensure that this does not happen.

Planning

This year, there have been only two planning applications put forward within the parish. These were, The Pines, Stalham Road, Beeston St Lawrence, for the erection of a conservatory and the erection of a double garage at Rustics, Stone Lane Ashmanhaugh. Although both applications were supported, the Council asked for their comments to be taken into consideration with the latter.

New Clerk

It is with great sadness that the Parish Council will be losing one of its greatest assets later this year. Jill has decided that it is time to retire from her role of Clerk and I know that, on behalf of all the Councillors she will be very much missed. Jill recently won the Small Council Clerk of the Year Award in Norfolk which is a much well deserved accolade for the astonishing amount of work and time she has put into being the Clerk. Thanks Jill for everything you have done for the parish. On that note I would like to welcome Sarah Rendle who will join as our new Clerk officially in May. Sarah has worked as clerk previously and I am sure, like me, you wish her every success in her new role.

Parish Council Website

The Council's website, <http://ashmanhaughpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk> (or just type Ashmanhaugh in your search engine) has a new look, but still contains a great deal of information, such as, minutes, newsletters, Freedom of Information schedule, Parish Plan and useful links. It is updated regularly and well worth a visit and it is still receiving many hits.

What your council has done

The Council was most pleased to present every household in the parish, with a commemorative mug for the Royal Wedding in May 2011.

The past year your Council has commented on and contributed to the following:-

- Safer Neighbourhood Action Plan (SNAP) Meetings
- Happing Area Partnership
- Police Authority Budget Conference
- Norfolk ALC and Society of Local Council Clerks
- Norfolk Association of Local Councils Annual General Meeting
- Councillor Training
- Norfolk Planning Conference
- Society of Local Council Clerks Annual Conference
- Broads Authority Consultation
- Ashmanhaugh and Beeston Preston Rooms Management Association

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NNDC Action Plan Consultation
Ashmanhaugh Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Working Party
Royal Wedding Celebrations

Thank you for your continued support, please remember that the council is here to serve you so if you have any concerns or issues please don't hesitate to speak to any of the Councillors or the Clerk.

Cllr Mrs Rachel Buxton

Chair Ashmanhaugh Parish Council 12th March 2012

4 Preston Rooms Report

Report given by Mrs Anne Mulhall. Chair of the Ashmanhaugh & Beeston Preston Room Management Association.

Sadly Marian Hannant, one of our longest standing and most active members of the committee, died at the end of 2011. This left the committee with only 7 members. However, we have two new members and I think it is fair to say that the links between the three main committees in the village i.e. the Parish Council, the Parochial Church Council and ourselves have strengthened considerably.

Activities:

There was a full and varied calendar of activities in 2011 most of which were well attended. The hall was also used to raise money for the local First Responders and for McMillan Cancer Nurses.

Structure and fabric of the building:

It is worth remembering that we have to have the hall professionally cleaned at least twice a year and also the large number of windows need regularly cleaning. The Parochial Church Council has helped us with the cost of this. The outside environment also needs regular maintenance; here we are grateful to volunteers who have kept the side beds clear of weeds and also maintained the flower tubs at the front.

Purchases:

A large screen TV was purchased. This has been useful for our very successful Royal Wedding Day and also for the Tai Chi group.

However, the free showing of films, for the Social Club, did not attract many people. It is hoped that the TV and DVD player will be used more in 2012 as the licenses have increased our annual costs.

With the help of grants from the Ashmanhaugh Poor's Land Trust we have also purchased a new cooker and six new comfortable chairs with arms.

4.1 Treasurers report:

Income for the year	£3591
Expenditure	<u>£2218</u>
Profit	<u>£1373</u>

The budgeted surplus for 2011 was £196, so we ended the year £1176 above budget which was excellent. Major contributors to the surplus were the March coffee morning (£250) World Book Day (£199) the Royal Wedding (£280) Community Day (£405) Music Night (£335) and the Sausage Night (£176).

Annual expenditure has risen because of licensing costs (TV £150; MPLC £100 PRS £60) and increased electricity costs (£565)

Budget for 2012:

Income	£1870
Expenditure	<u>£2075</u>
Deficit	<u>£205</u>

You will note the treasurer is forecasting a deficit this year. The deficit is predicted from the difference between projected income from fund raising events and outgoings. This means we need to work hard this year at attracting new people to the hall and starting new ventures to raise funds.

4.2 Moving forward

New members:

Firstly we are delighted to welcome Steven Newstead and Alan Wiseman to the committee

New clubs

Alan Wiseman is keen to restart the short mat bowls club which was previously very successful.

Paula Mayes is masterminding a monthly 'Chick Flick' night. This will be on the third Friday in the month starting in April. We will take it in turns to bring a film.

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Senior Residents Club: again there is a move to restart this club and a meeting is going to be called to discuss the way forward.

If you are interested in attending or helping to run these clubs, the organisers would be very pleased to hear from you.

