

ASH NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2020

Editor: Caz Halfhide email: ashnewsletter@aol.com

***WISHING EVERYONE A
HAPPY, HEALTHY & PROSPEROUS 2020***

***THANK YOU to all those who distribute
the Ash Newsletter each month:***

Rosemary Gay, Tony Makin, Nova Witcombe, Sandra Parrott, Clive Jones, Nicky Vaughan, Christine Cook, Joyce Humphrey, Brenda Lyndsay, Sheelagh Pullen, Heather Luders, Sasha Beckey, Debbie Vickery and the late Steve Vickery.

ASH CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Our thanks to everyone who donated, organized, participated and supported our Christmas Fayre. Raising, after costs, an incredible £1441.82 for Church Funds.

MAIN RAFFLE PRIZE WINNERS

Hamper – Julian Stubbs, Meat Voucher – Thomas Pitman

A MESSAGE FROM THE BENEFICE

Hello!

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The question we all ask ourselves is this: “What will a New Year bring?”

Will it be more of the same?

What can I change?

Will I win the Lottery (assuming you do it!)?

How will my health be at the end of the year?

You will, no doubt, have your own questions. All of it is speculation after all. We can none of us predict the future, we can only claim the present day and live it to the full.

Jesus says this in Matthew chapter 6 verse 34:

“Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of it’s own.”

So let’s suppose that each new day is like the first page of an exercise book, just waiting to be written on. The pen moves, we concentrate hard but despite our best efforts, there’s a smudge! We can’t disguise it – we can’t erase it.

Do you know that’s the most wonderful thing about Jesus. If we tell Him we love Him and want to turn our lives around, He gives us that first page of the exercise book everyday – clean and fresh!

So take a moment or two at the beginning of this New Year to become a follower of Jesus. Experience for yourselves, joy, forgiveness and unending love.

“Lord Jesus at the start of this New Year, I invite you to come into my life. I acknowledge my mistakes; I want to turn my life around and be loved and accepted by You. Come Lord Jesus. Amen.”

With love in Him who first loved us.

Denise Peacock

Lay Reader

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.ashpcsomerset.com

EVENTS

BRIAN MASTERS



AT THE BELL INN

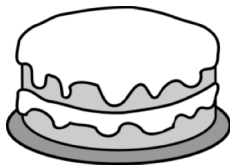
SUNDAY 12TH JANUARY 2020
7.15PM

ENTRY £1.00 PER PERSON ~ MAX 6 PER TEAM

PRIZE MONEY

*LAST MONTHS RAFFLE RAISED £56.00 IN AID OF
ST GILES ANIMAL RESCUE*

HOLY TRINITY CHURCH, ASH



COFFEE N' CHAT!
ASH PAVILION
Every Wednesday
10am - 11.30am
ALL WELCOME



*A BIG 'THANK YOU' TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE TO
AND CONTINUE TO SUPPORT COFFEE 'N' CHAT*



THANK YOU

Gordon Maynard passed away on November 17th at the age of 94.

He was probably the oldest resident of Ash, who was actually born in the village.

Born in a downstairs room at Stone Farm in 1925, Gordon attended Ash school and left at the age of 14 to work on the farm with his father.

In 2013 he wrote a book, detailing one hundred years of history of life on the farm, while the Maynard family have been there (1912 -2012). Many people in the village have a copy or have read it.

Gordon over the years had been an Ash Parish Councillor, Stanchester School Governor and a member of the Gideons. He was a gifted musician and singer and performed for many years with the South Petherton Choral Arts Society.

At one time he knew every villager in Ash.

He was a member of Martock Christian Fellowship all of his life and involved in Christian work, both in this country and abroad.

A large number of people attended his Thanksgiving service, including many from Ash and donations given in Gordon`s memory, amounted to **£775**. This money will be given to the 2 charities that Gordon had chosen.

The Maynard family would like to thank all those who have sent cards and messages of sympathy.

