

ISSUE no.1  
2014/2015

# Ashover Parish Council Annual Report 2013/2014

## **ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

Sports Pavilion, Milken Lane, Ashover  
**TUESDAY 27 MAY 2014 at 7.00 pm**  
come along and offer ideas or raise concerns  
and talk with your Parish Councillors



QUALITY  
PARISH  
COUNCIL

Working for the whole of the Ashover Parish  
Website: [www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk)



**Ashover**  
Community First

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dear Parishioners,

Once again this year has presented its challenges to the Council on several fronts. From a winter maintenance point of view, this year has been relatively easy to cope with. This has been achieved with less expenditure in both contractual and lengthman's time. Compared to other parishes in England and Wales, we have been very fortunate.

This year has seen the beginning of a phased programme to improve apparatus provision on the playing field. As a result of a survey, phase I of the programme has been approved with the provision of a basket swing, to be closely followed by phase II with the provision of adult outdoor exercise equipment. The Ashover Primary Care Directors kindly agreed to financially support Phase I of the programme to the sum of £4000; thus removing the bulk of the finance to be found by the Parish Council. Hopefully, this is the beginning of an ongoing improvement programme that will provide recreational facilities for all age groups.

The refurbishment of the Public Conveniences on Moor Road is now fully completed; unlike many parishes which have seen the closure of their facility. The old telephone box now has a new lease of life as our 'Information Centre' and is proving popular with visitors to the parish. Richard Felton, our "footpaths volunteer", has created different walks starting from the toilet block; one to and from Clay Cross and another to and from Matlock. Leaflets for these popular walks may be found in

the Information Centre. Thanks go to Viridor Credits Environmental Company and Ashover Primary Care Trust for providing a total of more than £24,250 towards this project. Thanks also to the young volunteer students from Eastwood Grange, who took on the task of painting the outside woodwork of the toilets to improve the exterior appearance.

In March your Parish Council was invited to Westminster to take part in a meeting regarding the recent "Deregulation Bill". I was pleased to be able to attend, and hopefully our input regarding green lanes and unsealed roads was taken on board.

Much of the Parish Council's time is still spent on general housekeeping within the parish; thanks go to all members of the Parish Council, the lengthman, volunteers and the Clerk for their time and commitment. Thanks go to Duncan Stevens who, for personal reasons, resigned his position as Parish Councillor last year. Duncan will be missed, particularly within his role of liaison with the football clubs. We welcomed Sandy Bull as a co-opted Member of the Council.

In conclusion I would like to thank all parishioners for their support throughout the previous year, and for their contributions and support to the many clubs, societies and events which makes our parish special.

*Councillor Ed Willmot*

CHAIRMAN

## ALLOTMENTS

The allotments on Marsh Green are owned by the Parish Council and are presently rented by four parishioners. If you have land you are willing to let out as an allotment, please contact the Parish Clerk.

## CEMETERY

The maintenance contract for the cemetery by Derbyshire County continues to be carried out satisfactorily. The roof on the Chapel of Rest was identified as being in need of maintenance, on investigation it was found that the laths were beyond repair and that re roofing was required. Work was carried out on the boundaries with the Probation Service and an area of ground cleared and re seeded. During the coming year, we will once again be working with the Probation Service; concentrating on boundaries and general maintenance of seats etc. During the January storms a significant branch fell adjacent to the Chapel of Rest; this required tree surgery and a full tree survey was completed throughout the cemetery. A 'Fees and Charges' list for the cemetery can be found on the Parish Council's website at [www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk). Charges have been increased from April 1st 2014 for all non local rate paying fees.

A 'Fees and Charges' list for the cemetery can be found on the Parish Council's website at [www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk).

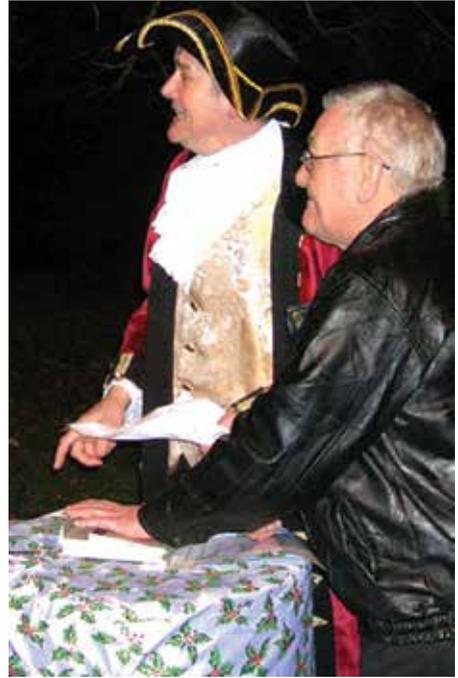
*Chris Miller*

CHAIRMAN OF THE BURIAL BOARD

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON

On 8th December on a blustery day, the 2103 Christmas Lights switch-on drew a large a crowd for what is now a regular event for the Parish of Ashover.

