



ASH PARISH COUNCIL



NOTICE BOARD

November 2024

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REMEMBERING



ARTHUR BECKEY 1891-1916
ROBERT GUNDRY HODGES 1880-1918
LEONARD THOMAS BUSH 1919-1944
FREDERICK STACEY 1904-1943
WILLIAM ERNEST WORNER 1923-1944

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning
We will remember them.

BY LAURENCE BINYON

CODE OF CONDUCT FOR THE PARISH COUNCIL'S OPEN SPACES

We're committed to making Millennium Wood and the Recreation Ground enjoyable and safe places for everyone in the community. To support this, we are installing new signs to remind visitors of the code of conduct for these open spaces. This includes a request for dog walkers to keep their dogs "Under Close Control."

- ❖ Please ensure your dog is trained in basic recall. If not, please keep them on a lead at all times.
- ❖ If your dog is off the lead, keep them in sight and under control.
- ❖ Be respectful of other visitors, including those with dogs. If a dog approaching you is on a lead, please put yours on a lead as well. Ask for permission before allowing your dog to approach others.

- ❖ Stay on designated paths to protect valuable ground flora and tree roots.
- ❖ Clean up after your dog and use the bins provided for waste.
- ❖ Provide water for your dog in warm weather.
- ❖ Please take your litter home.

We've set up a dedicated email for parishioners to report any issues encountered on Parish Council land. If you experience anything of concern in Millennium Woods or the Recreation Ground, please contact us at report@ashpcsomerset.com You can also leave a written report in the Parish Council's post box on the pavilion wall next to the defibrillator. Alternatively, reports can be mailed to: Ash Parish Council, The Pavilion, Ash Recreation Ground, Main Street, Ash, Somerset, TA12 6PA Please include as many details as possible.

Thank you for your cooperation and support in keeping our shared spaces safe and enjoyable for everyone.

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

HONOURING OUR COMMUNITY HEROES!

We are proud to announce that two of our dedicated community members, Sally Langdon and Peggy Horwood, have been awarded the Somerset Council Chair's Award for their outstanding contributions to our village.

This award recognizes their commitment and hard work in supporting all aspects of life in Ash. Over the years, Sally and Peggy have given their time and energy to the school, church, village hall, pavilion, village shows, fetes, and much more. Their dedication has made a real difference, helping to make Ash a thriving, welcoming community.

Please join us in celebrating and thanking Sally and Peggy for their years of service. We're grateful for everything they have done to make Ash a better place for everyone. Congratulations!

STAY UPDATED WITH ASH ALERTS!

The Parish Council's Ash Alert Email system keeps residents informed about council matters, events, and village activities.

Let's try to get everyone connected—sign up now!

To join just email your name, email address, postal address, and phone number to ashalertemails@gmail.com and request to be added to the Ash Alert Emails list.

Your privacy is secure: we never share your contact details or make them visible to others, and you're free to unsubscribe at any time if you wish to stop receiving updates.

Please spread the word to neighbours and friends—help keep the whole community informed!

WANT TO HELP NATURE IN ASH?



Why Volunteer?

By volunteering, you can help learn about and improve your local environment, get some regular fresh air and exercise and make new friends. Volunteering can help you gain new skills and experience, improve your mental and physical health and help you to feel more connected with your community.

How can you help?

Volunteers can help us look after the Millennium Wood as well as other sites in Ash. You can help in a number of ways, not all of which involve getting your hands dirty! As a volunteer you can:

- Work on practical nature conservation tasks
- Help to organise and deliver projects
- Propagate trees and plants
- Water new trees
- Contribute to wildlife surveys
- Help look after wildflowers
- Use your agricultural machinery to maintain land and hedges
- Mow paths
- Look after bird boxes and bird feeders
- Dog owner? Help clean up and educate other dog walkers

There will, of course, be lots of other ways you can help, depending on your interests!

Interested in helping nature?

Contact Mick Wooden 07795170271 mickwooden90@hotmail.com

STAY IN THE LOOP

Quick and easy ways to get news and updates from **Ash Parish Council**:

Website: Visit www.ashpcsomerset.com

Ash Alert Emails: Sign up for Ash Alert Emails at ashalertemails@gmail.com

Facebook: Follow us on Facebook: [Ash Alerts](#)

Clerk to Ash Parish Council: Zannette Bougourd 01935 571050 E-mail: clerk@ashpcsomerset.com

 **SAVE THE DATES!** 



**Christmas Tree Lights Switch-On
Friday 6th December 2024 at 6:00PM**

Join us as we gather around the village Christmas tree at the corner of Main Street and Martock Lane for the annual lighting ceremony!

Everyone is welcome to come celebrate the start of the festive season.

 **Special Guest: Santa Claus** 

Warm up with mulled wine and enjoy a mince pie or two!

See you there for some holiday cheer!