4.3 Village Consultation

At our last two committee meetings, we have been discussing how to draw up a structured plan on how we should move forward in the next few years. Our development plan needs to consider both structural improvements and the facilities/events/clubs that are available. We have some ideas of what we would like to do as a committee; however, we are very keen that everyone in the village is part of the process of drawing up the development plan. We would like to collect information from as many people as possible so that what we do reflects what the majority want. At some point we will be knocking on your door to ask if you would like to be included in this information gathering and how we would like us to gather your views. Some of you may prefer to come to small or large group meetings, some of you may prefer to chat to us on a one to one basis. Whichever, I would encourage you to participate so that your hall reflects your needs.

5 St Swithins Parochial Church Council Report

Report given by Mr Harry Buxton, Church Warden

I would like to thank Sandra and her team of Rob, Monty, and Edward, as well as her readers Barbara and Pauline for the pattern of services at Ashmanhaugh.

In addition the Benefice services were well attended and the festival services were a success. In the early part of 2012 the pattern of services was changed to a morning prayer on the first Sunday, a family service on the second Sunday and the Holy Communion service on the fourth. The usual Benefice service is rotated on the third Sunday, as is the occasional fifth Sunday.

My Church Warden's report would not be complete without mentioning the sad passing of Marian Hannant. She was a great stalwart of St Swithins PCC; it could be argued that without her efforts the church would not only be in serious decline but may not have services at all. She will be sorely missed, not just by Tom but by those like me, who came to rely on her. I am aware that she has left an important legacy for us to continue her good work and with God's help and the work of the very good Parochial Church Council, I am sure we will.

Tom Hannant has helped prepare one communion service per month but due to the change in services he now simply continues to change the altar and helps out when required. This is a great help and I thank him for his continued support. Thanks must also go to our organist Jill as well as Brenda and Helen for keeping the church so clean and tidy. The flower rota this year was organised by Rachel Buxton and our thanks should go to her, all those who arranged flowers and those who provided money for them.

All age Worship is still a success, albeit with varying congregations due to some families moving, but, there are others joining in. I would like to thank the on-going work of the members of the Parochial Church Council, for all their efforts and drive to make fund raising and the services a success.

The way ahead should be to continue to grow but, perhaps, with more help given to young people in the form of more interaction with the wider church and activities for them, as well as more encouragement to those children within the Benefice. I would hope that interaction with the wider Benefice will continue to grow and improve. I would like to thank you all for your support and I look forward to another successful year.

6 Ashmanhaugh Cricket Club Report

Report from Mr Harry Buxton

We are very pleased to announce that the Cricket Clubs from Ashmanhaugh; Norwich and Coltishall Wanderers and Worstead have merged to form **Ashmanhaugh and Barton Wanderers Cricket Club**.

With three senior teams playing on Saturday afternoons, including one team in the Alliance Premier league and one playing on Sundays, we offer the opportunity to play cricket to a wide range of abilities. Matches will be taking place at Ashmanhaugh, Barton and Colishall.

We are especially keen to encourage young people in the area to join the **Junior Section** and look forward to receiving enquiries from anyone interested. Junior coaching will commence at Barton on Monday 16 April 2012 from 6.15 – 7.45pm and will continue each Monday until early August. We will be running teams at Under 9: Under 11: Under 13 and Under 15.

Annual junior subscription is £10 per annum and coaching will cost £2.50 each session. A single payment of £30 will cover junior subscription and all weekly coaching sessions.

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We welcome match spectators, please come along and watch if you can.

For a membership form, or more information about senior coaching please contact: -

Anne Wallace. Telephone: - 01603 446188 Email: - ncwcc-anne@hotmail.co.uk

7 Ashmanhaugh Light Railway Report

Mr John Pond reported that they had had a successful year and birthday parties were particularly popular. The open days will be the first Sunday of the month from May to October, the opening one being Sunday 06 May 2012. On 20 May, they will hold a special day in aid of the Leonard Cheshire Homes and everyone is urged to give the event their support. He was also pleased with the support from the village, but would welcome more residents to come along, he also thanked Noel Coleman for his generous donation of materials for the new bridge. The ALR is ten years old this year.

8 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

Cllr H Buxton reported that the committee was developing proposals for events for Saturday 26 May. In the afternoon there will be games, mini Olympics, teas and a brass band on the cricket field and would be from 2.00pm to 5.00pm. In the evening there will be line and reel dancing in Park Farm Barn with food and a bar. That will be from 7.00pm until 11.00pm. A commemorative booklet was also being produced which will show the calendar of events and give a history of the village from the Coronation, in 1953, to today, of which everyone in the village will receive a copy. Every household will receive a written invitation which includes up to two guests and people must reply in order to attend. Currently, the committee is in discussion Ashmanhaugh Light Railway concerning the Sunday 27 May 2012.

The residents were then invited to raise points and open discussion.

Mrs P Cully said that there will be a Quiz Evening on Saturday 12 May to raise funds for the Diamond Jubilee Celebrations.

Cllr H Buxton said that the Parochial Church Council was considering joining the WySpire broadband system proposed by the Diocese. A discrete transponder would be attached to the church tower which would provide high speed broadband. The subscription rate had yet to be decided but would be less than £23 per month per household.

There being no other topics, the meeting closed at 8.32pm and refreshments served.

The Annual Parish Council Meeting

Tuesday 01 May 2012

**will be held in the
Preston Room, School Road, Ashmanhaugh
at
7.00pm**