Once again, the Town Crier, Merrick Bull, played host and the crowd were entertained by school children from Ashover Primary school, led by Sophie Preston, Ashover Brass Band and Ashover church choir led by Sarah



Evans. In a departure from previous years, parishioner, Jimmy Carline switched on the lights. The tree looked magnificent and was kindly funded by Ashover Primary Care Centre.

The highlight of the evening for the children was the arrival of Father Christmas, with Maud the donkey, to carry all the chocolate coins he had brought as gifts for the children. Maud was accompanied by Penny Marsden, her owner, assisted by Elspeth Cunningham. Whilst the children waited to see Father Christmas, the rest of the crowd enjoyed mince pies provided by Anna Unwin from the Tuck Shop and mulled wine supplied by the Crispin Inn. Your Parish Council continues to help fund this event and we hope you all enjoyed it.

## COMMON LAND

Your Council continues to monitor common land, carrying out maintenance where necessary.

## COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

### Ashover Social Car Scheme

A new integrated community car scheme was launched on March 1st 2013 covering Ashover Parish. The existing Ashover Social car scheme started following a demand identified in Ashover's Parish Plan in 2006 and has proved very popular for residents denied the use of a car to get to Hospital, Doctors, Shops etc.

The loss of the schemes local office meant the scheme would have had to fold unless another home could be found and funding made available.

In conjunction with Derbyshire County Council and in discussions with the Chesterfield and Amber Valley Community Car scheme organisers, an arrangement was made which retains the best of the old scheme and adds extra value and services by switching the booking system to a new venue and with a new phone number...**01773 746652**.

Ashover is a very large Parish with minimal bus and taxi services and large distances and many remote dwellings to cater for. Leaflets outlining the scheme are available locally.

The combined Social Car scheme now covering Chesterfield, Ashover and Amber Valley is supported by the NHS, Derby City and Derbyshire County, Derbyshire County Council, CT4TC Community Transport for Town and Country, the Ashover scheme is endorsed by Ashover Parish Council.

#### **Shopper bus**

##### ***Ashover Shopper Bus - Dates for 2014***

###### **BAKEWELL MARKET**

June 9th, July 14th, September 8th

Cost £4.00

###### **DERBY WESTFIELD CENTRE**

October 13th

Cost £7.00

###### **SHEFFIELD MEADOWHALL**

November 10th

Cost £7.00

All Buses pick up at Littlemoor, Milltown, Kelstedge, and Ashover Parish Hall. Buses to Bakewell leave at 10am, Return at 2pm stopping at the Chatsworth Farm Shop arriving Ashover 3pm.

Westfield Centre and Meadowhall trips leave Littlemoor at 9.30 am and return from destination at 4pm.

PLEASE BOOK EARLY  
AS 5 DAYS NOTICE REQUIRED  
FOR CANCELLATION AND  
2 WEEKS NOTICE REQUIRED  
FOR MOBILITY /WHEELCHAIR  
ACCESS

PHONE CHRISTINE ON 01246 590358  
or email [chris.brocksopp@gmail.com](mailto:chris.brocksopp@gmail.com)  
These services were requested in the Parish Plan and are supported by Ashover Parish Council

### COMMUNICATION

If you wish to report on events within the parish to the local press, this can be done via the "Grass Roots" section of 'The Derbyshire Times' by e-mailing: [grassroots@derbyshire-times.co.uk](mailto:grassroots@derbyshire-times.co.uk) or telephoning (01246) 504525.

### COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL LIAISON MEETINGS

Liaison Group meetings continue to be held quarterly, receiving presentations on various issues. Your Parish Council is represented as the majority of these meetings.

### CRICKET CLUB

2013 Season for Ashover Cricket Club began as a season of consolidation with younger players being promoted to our 1stxl to replace some of the old guard, however a 4th place finish in the league was in the end a little disappointing as we missed several chances during the season to have done better.

The 2nd xl were forced to endure a difficult season after an unbelievable decision by a

league disciplinary committee to deduct points for what can only be described as a difference of opinion on the interpretation of eligibility rules. In the end a mid-table finish was a credit to the players who managed to turn the situation around.

Our two Sunday teams held their own in difficult sections and the captains and players should be proud of their efforts.

This season the juniors fielded sides at U12 & U15 level both of whom had reasonable seasons finishing 3rd in their respective tables. Finally our Friday night KWIK CRICKET was again a huge success with over 100 children enjoying playing cricket over the 10 weeks.

