

ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL

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ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2023 - 2024

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1 Parish Councils in General

Parish Councils and Parish Meetings work towards improving community well-being and providing better services at a local level. Their work falls into three main categories:

- representing the local community;
- delivering services to meet local needs; and
- striving to improve quality of life in the community

Through a range of powers, parish councils provide and maintain a variety of important and visible local services including allotments, bridleways, burial grounds, bus shelters, car parks, commons, community transport schemes, crime reduction measures, footpaths, leisure facilities, local youth projects, open spaces, public lavatories, planning, street cleaning, street lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures, village greens and litter bins.

2 Overall Aim of Ashover Parish Council

To develop and sustain a sense of community within the Parish of Ashover by addressing environmental, social, economic and planning matters and delivering quality services to the residents within the resources available, while being mindful of Government Legislation which affects the remit of the Parish Council.

2.1 Our principles

- Be a Good Employer
- Maintain the status of a Quality Council or its equivalent.
- Provide value for money and services at least possible cost yet maintain quality.
- Be aware of, and implement, changes required by new Government legislation particularly those changes required by the Localism Bill.
- Undertake Council business legally and ethically.
- Maintain a communications strategy such that Council business is conducted openly and transparently and Parishioners have easy access to information and advice.
- Undertake Council business with reference to Standing Orders and Financial Regulations
- Provide effective leadership to the village community on matters of interest
- Embrace new technology and methods.
- Maintain regular contact/liaison and where appropriate, partnership working with local authorities and community service providers and businesses.

3 Ashover Parish Council Generally

Ashover Parish Council constantly strives to work on behalf of parishioners on the issues that matter to its parish.

Your Parish Council is always keen to receive ideas and suggestions from parishioners on particular areas of interest or concern and where it is felt the Parish Council may assist.

The Parish Council will actively seek to understand the changing needs of the village through a comprehensive communications strategy.

It will monitor, and react to, any changes that might occur in the responsibilities of the Parish Council as a result of Statute.

The Parish Council will use its best endeavours to provide the service necessary to meet or exceed the benchmarks for a 'Quality Council' or its replacement.

The Parish Council can demonstrate that it has met the current criteria of Quality Council Status which is:

- Representative of, and actively engages, all parts of its community, providing vision, identity and a sense of belonging.
- Effectively and properly managed.
- Articulates the needs and wishes of the community.

- Upholds high standards of the Code of Conduct.
- Committed to work in partnership with local authorities and other public service agencies.
- In proportion to its size and skills, delivers local services on behalf of local authorities when this represents the best value for the local community.
- Works closely with voluntary groups in its community.
- Provides leadership to the community through its work on Parish and Neighbourhood Plans.
- Works with its partners and acts as an information point for local services,

Listed below is our completed schedule of work in previous years along with our current schedule of activity, this is regularly reviewed and updated as projects finish and priorities change:-

4 Completed Actions 2020/2021 Financial Year

In addition to actions carried forward from 2019/2020

- Provided additional Defibrillators across the parish with support from Ashover Community Medical Centre
- Maintained two red telephone boxes to house defibrillators
- Continued in house support for councillors on tablet computers
- Maintained Quality status under the Local Council Accreditation scheme
- Provided a number of additional grit bins
- Sited a number of public bench's round the parish
- Liaise with Parish Hall management committee to monitor CIO
- Representation at County & District meetings where appropriate
- Considered and responded to consultations on issues specifically affecting the parish now and in the future
- Responded to planning consultations
- Maintenance of sporting facilities
- Maintenance of public conveniences and Information Point
- Regular litter picking around the parish
- Liaised with the Footpaths Group to encourage use of the network of rights of way around the parish
- Liaised with the volunteer tree group to help maintain the trees within the parish
- Worked with Derbyshire County Council's Rights of Way section under a Minor Maintenance Agreement, to actively maintain some rights of way
- Encouraged residents, community organisations and groups to attend the Annual Parish Meeting
- Grant Funding to parish groups/clubs via Section 137 to support community events and social activities
- Kept residents up to date with Parish Council news via the noticeboard, website and social media.
- Produced an Annual Report, circulated to all households, providing information on work undertaken by the Parish Council
- Regular newsletters distributed across the parish detailing council activity
- Controlled and managed the parish public finances
- Produced and ensured appropriate training programme for Clerk and Councillors.
- Monitored level of support grant from NEDDC
- Fund Parish Council election

