

# ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL

www.ashover-pc.gov.uk



## NEWSLETTER 3 - 2024/2025 WINTER

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### CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON 2024

**SUNDAY 01 DECEMBER 2024 4.30PM SWITCH-ON AT 5.00PM ON CHURCH STREET OUTSIDE THE BASSETT ROOMS, ALL WELCOME.**

## **DOUBLE ACHIEVEMENT FOR ASHOVER PARISH!**

Every year, the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) run an awards scheme, celebrating excellence in the performance of local councils. There are four categories – Council of the Year, Councillor of the Year, Clerk of the Year and Environmental Project of the Year.

This time around, Ashover Parish Council decided to take part. For many years, the council has felt very fortunate in having Sara Atkinson as our Parish Clerk and we submitted an entry, describing the outstanding contribution she makes in our community. We're pleased to say this was recognized by the judging panel with a 'Highly Commended' award.



The Environmental Project of the Year award is a relatively new category. Our Climate Change working group has been active for some years now, focusing on different themes in our local environment. We're proud of their achievements and we're pleased to say the judging panel felt the same with 'Highly Commended' award for the group.

Our picture shows Lucy Hunter-Bott, Chair of the Climate Change group, and Sara Atkinson, Ashover's Parish Clerk, with their awards.

## **REMEMBRANCE SUNDAY – 10 NOVEMBER 2024**



Councillor Ed Willmot laid a Poppy Wreath on the War Memorial on behalf of the Parish Council and Ashover Parish following an emotional and heartfelt service in All Saints Church led by the Reverend

Dr Peter Bold when the Choir sang and Ashover Brass Band played.

Ashover Parish Council displayed poppies around the parish to mark the Remembrance.



At the centenary marking the end of WW1, Ashover Tree Group was encouraged by the Parish Council to come up with a fitting tribute to commemorate those who lost their lives in the 1914 –1918 war.

In response, the tree group planted 3 beech trees in separate locations overlooking the village. This 'Centenary Triangle' of trees is located in Milltown (Holestone), Uppertown (Wirestone Lane) and just outside the Fabric boundary.

The tree near the Fabric is clearly flourishing, as our recent picture shows.'



## **RIVER AMBER - UPDATE**

In our last update we reported Severn Trent's confirmation that they had increased Ashover's holding tank capacity from 58m<sup>3</sup> to 208m<sup>3</sup> which they estimated would reduce spills by 80% on 2023 figures.

We're now asking the Environment Agency if they will be putting sondes in place to check the accuracy of the claimed improvements. (NB. Sondes are measuring devices used to sample water quality).

## **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES (SIDS) / A632 – UPDATE**

Data continues to be collected from the SIDs with the display being turned off intermittently as advised by highway authorities. Questions have been put to the Derbyshire County Council's Highways Authority on the following:-

- 1) outline the time frame over which Ashover Parish's results will be reviewed
- 2) share the framework against which the results of the review will be judged and the speeding thresholds which will drive a response from Highways
- 3) advise how average speed cameras and fixed speed cameras will feature in the debate and how parish councils can usefully contribute to discussions

The Vice-Chairman attended a meeting with the Police Chief Inspector on 16/10/2024 along with the District Councillor and Chairman of the Action Group and actions from the meeting included application for funding by the Police from the Derby and Derbyshire Road Safety Partnership. The potential to purchase speed monitoring equipment collectively with other Parish Councils would be investigated and further information sought on grants from the 'Safer and Stronger Communities Fund'.

Eleven volunteers had attended Community Speed Watch training and equipment training would take place in December.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE & BIODIVERSITY WORKING GROUP – UPDATE**

In our update for the Parish Council's 2023/2024 Annual report, we described the beginnings of the Climate Change group and our various work-streams.

Our recent focus has been less on building efficiencies and utilities (where there's limited scope) and more about the outdoors. One of the influences in this emphasis has been recent legislation – in January 2024 the provisions of the Environment Acts 2021/2023 came into force where, briefly, the aim is to "restore nature and improve the environmental quality of the air, our waters and our land". It's good that The Climate Change Group's existing workstreams on 'Outdoor things' align with the new Acts and the group benefits from an existing dialogue with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) for advice and coaching and with NEDDC who have recently recruited specialists to manage their obligations under the new act.

