

Agenda

Ashwell Parish Council Meeting to be held in the Parish Room on Wednesday 4th March 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) 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](#)

140 Apologies for absence. To receive and accept apologies for absence.

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

142 Parish Issues and Public Participation [Protocols for Public Participation in Council Meetings](#)

143 Minutes Proposal. To approve the draft minutes of the Parish Council meeting as an accurate record of proceedings. Draft Minutes from [4th February 2026 Meeting](#).

Standing Orders to be suspended

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

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

143.2.1 To receive a report from County Councillor Steve Jarvis.

143.2.2 To receive a report from District Councillor Tom Tyson.

Standing Orders to be reinstated

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

144.1 Planning Advisory Working Group - To consider and approve [S106 application](#) for planning application 25/02547/FP Land off Station Road, South & West of Senuna Park .

- 144.2 Access to Ashwell station includes the cycle/footway route and car parking. To note any update.
- 144.3 To receive update - Zero Carbon Ashwell (ZCA) Group. (Cllrs Lee & Duffy).
- 145 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.
- 145.1 **26/00330/FPH, 77 Back Street**, removal of existing rear French door and Window to create a bi-folding door, replace the existing rear/side kitchen door with a window, brick in fill and insertion of rooflight to existing rear roof slope.
- 146 Current Applications:** any updates:
- 146.1 **24/01444/FP:** Land Between Huntsridge and Ashwell House 5 High Street Erection of 14 dwellings (including affordable housing), (Hunts Close).
- 146.2 **25/02571/OP** Growing Baldock – To note any updates,
- 147 [Planning Summary](#)**
- 148 Footpath at Townsend Meadow** - To note any updates.
- 149 Tree consultations (Conservation Area and TPO) received from NHC.** To agree responses to any received.
- 149.1.1 **26/00462/TCA**, to remove 1 Holly and Crown reduction by 2m max of one Walnut : 13 Dixies Close, Ashwell
- 150 [Tree Planning Summary](#)**
- 151 Reports from Committees**
- 151.1 HR Committee. To receive an oral reports and agree any actions.
- 152 Reports from parish councillors on premises and other responsibilities. To receive oral reports and agree any actions needed.**
- 152.1 The Springs Report from Cllr Hoffman.
- 152.2 St Mary’s Churchyard Grounds Maintenance. Report from Cllr Hoffman.
- 152.3 Recreation Ground including the playground, pavilion and public toilets. To receive any updates from [Pavilion Working Party](#)
- 152.3.1 To discuss replacement of swing seats on both sets of swings at the play area.
- 152.4 To note communication from [Christy’s Kitchens](#) cancelling the Food Festival Day for 2026
- 152.5 Small Gains and Track – To note any updates from Cllr Lee.
- 152.6 Cemetery – To note any updates from Cllr Mahy.
- 152.7 Street furniture - To note any updates Cllr Mahy
- 153 Finance and Governance**
- 153.1 **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.

153.2 Budget 2025/26 Update – To note any updates.

153.2.1 To receive a verbal update on proposed licence agreement.

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

153.3.1 Annual Audit for the 2023/24 financial year.

153.3.2 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.

153.4 Annual Audit 2025/26

153.4.1 To note **Review of Effectiveness** was reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting October 2025 and to consider if any changes are required.

153.5 Grounds Maintenance Contract – to note renewal of contract with Countrywide who were the appointed contractor in 2025

153.6 Code of Conduct Complaint – to provide verbal statement in response to the confidential communication received from Hoey Ainscough Associates Ltd

153.7 Village Museum– to discuss appointment of a Trustee.

153.8 Moss Cottages – to discuss appointment of a Trustee.

153.9 Review of cemetery fees – effective 1st April 2026

Date of Parish Meeting : Wednesday 18th March 2026 at 7pm in the School Hall

Date of next PC meeting : 1st April 2026 at 7pm in the Parish Room.