5 Completed Actions for 2021-2022 Financial Year

Completed Actions For 2021-2022	Time line	By Who	Budget Cost
Monitor defibrillators at various locations in the parish	Ongoing	Parish Council along with regular checks by Parish Lengthman	Nil

Maintain telephone kiosks to house defibrillators	Ongoing	Parish Council	Precept 2021/2022
Maintain existing Children's playground	Ongoing	Parish Council	£600.00
Representation at County & District meetings where appropriate	Ongoing	Parish Councillors	£50.00
Consideration and response to consultations on issues specifically affecting the parish now and in the future	Ongoing	Parish Council	Met from contingencies as and when necessary
Respond to planning consultations	Ongoing	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	Nil
Maintenance of sporting facilities	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractors	£12,500.00
Maintenance of public conveniences and Information Point	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractor	£2300.00
Regular litter picking around the parish	Ongoing	Parish Lengthman	£1500.00
Liaison with the Footpaths Group to encourage use of the network of rights of way around the parish	Ongoing	Footpath Group	£50.00
Liaise with the volunteer tree group to help maintain the trees within the parish	Ongoing	Tree Group	£100.00 along with any agreed minor ad hoc requests for additional funding
Working with Derbyshire County Council's Rights of Way section under a Minor Maintenance Agreement, to actively maintain some rights of way	Ongoing	DCC Rights of Way group and Parish Council	£675.00
Grant Funding to parish groups/clubs via Section 137 to support community events and social activities	End March 2022	Parish Council	£600.00
Keep residents up to date with Parish Council news via the noticeboard and website	Ongoing	Parish Clerk	Nil
Production of an Annual Report, circulated to all households, providing information on work undertaken by the Parish Council	End March 2022	Parish Clerk	£2000.00
Regular newsletters distributed across the parish detailing council activity	End March 2022	Parish Clerk	£210.00
Control and management of parish public finances	Ongoing	RFO and Auditor	£1300.00
Produce and ensure appropriate training programme for Clerk and Councillors.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk	Nil
Monitor the Parish Council website.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk, Parish Councillors and 2Commune	£425.00
Monitor implementation of introduction hand held tablets for councillors	March 2022	Parish Council	Nil

6 Completed Actions for 2022-2023 Financial Year

Completed Actions For 2022-2023	Time line	By Who	Budget Cost
Monitor defibrillators at various locations in the parish	Ongoing	Parish Council along with regular checks by H & S Monitor	Nil
Maintain telephone kiosks to house defibrillators	Ongoing	Parish Council	Precept 2021/2022
Install new play equipment in children's play are	Apr 2022	Parish Clerk & Working Group	£44,000 Assets Renewal Programme, EMR and grants
Maintain existing Children's playground	Ongoing	Parish Council	£500.00
Representation at County & District meetings where appropriate	Ongoing	Parish Councillors	£50.00
Consideration and response to consultations on issues specifically affecting the parish now and in the future	Ongoing	Parish Council	Met from contingencies as and when necessary
Respond to planning consultations	Ongoing	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	Nil
Maintenance of sporting facilities	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractors	£12,500.00
Maintenance of public conveniences and Information Point	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractor	£2500.00
Regular litter picking around the parish	Ongoing	Parish Lengthman	£1500.00
Liaison with the Footpaths Group to encourage use of the network of rights of way around the parish	Ongoing	Footpath Group	£50.00
Liaise with the volunteer tree group to help maintain the trees within the parish	Ongoing	Tree Group	Any agreed minor ad hoc requests for additional funding
Working with Derbyshire County Council's Rights of Way section under a Minor Maintenance Agreement, to actively maintain some rights of way	Ongoing	DCC Rights of Way group and Parish Council	£675.00
Grant Funding to parish groups/clubs via Section 137 to support community events and social activities	End March 2023	Parish Council	£600.00
Keep residents up to date with Parish Council news via the noticeboard and website	Ongoing	Parish Clerk	Nil
Production of an Annual Report, circulated to all households, providing information on work undertaken by the Parish Council	End March 2023	Parish Clerk	£2000.00
Regular newsletters distributed across the parish detailing council activity	End March 2023	Parish Clerk	£210.00