New players are always welcome at our club and contact details can be found on our website [www.ashovercc-playcricket.com](http://www.ashovercc-playcricket.com)

*Dave Cooke*

CHAIRMAN ASHOVER CRICKET CLUB

## **DERBYSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL Adoption and Fostering**

Do you think you could give a child a stable and happy home to help them have the best start in life? If the answer is yes then Derbyshire County Council wants to hear from you.

Across Derbyshire there are currently around 430 foster homes offering support to 630 children in care. Foster homes are particularly needed for older children and sibling groups and the care offered can be short or long-term, ranging from single night emergency stays to placements which last for years.

The council is also interested in hearing from people with previous caring experience who may be able to offer contract care foster homes to 11 to 18-year-olds with complex emotional and behavioural needs.

Derbyshire County Council's Cabinet Member for Children and Young People Kevin Gillott, said: *"We're here to make sure all our looked after children live happily and*

*healthily and have all the care and support they need.*

*"We're proud of the excellent foster carers we already have and are keen to recruit more.*

*"Becoming a foster carer can be very challenging and mean a lot of hard work, but it brings enormous rewards."*

Derbyshire County Council offers its foster carers lots of benefits, support and training as well as competitive financial allowances.

To find out more call free on: 0800 083 7744 or visit: [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/adoptionandfostering)

## **DONATIONS/GRANTS**

During 2013/14, your Parish Council donated £988 to community causes; Ashover Acorns £50, Ashover Brass Band £50, Church Choir £50, Old People's Association £50, Ashover Lunch Club £50, Parochial Church Council £20, Baby & Toddler Group £50, Uppertown Social Centre £50, Tupton Hall Holiday Activity Programme £250. Additionally, sum of £368 was donated towards the Churchyard and Clock Maintenance.

## **EASTWOOD GRANGE**



Eastwood Grange was founded in 1990 as both a Residential School and Children's Home and was acquired by Priory Group in 2003. We have grown at a steady pace,

establishing a strong reputation for providing high quality Education and Care.

We provide Local Education Authorities and Social Services Departments with a flexible service, offering Care and/or Education for up to 36 boys aged 9 – 18 years who exhibit a variety of behavioural, emotional and social difficulties, as well as many having additional educational needs .

Our young people enjoy a warm, welcoming and relaxed, yet structured environment, which encourages them to develop social, educational and practical skills and enjoy an active and fulfilling life in beautiful surroundings.

Eastwood Grange enables young people to:

- Understand their problems and implement ways of alleviating them.
- Learn how to manage their behaviour with self-discipline and clear boundaries.
- Develop independence skills within a safe, secure and structured environment.
- Become empowered to make their own choices, which will lead to a positive future.

Each and every member of the Eastwood Grange staff team is passionate about the quality of service we provide for our young people.

There continues to be many positive changes:

- Our staffing structure has been enhanced; we now have a Pastoral Support Team and the young people have support from a Consultant Psychiatrist, Educational Psychologist, Occupational Therapist and Speech and Language Therapist.
- Our young people are able to enjoy our 'common room', where they meet up at break time and after School to socialise. This room is also our 'cinema room' and is used to have 'film nights'.
- Our Lodge House has been refurbished and will become a post-16 education centre.

Of course, the refurbishment of our residents' rooms is ongoing and is a rolling programme of works.

In our Education facility we have specialist classrooms for: Science, Information Communication Technology, Library, Craft Design Technology, Food Technology and Art. We have a dedicated base for each of the following subject areas: Mathematics, English and Humanities. We also have a Sports Hall laid with Astroturf and a fully equipped gymnasium.

All Year 11 pupils in the last academic year successfully gained a range of qualifications and gained places at Further Education Colleges on leaving Eastwood Grange. One pupil completed an individualised curriculum programme, achieving a BTEC Level 1 in Hospitality and Catering at Chesterfield College.

Our thanks go to Matlock Farm Park, Groundwork, Derby College and Chesterfield College and other partner agencies who provide very successful placements for our pupils.

We were pleased to be involved in supporting the refurbishment of the public toilets in Ashover. One of our pupils enjoyed taking down the guttering, rubbing it down and painting it. We were also delighted to welcome two local Councillors to our Christmas Evening Meal.

Our young people and staff enjoy their involvement in local community events; in 2013 we participated in the May Day Carnival, the Harvest Festival and the Flower Festival. We very much look forward to repeating our involvement in 2014.

We have participated in a number of charitable fundraising events, with the monies raised going to both local and national charities:

### **May 2013**

Ashover May Day Carnival      £422.00  
(Monies raised donated to a Local Charity)

### **November 2013**

Children in Need      £156.00

### **November 2013**

Poppy Appeal      £ 61.86

### **March 2014**

Sport Relief      £ 95.20

We continue to strive to ensure that our young person's feel safe, secure and cared for; which ultimately gives them the confidence to develop as individuals for the World outside Eastwood Grange.

