

ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL held an Ordinary Parish Council Meeting in Ashover Parish Hall on Tuesday 16 APRIL 2024 commencing at 7.00pm

Public Speaking

A member of the public highlighted the 'Tupton Pride' event to be held 01/06/2024, details available on the Tupton Community Group Facebook page.

NEDDC Cllr Mrs H Wetherall updated Members on planning applications, Mayoral Election and a community action group report on the A632.

Crime figures for February 2024 were not available on the Wingerworth & Rural SNT website.

Planning

A Senior Planning Officer from North East Derbyshire District Council would be invited to meet with Members to discuss planning issues, procedures and policies.

Derbyshire County Council (DCC) Consultation

Members considered a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) proposal to extend the 30mph speed limit in the village of Ashover. The proposal would provide a 30mph Speed Limit to cover the built-up environment of the village. This would include moving the existing speed limit on Malthouse Lane to include Hill Road to its junction with Hill Top Road, introducing a speed limit on Hillside 175 metres east of its junction with Hill Road and moving the speed limit on Milken Lane further east, to include a section of Hardmeadow Lane, 82 metres east of its junction with Milken Lane.

DCC consider that the proposed changes are consistent with the County Councils Policy and circular 01/2013, which gives Local Authorities guidance upon the setting of local speed limits. Members supported the proposal.

Parish Maintenance

A dog bin would be provided adjacent the notice board and The Pinfold at Milltown.

DCC highways would be informed of winter highway issues on Northedge Lane and the request for a grit bin, to ascertain if road surface treatment could be undertaken.

The Annual Grounds Maintenance Agreement with NEDDC for 2024/2025 was signed.

The Cricket Club was authorised to undertake ground repairs to the rear of the cricket pavilion.

Quotations would be sought for maintenance required on the 5 parish bus shelters.

Tennis Coaching

Two Junior Tennis Camps for weeks commencing 05/08/2024 and 26/08/2024 were approved and use of the hard courts would be provided free of charge in the interests of health and wellbeing in the community.

Speed Indicator Devices and A632 safety

A second batch of data, together with a summary, had been submitted to Derbyshire County Council Highways for analysis. A summary of future data would be submitted to Highways on the second Tuesday of each month and this would also be reported on the Parish Council website. The Parish Council had requested inclusion of the A632 in the Police & Crime Commissioner's Pilot Scheme for Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR). A third batch of data would be downloaded prior to the Public Meeting on 09/05/2024 to allow for up to date information being available.

River Amber

Severn Trent would not attend the Public Meeting on 09/05/2024 and this had been challenged directly and also via the MP's office. Whilst Severn Trent had provided a statement to be read out at the Public Meeting, it was considered that this would be out of date by the time of the meeting and therefore an updated statement would be requested nearer the time.

Climate Change/Biodiversity

The Climate Change Working Group had progressed work-streams, complying with the Environment Act 2021 and Improvement Plan 2023 to "restore nature and improve the environmental quality of the air, our waters and our land." Work was progressing on the 'wildlife corridor', 'living roofs' and liaison had taken place with the Primary School. The cost of a survey by Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) had been sought in relation to three woodland copses on common land. Community buildings had been visited with climate change and biodiversity initiatives in mind and this work would continue as requested. 'Free Tree' schemes were being used to populate land at 'Jim's Field' in Alton and further free trees may be applied for following a survey by DWT.

News Items

The Anti-Litter Poster Competition 2024 would be highlighted to various publications.

The Annual Report 2023/2024 would be collated shortly and would include information on grit bin and dog bin costs for public awareness.

Future/New Projects and Events

There were no updates on the provision of a chess table under a Government initiative.

The two winning posters in the Anti-Litter Poster Competition would be made into poster boards.

The Community May Day Group had progressed the event, which would include stalls, inflatables, climbing wall, art exhibition, field activities, bands, Maypole and Morris dancing and much more.

Car Park Access

The Ashover Community Medical Centre Ltd. (ACMCL) Trustees had undertaken legal advice and Members supported the proposal going forward in relation to the Access Lease and accepted the justification for the annual payment to the Parish Council. Members wished to progress the matter to a speedy conclusion

Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report, including Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) newsletters and correspondence received had been circulated to Members. A training request was put forward by the Clerk and was approved. A 'King's Portrait' had been received, free of charge, from the Government and this would be displayed in parish hall.

Internal Audit Report 2023/2024

The final report 2023/2024 had been undertaken by Auditing Solutions Ltd. with no matters arising.

The Annual Internal Audit Report had been completed for submission with the Annual Governance & Accountability Return to the External Auditor. The reports had been circulated to Members.

Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024 Section 1

The Annual Governance Statement Section 1 of the Annual Return 2023/2024 had been circulated to Members in accordance with Standing Order 17e and was signed by the Chairman and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

Annual Governance Accounting Statement 2023/2024 Section 2

The Annual Governance Accounting Statement Section 2 of the Annual Return 2023/2024 had been circulated to Members in accordance with Standing Order 17e was signed by the Chairman and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

Annual Statement of Accounts 2023/2024: Receipts & Payments

A Summary of Receipts and Payments for the year ending 31 March 2024 was put forward and was signed by the Chairman and Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer.

Monthly Financial Report

A budget appraisal and report/reconciliation from the computerised accounts detailing account balances, cheques/transactions issued/authorised and cheques received and any outstanding receipts considered. The report was put forward for signature by the Chairman. Details of any cheques signed or for signature by authorised Councillors and BACS invoices were confirmed.

The meeting closed at 8.20 pm