

ASHMANSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL PARISH MEETING 2023

16th MAY



Annual Parish Meeting Agenda

- Welcome and Apologies
- Presentation on Achievements and Financial Report
- Traffic Calming
- Report from Borough / County Councillors
- Police Report
- Update on Climate Emergency
- Public discussion and questions

BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

Cllr Falconer



ELECTION

- Conservative 23
- Labour 10
- Liberal 9
- B Independ 8
- Independent 3 of which 2 are ex Cons
- Green 1 a defection from Labour

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PLANNING

- JPP land and Falkland Farm
- Wash Water Beware the Appeal
- Woolton Hill Sports Club disaster

Local Plan Update years away

BOROUGH COUNCIL UPDATE

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FINANCE

- The Opposition was responsible for the increase in C Tax
- Finances held up well but interest rates and inflation are threats
- £157m in Treasury Management of which £45m cash
- £380m in property of which £320 is commercial rental investment

County Councillor Report

- Cllr Tom Thacker, HCC

Who were we in the past year?

- Alan Cox Chairman
- Kieron Black Vice-chairman
- Andrew Bays
- Angela Harris
- Lisa Hill – co-opted in July, when also:
- Amy White took over from Sadie Owen as Clerk

Our Role

- Cover villages of Ashmansworth and Crux Easton.
- Lowest level of democracy.
- Provide guidance on Planning Applications.
- A link to Borough and County Councils on what is planned and what we want.
- Focus of local interest.
- Non-political.
- One of the smallest in the county, limited budget.
- Thanks to all members for their hard work!

What do we do?

- We meet every ~8 weeks, back to 7 physical meetings in the village hall after Covid.
- We had 6 new Planning Applications in last year. Of these, 5 were approved and 1 is still pending. Also 6 tree applications approved.
- We went out to tender for grass cutting
- We now have separate email addresses for council business.
- Village details on new improved Website.

What more do we do?

- Ashy-PC very popular, allowing any member to email everyone – no spam!
- Lengthsman repaired stiles, cleared footpaths and cut hedges. Need more tasks for this year.
- We replaced the defibrillator battery and ordered an additional one for the lower end of Ashmansworth
- Budget to spend our Precept to benefit Parish.
- We welcome Yuliya Tychkivska and family who have joined us from Ukraine. We keep in touch with Svitlana, Kristina and Kiril who have moved to Newbury.

Concerns and Progress

- Biggest concerns have been due to roads.
- Our section of the A343 has at last had its potholes repaired but closure of the A343 caused chaos.
- Little advance warning or diversions in place, resulting in damage and gridlock on our narrow roads
- Propose to update our Emergency Plan with action plan for road closures and share this with Highways.
- The Drove at Crux Easton has become impassable except to high clearance vehicles. We have been complaining about this since 2016 and is now urgent!
- Flooding at Zell Farmhouse in recent storm.

Queen's Platinum Jubilee

- We had a most memorable celebration of Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee with a Street Party with Hog Roast, children's party, entertainment.
- We were deeply saddened by her death later in the year.
- We celebrated the accession and coronation of King Charles III, with a brilliant party on 7 May, attended by around 200!

Clerk's Report

- Precept 2023/24

2023 – 2024	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H
Basingstoke and Deane Borough Council	90.95	106.10	121.26	136.42	166.74	197.05	227.37	272.84
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Authority	53.62	62.56	71.49	80.43	98.30	116.18	134.05	160.86
Hampshire and Isle of Wight Police and Crime Commissioner	167.64	195.58	223.52	251.46	307.34	363.22	419.10	502.92
Hampshire County Council	973.50	1135.75	1298.00	1460.25	1784.75	2109.25	2433.75	2920.50
Parish precept	28.57	33.34	38.10	42.86	52.38	61.91	71.43	85.72
Total	1314.28	1533.33	1752.37	1971.42	2409.51	2847.61	3285.70	3942.84
Approx. monthly payment for 10 months	131.43	153.33	175.24	197.14	240.95	284.76	328.57	394.28

- Vs 2022/23 precept £39.06. Increase of £3.80 pre Band D property*
- Lengthsman has undertaken some good work around the parish, repairing stiles, clearing footpaths.
- AD Clark- mowing contractor for 23/24

Finances

- Start of Year: £3801.60
- End of Year: £4469.32

Grant successes:

- £1000 County Councillor Grant for defibrillator purchase (our thanks to Cllr Thacker)
- £500 Borough Councillor Community Grant for defibrillator purchase (our thanks to Cllr Falconer)
- £500 King's Coronation Event Borough Council Grant

Financial Report

- Income greater in 2022/23 due to £1000 grant
- Expenditure slightly higher- increase in clerk salary and payroll.
- Healthy reserves
- 2023/24
 - Aim to install defibrillator
 - Usual outgoings
 - 30 hours of Lengthsman (decrease from 40 hours)

Traffic Calming in Ashmansworth

- Concern for many years about speeding in Ashmansworth, especially in central section
- Faccombe have very kindly offered to assist
- Proposal to install gates at entrance to the village
- Need to select a design and message!



Solar Panel Experiences

- We now have at least 3 houses with new panels
- These have been installed as permitted development, so no need for planning applications – except for Listed Buildings
- House owners all pleased with their installations
- Gary Does Solar podcasts give much advice
- Details and discussion:



Manor Farm House

- 11 panels, 3.6kW inverter, 3x3.5kWh battery
- Will not work in power cut as existing generator
- Installed by “[Make my House Green](#)”



Byre Cottage

- 10 panels, 3.6kW Inverter
- Pigeon guards
- Tesla Powerwall 13.5kWh battery
- Eddi to heat water
- Works in power cut!
- Installed by [Auream](#) of Basingstoke

Octopus Flux

	Import	Export
Day rate	33.52p / kWh	22.52p / kWh
Flux rate (02:00 - 05:00)	20.11p / kWh	9.11p / kWh
Peak rate (16:00 - 19:00)	46.93p / kWh	35.93p / kWh
Standing charge	47.95p / day	

Import prices include VAT.

Conclusions

- Thanks to all for their hard work
- We welcome suggestions and assistance from everyone, especially for Community Enhancement
- What more would you like us to do?