Should the residents of Ashover wish to contact Eastwood Grange to discuss any matters of urgent concern, please telephone 01246 590255 and ask to speak to Mr Glen Smith – Principal or Ms Andrea Conway – Vice Principal. However, if an immediate response is not required, please email [eastwoodgrange@priorygroup.com](mailto:eastwoodgrange@priorygroup.com).

*Glen Smith*

PRINCIPAL EASTWOOD GRANGE

## **EMPLOYEES**

Your Parish Council employs two staff; Parish Clerk/Responsible Financial Officer/Burial Clerk/Pavilion Bookings (Sara Atkinson - 23 hours per week), Parish Lenthman and Sports Pavilion Caretaker (John Bown - 18 hours per week).

## **FALL MILL**

It should be noted that Ashover Parish Council no longer holds a lease for the building, and any enquiries should be directed to BMET Ltd. at 179 Breach Road, Langley, Heanor, Derbyshire DE75 7HQ

## **FOOTBALL CLUBS**

### **Ashover FC**

Last season 2012/2013 Ashover Fc was playing in the Matlock premier league,

eventually finishing second. A good result considering that the team was rebuilding. At the end of the year it was decided to change to The Hope Valley Amateur league for the season 2013/2014 playing in the 'A' division. Currently the team is lying in first place with seven games left to play. The Club is endeavouring to attract more local players as, in the past few seasons there has been a shortage of local talent resulting in the squad being comprised mainly of non Ashover players. We are attempting to correct this, and this year there is a noticeable shift in the right direction. Ashover FC was formed in 1958 to give local lads the opportunity to play in organised leagues and the committee is dedicated to maintain this commitment.

### **Ashover Vale FC**

After gaining their 4th promotion in succession, Ashover Vale (formerly Black Swan) have adapted to life in Division 2 quite well in what is a big difference in standard from last season. The Vale have competed well in most games, winning four games & drawing 1, the best result so far came in the last game with a 2-0 success over leaders New Whittington. Vale currently lie mid table with 3 games to play.

## **FOOTPATHS GROUP**

The network of paths in The Parish, stretching to nearly 50 miles, is well used by those who live in and visit the area. Improvements continue to be made, which go hand in glove with the maintenance work that goes on throughout the year. Work is undertaken by volunteers and members of the Countryside Service of Derbyshire County Council. Rights of Way inspectors help to ensure that what happens is done in the right way and in the right place! Derbyshire was this year assessed as the top County Council for satisfaction with Rights of Way, in a national survey.

A local committee keeps an eye out for what happens and new members are most welcome. We meet just once every two months for an hour. Please contact Richard Felton on 590786 or Karen Haywood on 590145, for more details. The Parish Council has members on our independent committee and is supportive and helpful. They are one of the relatively few parish councils to claim a rights of way grant from the county council. Monies this year helped, for instance, to improve parts of Back Lane. The contract is held by Stephenson's Countryside and Garden Services.

We are continually thankful for the efforts of local landowners, who help to keep paths clear from vegetation and blockages. This year's work has included:

- i) **Involvement with the New Information Centre in Ashover**, between the refurbished lavatories. Two new walks ('walks of convenience') advertised here link Ashover and Clay Cross by two different routes. Other walks are available on the Parish website.
- ii) **Clearing of stone steps and flagstones** to highlight the historical importance of Ashover paths and to make them safer.
- iii) **Re-establishing paths onto their correct, legal line**. The path across Overton Camp is now in line with the original flagged path.. Work also took place to move part of the path between Brockhurst and Uppertown to where it should be. This involved work to put in steps. We are also involved in adding to the network, by re-opening paths that have been 'lost'.
- iv) **Reporting of damage to the network**. This year we have had a particular problem with wooden finger posts being cut down and removed, by persons unknown. We also report fallen trees across paths. These are mostly removed by landowners but The Countryside Service has also helped with some of the more

difficult problems. We also report fly tipping and remove litter, where appropriate.

- v) **Encouraging the safe use of paths**. Most rights of way users have due regard to fellow users. Occasionally there is need to remind folks that the 'rules of the network' are that cycles should give way to horse riders and that both categories should give way to walkers. Dog mess around and on paths still causes a problem and is quite inexcusable.
- vi) **Leading walks**. Members of the committee have been involved in leading several walks. These have included : walks during the area walking festival; walks for Dickie Tickers; summer walks around Ashover Parish, which this year covered 90 of the 160 paths in The Parish( the best way to keep overgrowth down!) and work with local primary schools.

*Richard Felton*

FOOTPATHS GROUP

### **GRIT BINS**

Your Parish Council owns and fills a total of 35 grit bins sited around the parish. The salt is supplied for use on the highway adjacent the bin and if you witness large amounts being taken for personal use, please contact the Police.