GRAND DRAW & ASH CHRISTMAS FAYRE
IN AID OF CHURCH REPAIRS

SATURDAY 14TH DECEMBER 2024
10.30AM

TO BE HELD IN THE BELL INN FUNCTION ROOM

The Grand Draw, with cash prizes will take place.

Christmas Gifts & Treats on Sale

Coffee, Tea & Mince Pies



A Christmas Concert
 featuring
**Somerton
 Concert Band**

Long Sutton Village Hall, Martock Rd, TA10 9NT
 Saturday, 7th December 2024 at 7.30pm

an evening of festive musical entertainment for all the family

- Tickets £7. Under 16s free
- Tickets only available to purchase on the door on the night – doors open at 7.10pm
- Refreshments provided free of charge during the interval

Fancy a go at Morris Dancing?

Dr Turberville's Morris Taster Session:

- Saturday 23rd November
- 2:30-4:00pm

Usual practice Tuesday evenings 8-10

- Ash Village Hall, TA12 6NS
- A brilliantly fun way to socialise and keep fit!

Any questions, email us at:
drturbervilleinfo@gmail.com

All welcome!

Free! Please park at the school!

MARTOCK HISTORY GROUP

2024 – 2025 PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

Excellent value at £10 for the year!

From September to April, we meet at The Princes Room to the rear of The George in Church Street, TA12 6JL. Annual membership is £10, visitors welcome £3 each time.

26th November

Stone Masonry, Stone Carving and Mosaics at Cathedrals and Abbeys” a talk by Nick Durnan, who has spent 45 years working on cathedrals such as Wells, Exeter and Canterbury, he finds any alabaster he needs on the shore at Watchet. Nick Durnan has spent his life so far working on the fabric of old buildings. He runs courses on stone conservation at his workshop in nearby Drayton. His talk is said to be excellent! This talk is delayed from September 2023.

2025

28th January

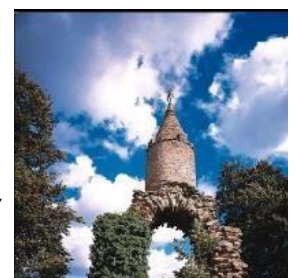
Andy Ziminski on his new book “Church going”, an exploration of our glorious heritage of old churches, from bullet holes in weathervanes to beehives in church walls, Andy has an eye for curious details so many of us miss and a great way of putting it across. He lives in Frome from where he runs Minerva conservation.

25th February

Clive Wakely funeral director. ‘A Life in Death’.

25th March

Joseph Lewis on the Barwick Follies, nationally famous, so completely eccentric and bizarre they have aroused curiosity ever since built in the 1780s.





The Maker's Place is a Community Interest Company and offers craft based therapeutic activities for 14 to 24-year-olds, you can find us listed in the Somerset AP Directory. <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/children-families-and-education/school-life/alternative-provision-directory/>

This small Alternative Provision is situated on Spring Farm in Ash. In a safe, non-judgemental, caring space, we offer craft-based activities for young people who are struggling to access mainstream education. Through working in small groups and 1:1 we offer the opportunity for young people and adults to learn new skills, grow in confidence and participate in meaningful and worthwhile activities that promote wellbeing, resilience and self-esteem.

The Maker's Place can support young people struggling with mainstream education, NEET's, those with an EHCP, and those overcoming isolation and anxiety. Our sessions currently run on Monday afternoons 1:30–4pm and Thursday mornings 9:30am–12pm during term time.

If you know a young person who could benefit from our sessions, please enquiry here www.themakersplace.co.uk under Alternative Provision or call 07598 524336.

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF ASH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 7th October 2024 AT 19.00HRS IN ASH PAVILION

PUBLIC COMMENTS (15 minutes)

Comments noted from members of the public included noise disturbance from agricultural machinery at unsocial hours. A short-lived notice did appear in Millenium Wood asking for dogs to be kept on leads. It was noted that the matter of dog control in Millenium Wood is under consideration and will be developed further in the future with input from the public. Some streetlights are not operating as programmed, no specific addresses were noted.

OUTSIDE REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

◆ Somerset Councillors. Apologies were received from Cllr Emily Pearlstone

It was reported that traffic around Hill View School is increasing, and it is anticipated that this will increase again when the school is at full capacity. The situation will be kept under review. Any incidents should be directed to the Department of Education, not the local authority. Speed Indicator Devices: It was noted that Martock Parish are no longer using any SIDs, a Memorandum of Agreement will need to be agreed with Somerset Council prior to installation and use within Ash. The Parish Ranger is able to locate and relocate the unit as necessary.

Overhanging trees on the road adjacent to the School are being dealt with. There was some discussion regarding the overgrown footpath and the possibility of relocation.

◆ Outside bodies/groups. There were no representatives present.

Present: Cllr S Davey, Chairman, Cllr C Halfhide, Vice Chairman, Cllrs Z England, T Groves, A Britten and L Andrews. Clerk Z Bougourd.

