

## Agenda

### Ashwell Parish Council Meeting to be held in the Parish Room on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 2026, at 7.00pm

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

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. Please sign up on the website ([www.ashwell.gov.uk](http://www.ashwell.gov.uk)) to be sent login details and to receive regular communications on village matters.

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\*\*](#)

**124 Apologies for absence.** To receive and accept apologies for absence.

**125 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). GL long term interest in ZCA and CLT, no decision to be taken on either matters if there were GL would leave the room.

**126 Parish Issues and Public Participation** [\*\*Protocols for Public Participation in Council Meetings\*\*](#)

**127 Minutes Proposal.** To approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting as an accurate record of proceedings. Draft Minutes from [\*\*7<sup>th</sup> January 2026 Meeting\*\*](#).

#### ***Standing Orders to be suspended***

**127.1** To hear any new matters raised (members of the public and councillors can raise any Parish related matters).

**127.1.1 Q&A with Chris Hinchliff MP** – to open the floor to questions relating to the A505 and road safety and footpath access to Ashwell Station.

**127.1.2 Playground at the Rec** - to note and discuss possible improvement scenarios.

**127.2** To receive reports from representatives from outside bodies, local authorities and agencies.

**127.2.1** To receive a report from County Councillor Steve Jarvis.

**127.2.2** To receive a report from District Councillor Tom Tyson.

#### ***Standing Orders to be reinstated***

128 **Playground at the Rec** to note and discuss possible improvement scenarios.

129 **Reports from Working Groups.** To receive oral updates from relevant leaders/members and agree any actions that require Parish Council input/approval.

129.1 Planning Advisory Working Group - To receive verbal update on proposed S106 application.

129.2 Access to Ashwell station includes the cycle/footway route and car parking. To note any update.

129.3 To receive update - Zero Carbon Ashwell (ZCA) Group. (Cllrs Lee & Duffy).

130 **Trees and Hedges (Cllr Sims) – To note any updates**

131 **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.

132 **Current Applications:** any updates:

132.1 **24/01444/FP:** Land Between Huntsridge and Ashwell House 5 High Street Erection of 14 dwellings (including affordable housing), (Hunts Close).

132.2 **25/02571/OP** Growing Baldock – To note any updates

133 [Planning Summary](#)

134 **Footpath at Townsend Meadow** - To note any updates.

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

135.1 **26/00045/TCA** : T1: Lilac - Coppice at the height of the wall. T2: Plum - Pollard at a 4m to a framework and remove the stem at the back, pushing on the fence. T3: Lilac - Remove the stems of the plum growing from the root system growing in front of the Lilac. Cut back or remove the branches growing into the fence to give up to 30 cm clearance. T4: Self Set Plum - Cut to ground level and eco plug. T5. Holly - Hedge cut all around and being heavier at the top to round off and start to train into a dome/ball. Prune back the branches from the adjacent Apple to give clearance if required : 40 High Street, Ashwell.

135.2 **26/00202/TCA** : T023: Reduce north limb by 50%. War Memorial, Lucas Lane

135.3 **26/00203/TCA** : T667: Holm Oak - Reduce the southwest side of the tree by 3m. T688: Holm Oak. Reduce branches to provide a 3m clearance from the property. Ashwell Cemetery.

135.4 **26/00204/TCA** : T00387, T00388 Holm Oaks – prune to provide clearance from the overhead phone lines St Marys Church, Ashwell

136 [Tree Planning Summary](#)

137 **Reports from Committees**

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

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

138.1 The Springs Report from Cllr Hoffman.

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

138.3 Recreation Ground including the playground, pavilion and public toilets. To receive any updates from **Pavilion Working Party**

138.4 Small Gains and Track – To note any updates from Cllr Lee.

138.5 Cemetery – To note any updates from Cllr Mahy.

138.6 Street furniture - To note any updates Cllr Mahy

## 139 Finance and Governance

139.1 **Budget tracking and the monthly summary of accounts and bank reconciliation.** To note the information up to month end 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.

139.2 **Budget 2025/26 Update** – To note any updates.

139.2.1 To receive an oral update on proposed licence agreement.

139.3 **Post Office** – to **propose payment to support the Post Office** for the Year 2025/26.

139.4 **Annual Audit 2023/24 & 2024/25** – To note any updates.

139.4.1 Annual Audit for the 2023/24 financial year.

139.4.2 Audit for the 2024/25 financial year – Internal Auditor has authorised the 2024-25 audit and all documents have been sent to the External Auditor.

**Date of next meeting :** 4<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7pm in the Parish Room, and Parish Meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> March 2026 in the School Hall at 7pm.