### **GROUNDS MAINTENANCE**

The maintenance contract with North East Derbyshire District Council continues and includes maintenance of the playing field, borders surrounding the car park, play area and tennis courts, statutory monthly and annual safety inspections. Pitch bookings administration continues to be undertaken by NEDDC. Your Parish Council approved a 3 year contract with NEDDC, commencing 2013/14 at £11,649 and thereafter for a further two years at a cumulative increase of 1.25%.

## **HARD COURTS AND SPORTS PAVILION**

Details of Hire Charges for these facilities are available from the Parish Clerk and on the Parish Council website at:  
[www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk)

## **HOSPITAL**

### **Chesterfield Royal Hospital**

These are difficult times in the NHS, with financial pressures and shortages of qualified clinical staff causing problems for many Trusts. I am pleased to report, however, that your local hospital in Chesterfield is overcoming these challenges.

The Council of Governors, of which I am an elected member for North East Derbyshire, has been urging the hospital's managers to improve and extend services to local residents and has been supporting them in bringing about the necessary changes. We have been delighted at some of the achievements of the past twelve months, including a patient survey which for the second consecutive year rated your hospital as sixth best in the country for cancer services. The Maternity Unit has also been highly praised by users. A recent inspection by external assessors gave our maternity services full marks, rating them the best in the region (and incidentally reducing the Trust's insurance premiums by over £300,000!). Meanwhile, the Care Quality Commission has placed Chesterfield in the lowest of its six risk categories.

As a result of prudent financial management, the hospital has been able to make £6 million in efficiency savings while investing an additional £2 million in additional front line staff, mainly nurses. The Trust has embarked on a complete refurbishment of its operating theatres, the first since its move to the Calow site thirty years ago. It is also about to start work on a brand new Cancer Services Unit. For specialist treatment, patients still have to

travel to Sheffield. But already a fifth of everything done in Chesterfield is related to cancer. In future, by working in partnership with the Weston Park hospital, Chesterfield Hospital will be able to offer more treatments closer to people's homes.

You will have heard much in the media about the problems of staffing hospitals at weekends. Statistically there is little difference in the quality of outcomes at Chesterfield between patients admitted at weekends and on weekdays. Earlier this year, the Trust was chosen by Sir Bruce Keogh, Medical Director of the NHS, as one of thirteen "early adopters" providing a full range of consistently good services seven days a week.

Related to this, the hospital succeeded in coping with winter pressures this year without breaching the national 4 hour target for treating patients who arrive at the A&E Department. Admittedly, this was a milder winter than we have become used to. But the Department was still dealing with record numbers!

New ways of working have helped the Trust's achievement. In particular, a new unit was opened for frail elderly patients who often suffer from a variety of complex conditions in addition to the immediate cause of their hospitalisation. By concentrating on their needs and keeping them as active and mobile as possible during their stay, the average time which they spend in hospital has been cut dramatically and many have been able to return more quickly to independent lives at home. Meanwhile, planning and design of an "Urgent Care Village" continues in collaboration with all the other members of the healthcare community in North Derbyshire, including primary care, community hospitals and our commissioners.

It would be wrong to suggest that there are no problems. Next year there will be some "top-slicing" of NHS budgets to provide more funding for social services. Hospitals

and other medical providers will therefore have to find additional savings and even better integrated methods of delivering services. Those of you who have visited the hospital recently will know that our car parking facilities have come under new pressure, despite the provision of 500 additional spaces only a few years ago. Solving this perennial problem will require ingenuity, especially as planning permission for turning green areas into tarmac is likely to be conceded only as a last resort. There are national shortages of staff in certain categories. To recruit and retain the necessary specialists Chesterfield must continue to be seen as striving for the highest standards of care, a good place to work, where patients are at the centre of everything.

*Bernard Everett*

ASHOVER RESIDENT AND PUBLIC  
GOVERNOR FOR NORTH EAST DERBYSHIRE  
CHESTERFIELD ROYAL HOSPITAL  
FOUNDATION TRUST

To contact a Governor, email :-  
governors@chesterfieldroyal.nhs.uk  
or write to Governors, Communications  
Dept., Chesterfield Royal Hospital, Calow,  
Chesterfield S44 5BL

## **LOCAL HOUSING**

### **Rural Community Lettings Plan (Rural CLP) Discontinued**

The Rural Community Lettings Plan (Rural CLP) was introduced to help local people who have a strong connection to the parish access social housing.

10 properties have been advertised through the Rural CLP since January 2012, and of these only 4 were allocated to applicants with a community connection, the remainder were let in accordance with the usual district wide Allocations Policy as the number of people meeting the local connection criteria on the housing shortlist became exhausted.

