

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

NOTICE BOARD May 2022

Editor: Antoinette Groves

email: ashalertemails@gmail.com

Election of Parish Councillors ASH PARISH COUNCIL

Because candidates standing were less than the number of seats available, the vote was uncontested and no poll taken and those who were nominated are “duly elected” unopposed. The candidates who have been duly elected to the Ash Parish Council on 5th May 2022 were Steve Davey, Henry Thomas Guy and Caz Halfhide.

At the Parish Council meeting on 9th May Cllr Davey was re-elected as Chair and Cllr Halfhide as Vice Chair. At the same meeting, Tim Groves, Lesley Andrew and Antoinette Groves were co-opted onto the council.

There is still one vacancy on the Council which will be filled through co-option. Anyone interested in being considered for the vacancy and who would like to find out more, please contact either the Chairman, Steve Davey chair@ashpcsomerset.com or the Clerk, Julie Ferguson clerk@ashpcsomerset.com



Join The Ash Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations
PROGRAMME FOR JUNE 2nd – 5th
Free Admission. All Timings are Approximate

Thursday 2nd June, The Bell Inn, Main Street Ash

7. 30 The Enigma Morris Dancers to kick off the celebrations in the car park of the Bell Inn.

9.30 The Ash Bell ringers will ring to mark the occasion.

9.30 Jubilee Beacon/Bonfire lighting in the field at the rear of The Bell Inn car park.

Saturday 4th June, Ash Recreation Ground

**** please don't drive unless necessary as parking will be limited**

A family friendly afternoon filled with activities, food, drink games and more. Bouncy castle (for children and adults). 28ft Fun Inflatable Run. Soft Toy play area for Babies and toddlers, Beat the Goalie and Live Music.

A bar and BBQ will be available (Supplied by The Bell Inn). Payment for food & refreshments by cash.

** Judges will visit houses entered for the Best Dressed Royal Themed House Competition. Judging will commence at 10.30am on 4th June. Please make sure you have your entry form in by 12.00 noon on Friday 3rd June.

12.00 Family Picnic. Bring your own picnic, rug, or pop up gazebo, table, and chairs.

13.00 Gymnastics display by the children from the Academy of Artistic Gymnastics (in the event of bad weather this will be held in Ash Village Hall).

13.30 Judging of the Best Crown Children's Entries

13.45 Judging of the Best Crown Adult Entries

14.00 to 15.00 Children's Jubilee Gift distribution

14.00 to 15.00 Live music by Niamh Fletcher

15.00 Tug of War - Battle of the Ash Streets

15.30 Judging of the Best Decorated Cake Adult Entries

15.30 Judging of the Best Decorated Cake Children's Entries

** Please make sure your cake entries are in the pavilion by 15.00

16.00 Family Rounders

17.30 Competition Winners Announced

(Best Cake Decorating, Best Crowns and Best Dressed Royal Themed House)

18.00 Live Music, with Ninth Life

20.00 Close

Sunday 5th June, A Street Near You

Starting at 12.00 join a street party near you for The Ash Big Jubilee Lunch. Share friendship, fun, food and drinks with your neighbours.

Bring your own picnic, drinks, table and chairs.

Please contact your street co-ordinator for more information. Burrough Street = Jackie Giles, Back Street = Jack Parker, Martock Lane = Tim Groves, The Bell Inn Car Park = Caz.

From 12.00 a number of tables will be available at The Bell Inn Street Party held in The Bell Inn car park for residents wishing to take part but lacking a safe space. You are welcome to bring your own food and drink. Call Caz 01935 822727 to book a table in the car park.

How to enter the Jubilee Competitions:

Platinum Jubilee Cake Decorating Competition

There will be a Children's and an Adult Class

Please take your cakes to the Ash Pavilion between 12.00 and 15.00 on Saturday 4th June to register your entry. Judging will take place at 15.30.

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the children's class and a 1st prize in the adult class.

Winners will be announced at 17.30 on Saturday 4th June at the Ash Recreation Ground.

Best Crown Making Competition

There will be a Children's and an Adult Class

There will be a 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize in the children's class and a 1st prize in the adult class.