Specific, local initiatives by the group include:

### **'A wildlife corridor'**

We've continued working closely with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust (DWT) in developing our understanding of a 'Wildlife Corridor' running through the Parish from the south-east to the north-west. Our map of the corridor, showing Wildlife Sites according to their profile (eg. Woodland, wetland, meadow, gorse/scrub etc) is under continuous review and we're hoping to add more definition to the 'Corridor' by joining the DWT 'islands' together.

As part of a strategy for engaging landowners in 're-wilding' or nature nurturing initiatives we arranged visits to a local organic farm. In this way they will hopefully learn from the experience and put into practice those ideas they think might work for them. Scope for more such visits will be discussed at future meetings.

### Common Land: DWT survey

This links in with the Wildlife Corridor. Last year, we carried out an audit of the Parish Council (PC) 15 parcels of Common Land of which 3 seemed to have potential for habitat development. The locations and conclusions as follows:

Berridge / Cold Harbour Lane. Logistics are difficult and the fruits of any labour by a working party wouldn't be very visible. Might be possible to harvest seeds from grassy banks along the lane for use in school projects. Agreed we ask DWT for an ideal month to do this.

Oaks Lane Quarry. The presence of badgers and invasive vegetation led to a decision to leave the site undisturbed.

Hill Top Quarry. NEDDC's arboriculturist joined a site meeting with us. Thinning out of tree canopy may enhance potential provided it is done carefully – 3 specific trees suggested for felling but a decision to proceed will need to be viewed against other Climate related spend priorities.

### Engagement with the school

A meeting with the school head is to be organized. An agenda of possible ideas for discussion has been prepared, some of it drawn from a brochure from DWT entitled Wilder Communities Toolkit.

### Living' infrastructure

There are five bus shelters around the Parish, due for maintenance, and before going ahead with the work we decided to explore the feasibility of installing 'living roofs' – essentially putting wild-flower growing turf on top! After a detailed review we concluded that the significant up-front costs and on-going maintenance requirements meant that it would not be a viable proposition, so the project was closed.

### Ashover cemetery.

At our May meeting it was felt that we need to get a better understanding of current maintenance policy, including cutting and chemicals used as well as the scope to enhance the wildlife habitat. Work on this initiative continues and further updates will follow.

### Dark Skies

Lisa Johnson's article has been published in the latest Parish Newsletter, social media, Wings magazine and in a DWT publication. It has stimulated a great deal of interest and enhanced awareness of its importance in our community.

## **WINTER MAINTENANCE GUIDANCE**

Your Parish Council owns and fills a total of 37 grit bins sited around the parish and undertakes winter maintenance of the Milken Lane Car Park. ***The salt is supplied for use on the highway adjacent the bin and if you witness large amounts being taken for personal use, please contact the Police.***

For advice on keeping warm this winter and fuel bills, follow the link below:-

[Health & Wellbeing](#)

For the latest on snow conditions and where to get help etc. follow the link below:-

[Snow Conditions](#)

## **What's on!**

### **December events around the Parish...**

Some exciting events as we near the year-end!

#### **Highlights are:**

##### 1st December:

- Uppertown Social Centre, Christmas Market
- Christmas Craft Fair, Ashover Parish Hall
- Christmas Lights Switch-on, outside the Basset rooms (includes a visit from Santa!)

##### 5 December

- Ashover Film time, Basset Rooms

##### 12 December

- Ashover WI meeting, Basset Rooms

##### 14 December

- Family Christmas Party at the Parish Hall (includes a visit from Santa)

These are of course in addition to regular events on Mondays – Chair based exercise classes, Community Garden and Knit & Natter and the Lunch Club (Monday, fortnightly) and Tuesday morning coffee get-togethers, Board Games, 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays

Follow this link for more information – <https://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk/local-events?month=12&year=2024&submit=Go>

Or go to the Parish Council's web-site <https://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk/> and just click on the little icon with the loud-hailer on it which will take you to the current month's events.