The general criteria in the Choice Based Allocations and Lettings policy for a community connection has been reviewed and amended since the Rural CLP was adopted, giving 1 year extra waiting time for those that have lived in the parish for the last 12 months (instead of the previous 6); or 3 out of the last 5 years. This is more generous than the Rural CLP for applicants with a strong community connection and will enhance their chances of being allocated a property and is an acceptable route for them to bid for a property in Ashover, therefore it is felt that it is no longer necessary to operate the Rural CLP.

Consultation has taken place recommending the discontinuation of the Rural CLP, including a consultation paper which was sent to Ashover Parish Council to discuss at their meeting in November 2013. There were no objections made to this proposal and subsequently Cabinet agreed to discontinue the Rural CLP at its meeting on 19th March 2014.

## **MAY DAY CARNIVAL**

As in previous years Carnival 2013 was hugely supported and the weather was kind to us. It was a successful and enjoyable day and reports were good from all visitors. The May Day children as always attracted everyone, with the girls in their stunning dresses and the boys with their top hats, the parade just lends itself to a colourful display and is musically led so expertly by Ashover Brass Band

There is something for everyone and the street becomes a promenade of people having the opportunity to bump into friends and neighbours enjoying the day.

Year 2014 is well on target with preparation, and there are thirty-six children involved which is a record, we are delighted and thrilled for them all. The format will be similar to last year with regular stallholders plus some new charity stalls, all enjoying

the opportunity of raising money for their own organisation. The crowning of the May Queen & King we are delighted to say will be by Merrick and Sandy Bull, and we hope we shall be able to support them in having a great day.

### **NEWSLETTERS**

Your Parish Council issues four Newsletters per year, one of which is the Annual Report of the Parish Council and is circulated to every household in the parish. The other three Newsletters are circulated as widely as possible around the parish, in the Information Point, on the Parish Council Notice Board, Medical Centre, Parish Hall, Uppertown Social Centre, shops, Post Office, website etc. If you have difficulty in obtaining a copy, please contact the Parish Clerk.

### **OUTDOOR EXERCISE EQUIPMENT AND FACILITIES**



With the aid of funds provided by Ashover Primary Care Centre, the Parish Council is about to install an addition to the range of equipment available for children to play on. This piece of equipment, a basket swing, is suitable for children from 5 years of age to 16.

This will be followed by an installation programme of exercise and further play equipment, subject to being able to obtain further funding.

If you would like to be involved in fund raising, contact Christine on [chris.brocksopp@gmail.com](mailto:chris.brocksopp@gmail.com)

### **PARISH APPEARANCE/ MAINTENANCE**

The flowerbeds adjacent ‘The Black Swan’ and the public toilets are under the maintenance duties of the Parish Lengthman. The Lengthman also continues to pick litter around the parish, undertakes general maintenance of the flower planters and cemetery, reports on fly tipping, carries out general maintenance on parish owned street furniture, carries out winter maintenance on the Milken Lane Car Park and undertakes general daily health and safety inspections of the car park, courts, playing field and play area. Lengthman duties also include the opening/closing and cleaning of the Public Conveniences on Moor Road, Ashover.

### **PARISH COUNCILS AND MEETINGS**

Parish councils and parish meetings work towards improving community well-being and providing better services at a local level. Their work falls into three main categories:

- representing the local community;
- delivering services to meet local needs;
- striving to improve quality of life in the community.

Through a range of powers, parish councils provide and maintain a variety of important and visible local services including allotments, bridleways, burial grounds, bus shelters, car parks, commons, community transport schemes, crime reduction measures, footpaths, leisure facilities, local youth projects, open spaces, public lavatories, planning, street cleaning, street lighting, tourism activities, traffic calming measures, village greens and litter bins.

Residents are welcome to attend and speak at Parish Council Meetings under the ‘Public’ section. Parish Council Meetings are held on the third Tuesday of every month (except August when no meeting is held) in The Sports Pavilion, Milken Lane, Ashover from 7.30 p.m. Public Participation is invited for the first fifteen minutes of every meeting,

when anyone from the parish may raise any issue with the Parish Council. A copy of the Agenda, together with notification of planning applications, Parish Clerk's Report, Minutes of the previous meeting and other information may be found on the Parish Council website: [www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk) and the main notice board on Moor Road. A summary of each meeting is published in the Parish Magazine and in The Derbyshire Times "Grassroots" section.

### PARISH COUNCIL SURGERIES

These are presently held for half an hour prior to every Parish Council Meeting. Parishioners are encouraged to attend and express any concerns they may have on parish issues to a Parish Councillor and the Parish Clerk if they are unable, or do not wish, to attend and speak at the main meeting.

