

Agenda

Ashwell Parish Council Meeting to be held on Wednesday 2nd October 2024, in the Parish Room at 7pm

To Councillors: Graham Lee (Chair), Norton Mahy (Vice Chair), Chris Button, Ian Duffy, Vinny Hall, Martin Hoffman, David Sims, Joan Yates

Councillors are summoned to attend this meeting for the transaction of business in the agenda.

The meeting is open to members of the public and press unless a resolution for a particular agenda item decides otherwise. The meeting can be attended in person or via Zoom. Please sign up on the website (www.ashwell.gov.uk) to be sent login details and to receive regular communications on village matters, or contact the parish office direct.

District Councillor Tom Tyson and County Councillor Steve Jarvis routinely attend meetings.

Copies of the agenda and other items on the website are available by request or by clicking on this link. [PC Agendas and Minutes](#)

- 49 Apologies for absence To receive and accept apologies for absence.**
- 50 Interests** (a) To receive declarations of interest from councillors on items on the agenda, (b) To receive written requests for dispensations for declarable interests, and (c) To grant any requests for dispensation as appropriate. Where any declaration of interest involved the Chair, the meeting to agree an alternative individual to take the Chair for that item(s).
- 51 Minutes Proposal** to approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 05 June 2024 as an accurate record of proceedings. [Draft Minutes from 4th September 2024 Meeting](#)
- 52 Parish Issues and Public Participation** [Protocols for Public Participation in Council Meetings](#)

Standing Orders to be suspended.

- 52.1** To hear any new matters raised (members of the public and councillors can raise any Parish related matters).
 - 52.1.1** To note any update on Ashwell Academical Youth Football Club (ACCIES) in an effort to keep more playing matches and training in the Village. [Appendix A](#) & [Appendix B](#)
 - 52.1.2** To note any updates to information received from NHC regarding North Herts Prosperity Fund. [Appendix C](#)
 - 52.1.3** To note updates on request from [EatFeast](#).

- 52.1.4 To note update from NHC on the installation of the [new electronics communication 9m pole near West End Ashwell.](#)
- 52.1.5 To note correspondence from [The Freemasons.](#)
- 52.1.6 To note correspondence from a parishioner re [Banks' cash machine provision obligation.](#)
- 52.2 To receive reports from representatives from outside bodies, local authorities and agencies.
 - 52.2.1 To receive a report from County Councillor Steve Jarvis, to include drainage issues, schedules and what action can be taken and Herts Sports Project as a potential fund raising source. To note response from Steve Jarvis reference [Lynx bus service](#) and [Guide](#)
 - 52.2.2 To receive a report from District Councillor Tom Tyson, to include drainage issues, schedules and what action can be taken and to receive update regarding development off Station Road being built too close to the hedge.

Standing Orders to be reinstated.

- 53 **Reports from Working Groups.** To receive oral updates from relevant leaders/members and agree any actions that require Parish Council input/approval.
 - 53.1 **Planning Advisory Working Group** - To note, any further information regarding S106 and awaiting the outcome from CDA Herts of the **Affordable Housing Survey.**
 - 53.2 **Hunts Close planning application/section 106 claim** - To receive update from Cllr Mahy and Cllr Tyson.
 - 53.3 **Access to Ashwell station** includes the cycle/footway route and car parking. (Cllr Lee).
 - 53.4 **Trees and Hedges** (Cllr Sims).
 - 53.5 **Zero Carbon Ashwell** (ZCA) group. (Cllrs Lee & Duffy).
- 54 **Planning matters: to include new and existing applications.** To see full details of applications on the [NHC website](#) enter the reference number into the planning search box.
 - 54.1 **New consultations received from NHC.** To note any correspondence and agree responses.
 - 54.2 Current Applications awaiting NHC Decision –
 - 54.2.1 To note any updates to 24/01444/FP: Land Between Huntsridge and Ashwell House 5 High Street Erection of 14 dwellings (including affordable housing).
 - 54.2.2 To note any updates to Kirby Manor Farm Northfield Road: 24/01570/PNQ : Notification of application for prior approval for conversion of existing agricultural buildings to provide 8 residential unit.
 - 54.3 **[Appeal Consultation 22/03094/FP:](#)** Land Between Huntsridge and Ashwell House 5 High Street Erection of 14 dwellings including creation of access from Ashwell Street, footpath link to Lucas Lane, associated infrastructure, public open space and landscaping – To agree a response to the appeal consultation.
 - 54.4 To note the [Planning Summary](#) as of 26th September 2024.