Judging to take place at 13.30 on Saturday 4th June at Ash Recreation Ground.

Winners will be announced at 17.30 on Saturday 4th June at the Ash Recreation Ground.

Best Dressed Royal Themed House

There will be a 1st Prize

Judges will visit houses entered for the Best Dressed House Competition and judging will commence at 10.30am on 4th June. Please make sure you have your entry in by 12.00 noon on Friday 3rd June.

Winners will be announced at 17.30 on Saturday 4th June at the Ash Recreation Ground.

Best Dressed Royal Themed House Competition Entry Form:

NAME:

ADDRESS:

TELEPHONE NO:

EMAIL:

ENTRY FORMS MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 12.00 NOON ON FRIDAY 3rd JUNE – VIA email to ashalertemails@gmail.com OR into the Parish Councils post box on the wall of the Pavilion.



CHILDREN'S CELEBRATION GIFT

**Can be collected on Saturday 4th June, between 15.00 and 17.00
at Ash Recreation Ground
It's Not too Late to Apply!**

The Parish Council are planning to give each child in the parish under the age of 16 a celebration gift as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. Please apply for your child's gift as soon as possible with the number of children in your household, their names, ages, and your address so that we can make sure they receive their gift. You can email the information to ashalertemails@gmail.com or pop a note into the Parish Council's post box on the wall of the pavilion.

Please don't delay, apply today, we don't want any child to be missed!

ASH ALERT EMAILS

The Ash Alert Email system was set up by the Parish Council to keep residents informed in a more timely fashion about Parish Council matters and other activities and events going on in the village. Signing up now is even more important in these times of change to make sure you are kept informed.

If you haven't already done so, why not opt-in now to Ash Alert Emails. To do so, please send your Name, Email Address, Postal Address and phone number to the Parish Council at ashalertemails@gmail.com and ask to be added to the Ash Alert Emails list.

Data protection regulations came into force two years ago which the Parish Council fully complies with. Your email address and other contact details will always be kept safe and will never be shared with any third party nor will they be visible to other recipients of Ash Alert Emails.

You can unsubscribe at any time if you no longer wish to receive them.

NEWS FROM ASH PLAYGROUND

Installation of the new play equipment is currently scheduled to start on the 13th June. During installation, the play area will be locked, and some vehicles will need to be driven across the playing fields to get to the play area. The installation should take a matter of weeks. Please take extra care in and around the recreation grounds during the installation.

OVERGROWN VEGETATION

When hedges tree or shrub overhangs the highway, pedestrians can injure themselves from the impact with the vegetation and alternatively, pedestrians can be forced towards the carriageway, which can result in an increased risk of an accident. Responsibility for cutting back vegetation lies with the landowners or occupiers of their boundary fronting the highway. The Parish Council's responsibility is to report such matters to Somerset Highways.

Please can you check if any of your boundaries with the highway has offending growth and, if it has, make arrangements to remove any overgrown vegetation. Landowners must also remove any debris from the road surface to prevent nuisance and to stop it blocking surface water drainage systems.

Thank you

ARE YOU HOSTING UKRAINIAN REFUGEES?

A parishioner who has registered to host Ukraine Refugees at her home, has asked to reach out to see if there is anyone else who is also offering shelter, who would like to be introduced to her in order to compare notes and information, and ultimately to put the sheltered refugees in touch with each other.

If you would like to be put in touch, please email chair@ashpcsomerset.com

JOIN YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM FOR A CHAT

Drop in and speak to officers from Somerton Neighbourhood Policing team.

Whether you want advice on how to protect your belongings, more information about the work they are doing in your area, or you want to raise a concern about an issue in your community, your Neighbourhood Policing team will be on-hand to help.