#### **Uppertown Social Centre – Events**

Christmas Market Sunday 01 December 2024 10am-3pm Free Entry

Eddie's open bar Christmas Eve 12.00-3pm Free Entry

John Gill Saturday 01 February 2025 7pm Ticket Event

Soul Play Saturday 22 February 2025 7pm Ticket Event

Murphy's Marbles Saturday 15 March 2025 Ticket Event

Take the Seven Saturday 12 April 2025 Ticket Event

Easter Family Party Saturday 26 April 2025 4pm Free Entry

The Dolby Gang Saturday 17 May 2025 7pm Ticket Event

The Haleys Saturday 28 June 2025 7pm Ticket Event

Above subject to alteration without notice.

To book tickets in advance ring Eddie on 07966 154798.

For further information on Uppertown Social Centre, visit [www.uppertown.org](http://www.uppertown.org)

## **DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL**

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (Various roads, ashover)

(30MPH SPEED LIMIT) Order 2024

Notice is hereby given that, on the 29<sup>th</sup> August 2024 the Derbyshire County Council made an Order under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

The Order will come into operation on the 9<sup>th</sup> September 2024 and its effect is to introduce;

### **30 MPH SPEED LIMIT**

Chapel Hill (All arms), Ashover - From its junction with Cripton Lane to its junction with Hill Road.

Church Street, Ashover - From its junction with the B6036 Butts Road in a northerly then easterly direction to its junction with Milken Lane.

Cripton Lane, Ashover - From a point 21 metres north of the northern arm of Chapel Hill in a South easterly direction to its junction with Moor Road.

Dovecotes, Ashover - From its junction with Church Street in a South easterly direction for its entire length.

Hardmeadow Lane, Ashover - From its junction with Milken Lane in a South easterly direction for a distance of 82 metres

Hill Road, Ashover - From its junction with Hill Top Road in a South easterly direction to its junction with Malthouse Lane.

Hillside, Ashover - From its junction with Hill Road in a North easterly direction for a distance of 175 metres

Malthouse Lane (Including Cul de sac Even numbers 10 – 52), Ashover - From its junction with Hill Road in a South westerly direction to its junction with Moor Road.

Marsh Green Lane, Ashover - From its junction with Moor Road in a north westerly direction for its entire length.

Milken Lane, Ashover - From its junction with Church Street in an easterly direction to its junction with Hard Meadow Lane.

Moor Road, Ashover - From its junction with Church Street in a north westerly direction to its junction with Cripton Lane.

Narrowleys Lane, Ashover - From its junction with B6036 Butts Road in a north easterly direction to its junction with Moor Road.

Any permanent Traffic Regulation Orders made prior to this Order, insofar as they relate to the lengths of road listed above, will be revoked.

## **Book Swap**

The book swap in the Information Point on Moor Road is proving popular and we hope everyone makes full use of the facility. Sometimes books are left spilling over the shelving and on the floor, making access difficult for users. Please only leave books when space is available on the shelving – Take a Book and Leave a Book.

## **Minutes, News and more...**

To read Parish Council Minutes, see news items on road closures, Police information, Derbyshire Alert and County and District Council messages and much more, visit the Parish Council website:-

[www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk)

## **Local Walks**

All year round, there are Tuesday morning walks at 9.30 a.m. from the post box opposite the post office. Usually 2/3 hours on Ashover paths.

To find walks around the Ashover parish, please follow the link below:-

[Walks Around Ashover Parish](#)

## **Defibrillators**

Defibrillators – saving life.

A defibrillator is a device that gives a jolt of energy to the heart. It helps get the heart beating again when someone is in cardiac arrest and their heart has stopped.

### **Locations of defibrillators**

Ashover Parish Council has installed six defibrillators at the following locations:-



Outside Uppertown Social Centre

Outside the medical centre in Ashover

In the red kiosk at Alton In the red kiosk at Littlemoor

On the side of The Miners Arms, Milltown

On the side of The Kelstedge Inn, Kelstedge

There's also a defibrillator sited at the Red Lion/Peak Edge Hotel, Darley Road, Stonedge.