54.5 Tree consultations (Conservation Area and TPO) received from NHC. To agree responses to any received.

24/02085/TCA : 3 Green Lane : T1: Holly - Crown Reduce by up to 1.5m, crown shape and cut back from road. T2: Crab Apple - Crown Reduce by up to 1m to suitable growth points. T3: Rowan - Crown Reduce by up to 1m to suitable growth points

24/02080/TCA : Ashwell Cemetery : 667: Holm Oak – 4m crown reduction. 681: Holm Oak – 3m crown reduction.

24/02059/TCA : Wolverley House : Trees (Conservation Area) : Beech – Raise Canopy by up to 2.4 meters : Cherry – Remove tree stake: Lime - Raise Canopy by up to 2.4 meters : Willow- re-pollard leaving mistletoe in situ : Ash - Raise Canopy by up to 2.4 meters 8. Cedar – Top reduction around the sides away from building : Lime – Crown thin by up to 30% : Tulip - Raise Canopy by up to 2.4 meters : Cherry – remove tree stake Rear boundary wall near tree 6 and 7: remove ivy from top to mid point (possibly collar and return) .

24/02144/TCA : The Old Rectory : Trees (Conservation Area) : Beech T1: Horse Chestnut - Crown reduce by 2m. 3m reduction on Southern side. T2: Sycamore - Crown lift by 2m and reduce lower canopy by 2m. T3: Lime - Repollard and reshape canopy structure. No growth to be left on and reshape unbalanced knuckles. T4: Group Plum - Reduce in height by 2m to suitable growth points

54.6 To note the [Tree Planning Summary](#) as of 26th September 2024.

54.7 **Provisional TPO** re Claybush Hill Meadow [Appendix D](#) To note any updates.

55 Reports from Committees

55.1 HR Committee. To receive an oral reports and agree any actions.

56 Reports from parish councillors on premises and other responsibilities. To receive oral reports and agree any actions needed.

56.1 **The Springs** Report from Cllr Hoffman.

56.2 **St Mary's Churchyard** Grounds Maintenance. Report from Cllr Hoffman.

56.3 **Recreation Ground including the playground, pavilion and public toilets.** Report from Cllr Graham Lee. To include the further consultation on the Pavilion and public toilets. To consider any next steps (including whether to set up a committee or a working party). See [2024 Pavilion Consultation working documents](#) for discussion.

To receive update on [Public Consultation Questionnaire](#)

To receive update on posters to be displayed at The Recreation ground.

To receive update from Cllr Mahy regarding fees & charges for use of the Rec & Pavilion facilities.

56.4 **Small Gains** (Accies pitch and allotments). Report from Cllr David Sims.

56.5 **War Memorial.** To note any updates.

56.5.1 Cleaning and Minor Repairs to War Memorial.

56.5.2 War Memorial Revaluation Insurance.

56.6 Cemetery – To note a report from Cllr Mahy. To note any comments raised following the newsletter announcing a volunteer group tidying unattended graves mid/end September.

To receive update from Cllr Mahy & Cllr Button regarding the Explorers Group

Street furniture.

56.6.1 Litter bin review. Report from Cllr Mahy. To include the ongoing consultation and communications with NHC.

57 Finance and Governance

57.1 Budget tracking and the monthly summary of accounts. To note the information up to 31st August 2024 to be circulated to parish councillors after the end of the month. Proposal that the summary of receipts and payments be issued with the draft minutes and the two nominated parish councillors sign off the accounts in accordance with internal control procedures.

To note any variances of actual expenditure compared to budget.

57.2 Insurance Renewal Policy

To note information from insurance broker in regard to renewal on 1st October 2024 and our request for increasing the cover in liability.

57.3 Annual Audit for the 2023-24 financial year. To note the Interim review received from the External Auditor, no issues have been raised but a final report is pending their review of correspondence from a Parishioner.

57.4 Parish Council Grant for PCC – to note the request from St Mary's for a grant to support the hosting of the mobile Post Office in the Parish Church Room.

57.5 To approve change of bank signatories to reflect new Clerk.

57.6 Safeguarding Policy – to adopt an APC [Safeguarding Policy](#).

57.7 To note update to NHC Community Governance Review.

57.8 To note [Draft Terms of Reference](#) for working groups.

57.9 To receive any other oral reports.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 6th November 2024, 7pm.

Date of Finance Committee Meeting: Monday 21st October, 7pm.