Saturday 18/06/2022 10:00-12:00

Location: Moorlands Park Shopping Centre, Martock For more information, please visit www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area

STAY IN THE LOOP

Quick and easy ways to get news and information from **ASH PARISH COUNCIL**

WEBSITE visit www.ashpcsomerset.com

ASH ALERT EMAILS sign up to receive Ash Alerts at ashalertemails@gmail.com

FACEBOOK follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/Ash-Alerts-104800641092793/>

Clerk to Ash Parish Council Julie Ferguson. Chilthorne Knapp, Chilthorne Domer, Yeovil, BA22 8QZ. Tel: 07783 475200 E-mail: clerk@ashpcsomerset.com

GAYLE'S LONDON MARATHON 2022 CHALLENGE

Dear Parishioners,

So at the grand old age of nearly 45 I have taken up the challenge to run 26.2 miles of the London Marathon! I have been amazingly fortunate to receive a place to run for Crohn's and Colitis UK. Right now over 500,000 people in the UK are living with this lifelong disease and fighting Crohn's, Ulcerative Colitis and other forms of Inflammatory Bowel Disease. This affects all people of all ages and the more people I tell I'm running for this amazing charity the more people say they have a friend/family/colleague who are suffering. So I'm reaching out with the inevitable just giving page for any donation you can give

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/gayledefries> or there is an official collection pot with Caz in The Bell. Whether it's the price of your daily cup of coffee and piece of cake or your guilty pleasure of a Friday night takeaway or even more, every penny to help me raise the £2,500 sponsorship is most gratefully received. Any offers to help me train on the long and lonely runs or a beep beep of support if you see me running on your travels also very welcome! Thanks all xx

Gayle Defries

A fellow Ash Resident

Draft Minutes and Post Meeting Notes of Ash Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 9 May 2022 at 19:30hrs

Present – Councillors (Cllrs) Steve Davey (Chair), Caz Halfhide, Henry Guy

In attendance:

J Ferguson – Clerk, 7 members of the public.

County & District Councillors Reports.

None.

Public Open Session

There was a request from a member of Ash Gardening Club (no longer running) to site a memorial bench outside the Pavilion. The Parish Council agreed that a suitable location could be found.

19:40 – Meeting opened

Declarations of Acceptance of Office had been signed by all elected councillors prior to the start of the meeting.

22/18 Election of Chair

RESOLVED: Cllr Davey was proposed, seconded & duly elected as Chair.

22/19 Election of Vice-Chair

RESOLVED: Cllr Halfhide was proposed, seconded & duly elected as Vice-Chair.

22/20 Apologies for absence

District Councillor Neil Bloomfield had sent his apologies.

22/21 Declarations of interests

None.

22/22 To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting held on 4th April 2022 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting held.

22/23 Co-option of members to the Parish Council

RESOLVED: Lesley Andrew was proposed, seconded & co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

RESOLVED: Antoinette Groves was proposed, seconded & co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

RESOLVED: Timothy Groves was proposed, seconded & co-opted onto the Parish Council. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office was signed.

22/24 Appoint Parish Council responsibilities

Councillor responsibilities were appointed as follows:

Cllr Andrew – Environment Champion, trees, village hall liaison

Cllr Davey – Millennium wood, trees, school liaison, cemetery & churchyard.

Cllr A Groves – Grass cutting & ground maintenance, ranger, highways (inc. Speedwatch, village car park, Streetscene), website & IT, pavilion committee

Cllr T Groves – Grass cutting & ground maintenance, pavilion committee, planning

Cllr Guy – Recreation ground & playground

Cllr Halfhide – Finance, budget, pavilion committee, village hall liaison

22/25 Planning decisions report – 21/02312/LBC, Lower Witcombe Farm, Witcombe Lane, Ash. Alterations to roof and openings of existing garage. Approved.

22/26 Planning applications - 22/00915/HOU. 31 Main Street, Ash. Demolition of existing rear single storey extension and erection of a single storey extension.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council agreed to SUPPORT the application.

22/27 Finance – To approve the following payments:

Clerk's gross salary and expenses	£1097.74
Andy Rogers Ltd – Gates for MW	£930.00
Online Playgrounds – new swings	£424.00
A Groves – Reimburse Bluehost (website domain)	£17.44
A Groves – Reimburse Jubilee costs	£519.17
SSDC – Ranger (1/2 day)	£93.10
G Defries – donation for Crohn's & Colitis UK	£50.00
SALC – Year end training	£30.00
Pinnacle Accountancy – Payroll & Yr end	£92.40

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve all payments.