Control and management of parish public finances	Ongoing	RFO and Auditor	£1300.00
Produce and ensure appropriate training programme for Clerk and Councillors.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk	Nil
Monitor the Parish Council website.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk, Parish Councillors and 2Commune	£425.00
Liaise with other groups and organisations to maintain safe working during the current pandemic	Ongoing	Parish Clerk and Councillors	Various
Raise the Councils profile making more use of Facebook and Twitter	Ongoing	Parish Clerk and Councillor	Nil
Monitor the WCAG standard of the Parish Council website	Ongoing	Parish Clerk and councillor	Nil

7 Future Actions 2023/2024 Financial Year

- Continue with the progress made on past actions
- Continue with further consultations within the Parish
- Engage with Climate Emergency Initiative
- Encourage the interaction between Parish Council and Parishioners using social media

Ongoing actions for 2023/2024 along with any brought forward from 2022/2023

Ongoing Actions For 2023-2024	Time line	By Who	Budget Cost
Monitor defibrillators at various locations in the parish	Ongoing	Parish Council along with regular checks by H & S Monitor	Nil
Maintain telephone kiosks to house defibrillators	Ongoing	Parish Council	Currently Nil but should we precept next year
Maintain existing Children's playground	Ongoing	Parish Council	£50.00
Representation at County & District meetings where appropriate	Ongoing	Parish Councillors	£50.00
Consideration and response to consultations on issues specifically affecting the parish now and in the future	Ongoing	Parish Council	Met from contingencies as and when necessary
Respond to planning consultations	Ongoing	Parish Council Monthly Meeting	Nil
Maintenance of sporting facilities	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractors	£15,320.00
Maintenance of public conveniences and Information Point	Ongoing	Parish Council. Retained contractor	£2680.00
Liaison with the Footpaths Group to encourage use of the network of rights of way around the parish	Ongoing	Footpath Group	£50.00
Liaise with the volunteer tree group to help maintain the trees within the parish	Ongoing	Tree Group	Any agreed minor ad hoc requests for additional funding

Working with Derbyshire County Council's Rights of Way section under a Minor Maintenance Agreement, to actively maintain some rights of way	Ongoing	DCC Rights of Way group and Parish Council	£675.00
Grant Funding to parish groups/clubs via Section 137 to support community events and social activities	End March 2024	Parish Council	£600.00
Keep residents up to date with Parish Council news via the noticeboard and website, Facebook & Twitter	Ongoing	Parish Clerk and councillors	Nil
Production of an Annual Report, circulated to all households, providing information on work undertaken by the Parish Council	End March 2024	Parish Clerk	£2000.00
Regular newsletters distributed across the parish detailing council activity	End March 2024	Parish Clerk	£210.00
Control and management of parish public finances	Ongoing	RFO and Auditor	£1300.00
Produce and ensure appropriate training programme for Clerk and Councillors.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk	Nil
Monitor the Parish Council website.	Ongoing	Parish Clerk, Parish Councillors and 2Commune	£425.00
Monitor level of support grant from NEDDC	March 2024	Parish Clerk	Nil
Liaise with Ashover Parish Hall Management to agree transfer of ownership of car park	Mid 2023	Working Group	Nil
Encourage more community involvement by the use of Social Media	Ongoing	Parish Clerk and councillors	Nil

ISSUE/REVIEW	DATE	MINUTE
Issued	September 2015	111/15
Reviewed	December 2016	202/16
Reviewed	May 2018	015/18
Reviewed	May 2019	019/19
Reviewed	May 2020	021/20
Made Accessible	Aug 2020	110/20
Reviewed	Feb 2021	245/21
Reviewed	May 2021	023/21
Reviewed	May 2022	016/22
Reviewed	May 2023	015/23
Next Review	Ongoing	