### **Business owners**

Business owners who have a defibrillator are encouraged to register their unit with 'The Circuit', the national defibrillator network, such that the location of units available may be identified to the East Midlands Ambulance Service in an emergency. For more information please follow this link: <https://www.thecircuit.uk/>

### **How to use a defibrillator**

If in an emergency you need to use one of the defibrillators then dial 999 and you will be given the code to the cabinet and further instructions.

Anyone can use a defibrillator. You do not need training. Once you turn it on, it will give clear step-by-step voice instructions.

If you would like to know more about how the defibrillators work, there's a guide on the Ashover Parish Council web-site which you can find by following this link:

<http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk/uploads/ipad-sp1-in-use-quick-reference-guide-a4-for-web.pdf>.

Alternatively you could watch a training video by a paramedic from London Heart on this link: <https://vimeo.com/557677120/e7524918c5>

## **All Saints Church and The Bassett Rooms**

Sarah, the Church Administrator works 10 hours per week, so there may be a delay in replying. Her usual working hours are 10- 12am Monday, 2-4pm Tuesday, 10-12 am Thursday and 10-2pm Friday.

For Bassett Rooms enquires that need dealing with urgently, please contact Margaret, Sarah's assistant: [bassettroom@gmail.com](mailto:bassettroom@gmail.com) or 07769970470.

For urgent Church matters, please contact Rev. Peter Bold on 01246 590246 or [revdbold@gmail.com](mailto:revdbold@gmail.com),

## **Finally**

Please also ensure that dogs are kept on a leash at all times whilst walking through the cemetery. This is a legal requirement under the North East Derbyshire District Council's 'Public Space Protection Order' (PSPO); for further details, follow the link below:-

<https://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk/environmental-health/animals-and-pests/dog-management-pspo>

## **CONTACTS**

### **ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL – COUNCILLORS**

- **John Cook** (07803 230702)  
Farhill House, Milken Lane, Ashover S45 0BB
- **James Daykin** (07791 340214)  
Eastwood Cottage, Ashover Road, Littlemoor S45 0BL
- **Steve Dronfield** (01246) 590721  
Willow Tree Farm, Hunger Hill Lane, Stonedge S45 0LP
- **Rosemary Early** (01246) 590738  
Lexley Gables, Hockley Lane, Ashover S45 0ER
- **Richard Fidler** (01246) 590155 (**Vice-Chairman**)  
Porthlea, Alton Lane, Littlemoor S45 0BE
- **Edward Hayward** (07793 407911)  
62 Malthouse Lane, Ashover S45 0AL
- **Lucy Hunter-Bott** (07976 733607)  
Old Bank House, Butts Road, Ashover S45 0AX
- **Mike Thomas** (07885 201296)  
Touchstone, Chapel Hill, Ashover S45 0AT
- **Ed Willmot** (01246) 590260 (**Chairman**)  
The Pines, Hill Road, Ashover S45 0BZ
- Vacancy

#### **Parish Clerk**

- Parish Clerk/Burial Clerk: Sara Atkinson  
Tel (01246) 863018  
E-Mail [parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk)  
Sports Pavilion, Milken Lane, Ashover S45 0BA

#### **District and County Councillors**

- **North East Derbyshire District Councillor – Helen Wetherall** (07429 365009)  
Woodside, Ashover Road, Ashover S45 0EU
- **Derbyshire County Councillor – Barry Lewis** (01773) 830871  
2 King George St, Wessington S55 6DZ

#### **USEFUL CONTACT NUMBERS**

**Derbyshire County Council** – 01629 580000 or 01629 533190

**North East Derbyshire District Council** - 01246 231111

**Police – NON-URGENT** calls to report crime, anti-social behaviour, non-violent crime or general information: 101 **Please note:** You **MUST** continue to use 999 where a crime is in progress, for serious crime or where violence is being used.

**Citizens Advice** – Providing consumer advice, free of charge, on a range of issues or complaints.  
Website: [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk) Tel. 08454 040506

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