ACTION: Parish Clerk & 2 Cllrs

22/28 finance – To note receipt of the precept

Noted.

22/29 Finance – To agree to amend and adopt the Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Financial Regulations with adjustments to some spending authority limits as follows:

11. h); where the value is below £5000 and above £1000 the clerk or RFO shall strive to obtain 3 quotes....

A further point of clarification was required relating to having a committee which comprises of all members of the PC in order to exercise budgetary control as prescribed in section 4.1 for items over £1000 up to £5000.

The clerk did not feel that this would be correct use of a committee, but agreed to contact SALC for clarification.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

22/30 Finance – To receive and note the Annual Internal Audit Report

The Internal audit report had not been received, so this was deferred until the next meeting.

22/31 Finance – To approve AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the AGAR Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2021-22.

22/32 Finance – To approve AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the AGAR Section 2 – Accounting Statements 2021-22.

22/33 Finance – To announce and note the period for the exercise of public rights (to include the first 10 working days of July)

Noted.

ACTION: Parish Clerk

22/34 Parish Council Matters – To adopt the Standing Orders

Cllr Davey asked for changes to Section 15. Proper Officer to allow the proper officer to be any member of the PC, not necessarily a staff member. The clerk advised that this was not necessary as any member of the PC is allowed to take the minutes should the clerk be unwell, after having had this clarified earlier in the year by SALC.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Standing Orders.

POST MEETING NOTE – The Chair was unsatisfied with the explanation relating to the amendment to the Standing Orders and felt that the vote did not follow proper procedure. This item will be on the next agenda for discussion and resolution.

22/35 Parish Council Matters – To adopt the Code of Conduct

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to adopt the Code of Conduct.

22/36 Parish Council Matters – To approve the asset register

It was agreed that an audit needed to be carried out on the village assets, primarily the location of all assets & full contents check of the pavilion building & shed.

RESOLVED: It was unanimously agreed to approve the asset register.

ACTION: Cllrs Guy, Davey & A Groves

22/37 Parish Council Matters – To agree that members not present can sign the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before the next Parish Council meeting

All elected members were present and had signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office.

22/38 Parish Council Matters – To adopt a Code of Conduct for the Village Car Park (based on the Primary School code)

It was agreed to allow Ash Primary School the authority to apply their Code of Conduct in the village car park, to include sanctions which may ban parents from using the car park under certain circumstances.

ACTION: Cllr Davey

22/39 Parish Matters – Request for use of Cemetery water source

It was agreed to allow a neighbouring tenant farmer to use the water supply in the cemetery, which was paid for by the parish council.

POST MEETING NOTE – Some members of the PC thought that a 365 year agreement had been discussed, this was not agreed at the time therefore this will be on the next agenda for further discussion.

22/40 Pavilion, Recreation Area and Playground – Progress report

Cllr Guy reported that the new equipment was due to be installed starting on the 6th June 2022.

22/41 Date of next meeting – 6th June 2022.

21:30 - Meeting closed

After the meeting, the Chair read out a statement thanking the councillors who had not stood in the recent election.

On behalf of the Parish Council I would like to thank the following Councillors who have decided not to stand again for this next term, for all of their hard work over the past few years.

Being a Parish Councillor is about more than just turning up for the odd meeting. It involves a terrific amount of work, experience and knowledge behind the scenes as well.

Jonathan Mock, Nick Bluck and Roger Coombes have put in many years of service for this Parish, which has included countless hours of voluntary work behind the scenes doing everything from mending fences, removing fallen trees and even erecting the village Christmas tree. I am sure that they will continue to be of service to the Parish – even if they are no longer on the Parish Council.

Being on the Parish Council is often a thankless task: you often are more likely to get derision and suspicion than appreciation, yet councillors are not paid, and their contributions both save the Parish money and makes the Parish a better place to live.

I would like to slightly redress this thanklessness: Roger, Jonathan and Nick - on behalf of all of us - thank you for all of your hard work!