A HUGE THANK YOU TO CHRIS DAVIES FOR CALLING AT THE 'CRIMBO BINGO', AND TO EVERYONE WHO SUPPORTED IT RAISING **£519.00 FOR VILLAGE HALL FUNDS**

THE BELL INN AND ASH W.I WOULD LIKE TO THANK EVERYONE WHO CAME AND SUPPORTED CAROL SINGING AT THE BELL ON 20TH DECEMBER. A TOTAL OF **£82 WAS COLLECTED AND DONATED TO VILLAGE HALL FUNDS**

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

ASH W.I.

Members gathered at The Bell for our Christmas meal. The room was beautifully decorated with a very pretty tree, festive garlands, lots of twinkling lights, and on each table, there were white and gold crackers to pull. There was much laughter as Members donned their paper crowns and read out the jokes. Then it was time for food! The main courses were very tasty, the desserts delicious. (As we had all made menu choices several weeks ago, some of us were very grateful to receive a hand-written reminder of our order!)

After our meal, there was a *slight* fall on the chatter and laughter front.... Members were curious to discover what the entertainment might be. The mystery was soon solved when Elvis impersonator Barry Paull strode up to the microphone. He sang many of the early hits including: Can't stop loving you, Hound dog, Suspicious Minds and soon had lots of us up and dancing enthusiastically. Others were joining in with the songs and quite a few even remembered the hand jive!

The performance drew to a close with numbers such as: D'ya ever (get one of those days) and Wooden Heart, and finally, a rousing rendition of Sweet Caroline. (O.K., so that's one of Neil Diamond's greatest hits, but we sang it anyway!)

To complete our festivities, there was coffee or tea and mince pies, Secret Santa gifts and special raffle prizes.

A really good evening and many thanks to all involved in its organisation.

You are welcome to join us on **January 13th** at 8 pm in the Village Hall, when our speaker, Carolyn Ellis, will talk about working with the body.



NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE



SERVICES AT HOLY TRINITY, ASH JANUARY 2020

5 TH JANUARY	11.15am	Morning Prayer
12 TH JANUARY	<i>NO SERVICE</i>	
19 TH JANUARY	11.15am	Holy Communion
26 TH JANUARY	11.15am	Holy Communion

VISIT THE BENEFICE FACEBOOK PAGE
Churches of Martock, Kingsbury Episcopi and
Ash, Somerset

Ash Parish Defibrillator Fund



Donation stations:-

- Online at www.gofundme.com and search for Ash Defibrillator fund
- In the pot at The Bell Inn, Main Street, Ash
- Handed to the Parish Clerk at the Pavilion on a Monday from 1.30pm to 5.00pm
- Handed to a Parish Councillor (addresses on village website)

WHILST WE HAVE NOW RAISED ENOUGH FUNDS TO PURCHASE ONE DEFIBRILLATOR AND HAVE BEEN GENEROUSLY DONATED A SECOND (PLEASE SEE ITEM 12 IN THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES), WE WOULD STILL LIKE TO RAISE FUNDS TO CONSIDER FURTHER DEFIBRILLATORS FOR WITCOMBE & MILTON AND TO COVER ONGOING MAINTENANCE AND POSSIBLE REPLENISHMENT COSTS

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL – Monday 2nd December 2019, Ash Pavilion at 7.30pm