### PARISH PANTOMIME AND PARTY PANTO

This year's Panto Jack and the Beanstalk had many hilarious rehearsals with great fun had by all, and from the Producer's point of view just before Christmas it looked well on target!

Unfortunately for the Producer ("break a leg" was taken a bit too literally) and the live shows were not able to be seen by her, but "the show must go on" came into great force and some of those involved put themselves into different roles, and the success of their efforts was pulled off.

There were full houses on both nights and a grateful Producer has been given a CD of the Saturday night performance (recorded and gifted by John Bown)

The Producer is indebted to everyone who worked so hard to make a great job in such a short time.

### PARISH PARTY

Again this was hugely supported, and children, Mums and Dads, Aunts and Uncles etc. flung themselves into the event creating a

party atmosphere.

This event is very popular, particularly the long table heaving with all the delicious food. This party gives families and friends the opportunity of sharing with each other in chatting together, eating together and having a smashing night out!

Cllr Rosemary Early

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

Over the past year, a number of measures have been taken to make the church building **more user-friendly for the less able**, including the partly sighted. These include installing handrails and levelling stones in the church. Plans are being prepared for an extension of the **Bassett Rooms** along with other improvements to the building. **The Village Coffee Shop**, which has been held in the Bassett Rooms on the first and third Tuesday of each month since January 2011 as a result of the church's MAP (Mission Action Plan) exercise, has continued to prove a popular success. Another continuing success has been **Village Film Time**, held monthly on a Thursday evening, together with **Family Film Time** for children and their parents, held monthly on a Saturday afternoon, both in the Bassett Rooms. Donations received from filmgoers have covered the cost of the licences, hire of the Bassett Rooms and purchase of DVDs. In October 2013 the church organised a **Harvest Hop** in the Parish Hall, which proved a great success. It is hoped that a similar event will be held to celebrate harvest in 2015.

During Advent, the church again organised a **Posada celebration** to reinforce the Christmas message. This involved wooden figures of Mary, Joseph and the donkey being hosted by a number of different families in the village each evening and being taken to church each Sunday for the lighting of the Advent candles. On Christmas Eve they were placed around the crib in the church ready for the arrival of Jesus. In all, the figures

## PARISH HALL

### *2013/2014 has been a brilliant year at Ashover Parish Hall Events Centre!*

Following on from last year, we are all delighted to tell you that the centre continues to go from strength to strength. We couldn't do it without the amazing support of the local community – so thank you all for your continued support.



The success of last year's rebranding campaign, new website and social media has surprised all of us who sit on the centre's management committee. Feedback shows that many of our recent customers from outside the Parish found out about us through the internet, while local events and word of mouth recommendations continue to be an important factor in attracting new business. Wedding bookings for 2014 are significantly increased and this trend looks set to continue into 2015.

With at least two weddings a month from June to September, 2013 saw many beautiful celebrations held at the centre. From Yasmin and Ricky's winter wonderland (in March!) to Becky and James' September beer festival (below), the decoration, creative ideas and sheer ingenuity of our wedding couples have ensured that each wedding has been truly unique.

We have been grateful to receive many compliments and thank yous from satisfied customer such as this one (left) from Beth and Quin who enjoyed a wonderful festive wedding in December.



Regular bookings have also seen an increase with Dinky Dancers, Ashover Guides and Dog Training Club joining the host of classes, clubs and community groups that have been using the centre as a base over the past few years. We also had a wonderful array of social events throughout the year including the Parish Party and Panto, various barn dances, the Skint Dance Festival and the Vintage Car Sports Club annual meet (John Bown hates this one – they trample in too much mud!)

In July we welcomed Jessica to the management team. She now shares the role of Centre Manager with Alex and brings a wealth of experience in customer relations after working for the county council for nearly 40 years.

### **Looking to the future**

It's sure to be a busy a summer with a wedding booked every single weekend in July and August 2014! Looking forward, we intend to do all we can to make sure the upward trend in bookings continues into the future and every customer leaves happy after enjoying a fantastic event at the centre. We will continue to provide complimentary event organisation support to customers, recommend local suppliers and develop our handy blog full of tips on event planning.

We pride ourselves on providing great value, modern facilities for events including weddings, christenings, funerals, birthday parties, concerts, festivals, plays and anything else you may think of! If you are planning a celebration of any kind please get in touch with Jessica or Alex to find out more about our fabulous facilities.

Tel: 01246 590005

Web: [www.ashoverparishhall.com](http://www.ashoverparishhall.com)

Email: [ashoverparishhall@w3z.co.uk](mailto:ashoverparishhall@w3z.co.uk)

“visited” 70 different venues. A box is available at the back of the church during services for donations of non-perishable food which are taken to the **food bank** at Clay Cross for distribution to those in need. Donors are requested to put their donations in a bag for ease of transport. **Children’s and youth activities** for several age groups are held most Sundays to coincide with the Communion services. In addition, a pre-school group for parents and toddlers, Acorns, is held on two Thursday mornings a month in the Bassett Rooms, and Messy Church activities are held on various occasions during the year.