24/111 Apologies for absence: Apologies were received from Cllr A Groves.

24/112 Declarations of interests. There were no declarations of interest noted.

24/113 To APPROVE and sign as a correct record the minutes of the previous meeting held on 2nd September 2024. The minutes were approved and signed.

24/114 Matters to report from a previous meeting.

- SID transfer to Ash Parish from Martock Parish. A letter of thanks will be sent to Martock and request that all relevant equipment be transferred.
- Millenium Wood – dog control. Cllr Davey will meet with the manager and discuss possible public participation and relevant questions for survey.
- It was noted that public complaints should be dated, logged and retained for reference.
- Meadow area in Millenium Wood, it was agreed to obtain a quote to cut, collect and remove cuttings from the “meadow area” annually.
- Cllr T Groves noted that for good governance a letter should be sent to the Clerk offering that APC make pension contributions for the current Clerk even if not relevant.
- Clerk salary & HMRC return, it was noted that the Clerk does not currently hold the login or HRMC Id in order to complete the HMRC return. Cllr Halfhide will follow this up with Pinnacle Accounting.

24/115 Planning decisions report. No decisions were tabled.

24/116 Planning applications. The application (03/10/24) to replace an external porch at 22 Martock Lane was noted and approved without comment.

24/117 Finance – To APPROVE the payment schedule for October 2024.

24/118 Finance: To approve the Bank reconciliations to date. The Clerk tabled the bank reconciliations for the last six months. Agreed and signed by Cllr Halfhide.

24/119 Finance – to approve the Bank Statements April 2024 – September 2024. Signed by Cllr Halfhide.

24/120 Finance – to consider the External Auditors Report (PKF Littlejohn). The report was tabled and noted. Clerk noted that the internal audit should include a review of policies and procedures, Cllr Halfhide will check with Pinnacle regarding the current process and if there is a contract in place. Clerk recommended using PATAS (Parish And Town Auditing Services) for future internal audits.

24/121 Policies – to adopt the 2024 NALC Financial Regulations. The 2019 Regulations were adopted: **Post meeting note:** The Clerk noted that the 2024 Regulations require

review and will be reviewed by Cllrs Halfhide and Britten and brought back to the PC at a future date.

24/122 Parish Matters– Footbridge closure/update. Cllr Groves noted that the replacement/repairs to the footpath and bridge over the River Yeo, currently closed until 2025, is progressing and awaiting the conclusion of representations from relevant parties. Cllr T Groves will bring further updates as they become available. A query regarding registering footpaths was raised.

24/123 Parish Matters – Pavilion replacement doors/insurance claim. It was agreed to replace the doors with aluminium units, these were considered more durable and value for money in the long term. Proposed Cllr Davey, seconded Cllr Halfhide. Agreed. Cllr Davey will contact the insurers accordingly.

24/124 Parish Council Matters – Domain name, website revisions, hosting, and emails. Cllr T Groves noted that there was no obligation for parishes to change domain hosting to gov.uk. A brief discussion noted that the current PC website is looking a little dated. Matter referred to the next meeting for further discussion.

24/125 Parish Matters – new planters @ Pavilion. After discussion Cllr England offered to donate one stone planter, decisions to purchase other replacement planters was deferred until the relevant season. Cllr T Groves will ask the ranger to remove the current damaged planters.

24/116 Parish Matters – replacement external light at Ash Pavilion. It was agreed to cap expenditure to £450 without further reference to PC. Proposed Cllr Davey, seconded Cllr T Groves. Agreed. Cllr England will progress the matter.

24/117 Parish Matters: It was noted that a gutter at the rear of the Pavilion was missing an end section allowing water to overflow down the external wall. Cllr Britten will inspect and report back.

24/118 Chair’s award for Service to the Community: The Council congratulated Peggy Horwood & Saly Langdon for their nomination and community service award which was presented at the annual event held on 4th October 2024 at Taunton Rugby Club.

The meeting closed at 20.40hrs. Next meeting is Monday 4th November 2024 @ 7pm.

Schedule of Payments.

01/10/24	S Davey	Virtual Landline	£6.50	SO Report
01/10/2024	R A Evis	Ground Maintenance Sept	£458.33	SO Report
01/10/24	KL Bungay	Pavilion cleaning	£102.00	SO Report
	RA Evis	Lengthsman September 24	£235.00	TBA
07/10/24	T Groves	Newsletter Printing/distribution	£42.70	TBA
07/10/24	A Groves	Replacement planters/liner	£257.54	TBA
07/10/24	Tradeglaze Windows	Insurance claim/Pavilion Door	£2278.24	TBA
07/10/24	PKF Littlejohn	External Audit fee	£378.00	TBA
07/17/24	Bristows Electrics	Replace external light at Ash Pavilion	£75.00	TBA