19.30 Meeting opened

1	<p>Attendance and to receive apologies for absence. Present: Jack Parker (Chair), Antoinette Groves (AG), Gayle Defries (GD), Nick Bluck (NB), Jonathan Mock (JM), Hugh Thomson (HT). In attendance: Julie Ferguson (Clerk), 3 members of the public. Apologies received and accepted: Neil Bloomfield (County & District Councillor).</p>
2	<p>Declarations of Interest. JP declared an interest in Item 7b. JM declared an interest in Item 11a.</p>
3	<p>To consider approval of the Minutes of the previous meeting. The minutes were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting held.</p>
4	<p>Matters to report from previous meetings. AG said she was waiting to hear back from the residents agreeing to double yellow lines being placed on Witcombe Lane, along the pavement outside ‘Fairlawn’, to prevent the lane becoming blocked from double parking & further damage to the pavement. She asked that the Clerk contact County Highways to request a drain which was needed on the corner of Witcombe Lane, and repairs to the road, curb and pavement from subsidence. <i>ACTION: Clerk</i> After not hearing back from the SSDC duty planner, the PC requested that the Clerk contact the Conservation Officer regarding the replacement windows fitted at 5 Main Street, Ash. <i>ACTION: Clerk</i> JM & JP reported that the presentation equipment had been purchased & installed and would be put to good use later in the meeting.</p>
5	<p>District and County Councillor reports Cllr Bloomfield was not present but the Clerk had received a brief report. The Coat Road planning had been refused but was due to go to Regulation Committee possibly on the 17th Dec 2019. The County Council & Police will not support an AutoSpeedWatch device. The Christmas tree was going up on Fri 6th Dec.</p>
6	<p>Correspondence The following items of correspondence were presented:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Email response from the owner of Ash House apologising for allowing the hedge to obstruct the pavement & agreeing to have it cut back. - Email response from Somerset Highways agreeing to fill the 2 existing grit bins in the village.

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

7	<p>Planning</p> <p>a) Decisions reported. Noted.</p> <p>b) 19/03129/HOU – The erection of a first-floor side extension & replacement porch, 29 Back Street, Ash. This application was not on the agenda as it had been received after the agenda was published. RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to support the application with no comments.</p> <p>c) Appeal in respect of application decision reference 19/00064/FUL – The erection of 120 homes, Land south of Coat Road, Martock. HT reported that the deadline was the following day for the public enquiry, therefore a letter against the application from the PC would need to be sent that evening. RESOLVED: It was proposed & agreed that HT draft and send a letter on behalf of Ash PC against the appeal in respect of planning application decision 19/00064/FUL.</p>
8	<p>Environment</p> <p>a. Parish Ranger. A new Ranger had worked in the village last month, however it was felt that SSDC should affect a handover between the outgoing & incoming Ranger, as AG had to spend a considerable amount of time explaining where everything was. It was reported that the footpath on Burrough Street, under the large oak trees was slippery & generally leaves around the village needed to be tidied. If the Ranger was not able to spray the footpath, there would need to be a request to SSDC. Further work for the Ranger to be identified to AG before the next visit.</p>
9	<p>The recreation ground and play area</p> <p>The Clerk reported back that the playground inspection was due to be carried out in Jan 2020.</p>
10	<p>Highways</p> <p>AG requested that another grit bin be purchased and installed in Ash Village Hall car park. RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to allow expenditure of up to £100 for the purchase of a grit bin (Budget line – Environment).</p>
11	<p>The Pavilion</p> <p>a. Approach road repairs. GD had obtained 3 quotes and was now looking for timescales & a window in which the repairs could be carried out. She was also waiting upon receipt of a formal statement from Yarlinton of their agreement to pay 50% of the cost. RESOLVED: It was agreed to incur expenditure up to £1500 on the Pavilion approach road repairs (Budget line – Environment). <i>ACTION: G Defries</i></p> <p>b. Vacancies and upkeep/maintenance report. Problems closing the fire door were being reported. JM suggested that perhaps the fire door shouldn't be used for general access. It was felt, however that the door needed to be considered for replacement.</p> <p>c. An apple TV had been purchased at a cost of £53 and the presentation facility was demonstrated as working successfully.</p>

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

12	<p>Village defibrillator</p> <p>GD handed £122.29 in cash from the collection pot in the Bell Pub along with a cheque for £250. As the target had now been reached, the purchase could go ahead. RESOLVED: It was agreed to purchase a defibrillator from British Heart Foundation for £600 and separately purchase a suitable cabinet, and for the defibrillator to be installed in the Pavilion.</p> <p>GD reported that she was going to write to the Plymouth Brethren Yeovil Rapid Relief Team, thanking them for their kind donation of a defibrillator. She would arrange for this 2nd defibrillator to be located in the village hall, subject to permission being granted by the trustees.</p> <p>Although not required specifically for defibrillator use, GD explained that she was looking into emergency first aid training including CardioPulmonary Resuscitation (CPR) and would report back, with costs at a future meeting.</p> <p style="text-align: right;"><i>ACTION: G Defries</i></p> <p>JP thanked GD for her substantial efforts in fundraising & securing 2 defibrillators for the Parish, which would be valuable assets to the village for years to come.</p>
13	<p>VE Day celebrations</p> <p>AG reported that plans were ongoing with a request to help with funding to be reported in Item 14d.</p>
15	<p>Cemetery and churchyard</p> <p>After going through the paperwork relating to the Cemetery, HT explained that the land had been granted to the PC by the Duchy of Cornwall. In his opinion, there was enough information available in the files to go ahead with the Cemetery extension, despite the unregistered state of the land. It was suggested and agreed that interested members of the PC would meet up at the Cemetery to establish the extent of the land, with the plans available.</p> <p>HT & NB further reported that they needed a 3rd comparative quote for the wall repair. JP said he would endeavour to obtain a quote.</p> <p><i>ACTION: HT, NB JP</i></p> <p>The Clerk reported that the burial of Walter Gordon Maynard had taken place that day, 2nd Dec 2019, the Exclusive Rights of Burial was already held by the family for a double depth plot.</p>
16	<p>Accounts</p> <p>a. Financial report. The Clerk still needed to arrange for the mandate to be completed before she had access to the accounts. She would ensure it was sorted out before the next meeting. <i>ACTION: Clerk</i></p> <p>b. Payments for authorisation. RESOLVED: It was proposed and unanimously agreed to approve the following payments:</p>

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

ASH Parish Council - payments for authorisation sheet DECEMBER 2nd 2019

<i>raised at this meeting</i>					
<i>CQ No.</i>	<i>Payee</i>	<i>Re</i>	<i>amount</i>		
43	H Moore	Final salary & expenses payment	£ 123.94		
44	PG Fire & Security	Alarm maintenance	£ 48.60		
45	HMRC	PAYE Nov 19	£ 132.00		
46	J Ferguson	Salary & expenses Nov 19	£ 528.80		
TOTAL			£ 833.34		

c. To consider the approval of the draft budget for financial year 2020-21. JP presented the draft budget as circulated previously & asked all councillors to consider their areas of allocated responsibility in readiness for agreement at the next meeting, where the Precept would need to be agreed.

AG asked the PC to consider expenditure of £200 for fabric for bunting as part of the VE Day celebrations. It was agreed that this could be an asset to the village as it could potentially be hired out in the future. AG also asked if the PC would underwrite the deposit of £120 in order to secure a booking for 'The Air Raid Sirens', a 40's style singing duo, in the event that they had to be cancelled at short notice. **RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to incur expenditure of £200 on village bunting & underwrite the deposit for the entertainment (Budget line – VE Day).**

17	Date of next meeting. Monday 6 th January 2020. Further meetings will be called as necessary.
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21.37 Meeting closed

PUBLIC SESSION

There was nothing further discussed at this time.

VISIT THE VILLAGE WEBSITE
www.ashpcsomerset.com

NEWS FROM AROUND THE VILLAGE

Coat Road development has been approved by South Somerset District Council

Some of you may have already heard that last Tuesday 17 December 2019 the Regulation Committee of South Somerset District Council approved the Barratt Homes planning application to build 120 homes on a site by Coat Road, Martock. The decision by District Councillors to approve the application was not unanimous however, but was passed by a majority only.

On the face of it this means that Barratt Homes can now proceed with the development. It is possible that the Regulation Committee's decision may be the subject of an appeal but we won't know whether this is going to be the case for at least a few weeks.

Martock Parish Council and Ash Parish Council have consistently opposed the Coat Road development. Both Parish Councils believe that the local infrastructure simply will not support the construction of this many homes on the Coat Road site.

We would like to thank everyone who got involved in this campaign. Whether you wrote to the District Council, attended public meetings or simply alerted friends or family many thanks and well done.

Although (so far) we've been unsuccessful, its good to see local people working so well together.

As and when there is any further significant news we will let you know.

ASH PARISH COUNCIL
19 December 2019

Dog Owners of Ash (and others who walk their dogs in our Parish)

Our thanks to the vast majority of responsible owners, who cleaned up after their animals throughout 2019. To the others – and the problem seems sadly to be on the increase – PLEASE watch your dog - you do know when it's likely to perform - and start Bagging and Binning (no bags in the bushes). Not only is it an offence to allow your dog to foul footpaths, it is also disrespectful to the landowners who allow us to exercise our dogs on the land from which they make their living.

Go on, do the decent thing – it really isn't difficult

J Parker
Chair, Ash Parish Council

THE PAVILION

Please be advised that from the 1st January 2020 hourly hire rate for the Pavilion will be increasing from £4.00 to £5.00 per hour to help meet its ever-increasing running and maintenance costs.

The Parish Council hopes you will continue to support the hiring of this low cost community facility which we would like to improve and update. We would welcome any ideas and suggestions you might have for making it more friendly and appealing for new and existing hirers.

Please contact Cllr. Jonathan Mock by email jonathan.mock@ashpcsomerset.com or phone 07484 701140 if you wish to discuss the increase in the hiring rate or any suggestions you have for the Pavilion's improvement.

ASH SCHOOL

On Thursday 5th December when we had our official opening of the access to the village hall. We showed our thanks by having a special cutting of the ribbon and also joined with people from the village to express our gratitude for their support. We particularly wish to thank the Amigo Trust for their generous support in helping us bring the efforts to fruition along with the Parish Council, the Diocese and the Village Hall who have all contributed funds to support this project.



ASH SCHOOL

The opening of the access was followed by a two Christmas lunch that was attended by members of the village & served by pupils of the school.



ASH GARDENING CLUB

Our next meeting will be on **Monday 27th January**, where our guest speaker will be Katherine Crouch talking about her 'Chelsea Experience'

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR REFUSE COLLECTIONS

When are my bins collected?

Festive waste collections will be two days later after Christmas, including Friday collections on Sunday, and one day later after New Year.

Usual day	Revised day
Mon 23 Dec	No change
Tues 24 Dec	No change
Wed 25 Dec	Fri 27 Dec
Thurs 26 Dec	Sat 28 Dec
Fri 27 Dec	Sun 29 Dec
Mon 30 Dec	No change
Tues 31 Dec	No change
Wed 1 Jan	Thurs 2 Jan
Thurs 2 Jan	Fri 3 Jan
Fri 3 Jan	Sat 4 Jan
Mon 6 Jan	No change

There will be no garden waste collections from 23 December to 3 January. Normal service will resume on 6 January.

CHRISTMAS TREE RECYCLING

Start the New Year off sustainable by recycling your tree into mulch for free!

Bare (free of ornaments, metal, strands), real trees of all shapes and sizes accepted.

Drop off at the Recreation Ground Car Park (in the designated area only please) before 13th January 2010.

EVENTS & CONTACT NUMBERS

HOLY TRINITY, ASH – CONTACT INFORMATION

For general enquiries and information & bookings about weddings or baptisms, please contact the Benefice Office on 01935 826113 or email benefice.martock@gmail.com or pop in at The Vicarage, 10 Water Street, Martock TA12 6JN on Wednesdays 10am to 4pm, Thursdays 2.30pm to 6.30pm or Fridays 10am to 2pm and speak to Sarah Nicholas, our Benefice Administrator who can help or guide you towards someone who can!

YOGA CLASSES

EVERY WEDNESDAY 2.00PM – 3.00PM

ASH VILLAGE HALL

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT:

MARGARET NORRIS: 01935 824737

ASH PAVILION & RECREATION GROUND

For Bookings & Enquiries, please contact Cllr Jonathan Mock, by telephone on 07484 701140 or 01935 826363 or by email: Jonathan.Mock@ashpcsomerset.com

ASH VILLAGE HALL

Registered Charity No: 304466

AVAILABLE FOR HIRE

DETAILS & BOOKINGS

BECKY WHITE

TEL: 01935 825343 (EVENINGS ONLY)

EMAIL: martinwhiteok@hotmail.com