Over the year the church’s website has been regularly updated with information, news and a calendar of upcoming events. It can be found at [www.amberchurches.org](http://www.amberchurches.org).

As in previous years, church members have played prominent roles in organising **May Day celebrations, the Pantomime and the Parish Party**, all of which were initiated by the church as means of outreach to the local community. As in previous years, the church has supported financially a number of **overseas missions** and relief agencies, as well as various local and **national charities**.

*Keith Mellor*

ASHOVER PCC SECRETARY

## **PLANNING, THE LOCALISM ACT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS**

The Parish Council is one of several statutory consultees whose comments are sought by the District Council on planning applications. Unless applications are received after agenda issue, those to be considered by the Parish Council are listed on Appendix I which is published with the agenda and posted on notice boards and on the website. Applicants are encouraged to address the Parish Council, either in person or in writing, when their application is to be considered. Details of all applications, including associated documents, may be found on the District Council’s

website at [www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk](http://www.ne-derbyshire.gov.uk).

**Neighbourhood Plans** - Neighbourhood planning gives communities direct power to develop a shared vision for their neighbourhood and deliver the sustainable development they need. Parishes and neighbourhood forums can use neighbourhood planning to:

- set planning policies through neighbourhood plans to determine decisions on planning applications; and
- grant planning permission through Neighbourhood Development Orders and Community Right to Build Orders for specific development which complies with the order.

Neighbourhood planning provides a powerful set of tools for local people to ensure that they get the right types of development for their community.

The ambition of the neighbourhood should be aligned with the strategic needs and priorities of the wider local area. Neighbourhood plans must be in general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan. To facilitate this, local planning authorities should set out clearly their strategic policies for the area and ensure that an up-to-date Local Plan is in place as quickly as possible. Neighbourhood plans should reflect these policies and neighbourhoods should plan positively to support them. Neighbourhood plans and orders should not promote less development than set out in the Local Plan or undermine its strategic policies.

Outside these strategic elements, neighbourhood plans will be able to shape and direct sustainable development in their area. Once a neighbourhood plan has demonstrated its general conformity with the strategic policies of the Local Plan and is brought into force, the policies it contains take precedence over existing non-strategic policies in the Local Plan for that neighbourhood, where they are in conflict.

Local planning authorities should avoid duplicating planning processes for non-strategic policies where a neighbourhood plan is in preparation.



Michael Coates

## **POLICE INFORMATION**

Well, another Year has passed, and what happened? No snow, only rain!! The sight of the Village shrouded in the white stuff, was sadly

missing from last year's memories. However as I write this, I've heard my first Woodpecker and have just seen my first Swallow.

Come the New Year, comes the return of the things that come to try our patience. Crime is very low in this area, and I hope that it will continue to be so for many years, but we have to be vigilant, and take whatever steps we can to prevent things from happening. Simple things like, checking your door is locked, not leaving windows open and locking the Garden Shed, will help stop the opportunist thief. If you can afford it, fit better quality locks, alarms and CCTV. The harder we make it, the harder it is for Criminals.

If you see something out of place, or someone you don't trust, give the Police a ring, or stop me as I pass. Something you see could be the last piece of Intelligence we need to solve a Crime. Intelligence is power, and the more we know the greater the difference we can make. If we don't know something we can't do anything to solve the problem.

I am here to help you live in the comfort and in the way you want to, so let's work together to achieve this.

Please contact me by phoning 101 and ask for PCSO4412  
Or e-mail  
michael.coates.4412@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk

## **POTHOLES!**

### **EXTRA STAFF BROUGHT IN TO**

**TACKLE POTHOLES** Road workers at Derbyshire County Council are working extra hours to help fix the backlog of potholes caused by extreme wet weather in the past few weeks. Prolonged and heavy downpours battered roads across the county causing extensive damage in some places. Over the past five weeks, the county council's Call Derbyshire contact centre received an average of 780 road-related calls a week in addition to potholes reported online. The county council carries out a rolling programme of road repairs but extra staff, including external contractors, have been brought in to help deal with the problem. Councillor Dean Collins, Derbyshire County Council's deputy cabinet member for jobs, economy and transport, said:

*"Fortunately in Derbyshire we avoided the widespread flooding suffered by other areas of the country. But the extreme weather did take its toll on our roads.*

*"I can assure people that we're doing all we can to repair our roads as quickly as possible. We look after more than 3,000 miles of roads across Derbyshire so it's a massive job but fixing potholes is our number one priority at the moment.*

*"We're working through the backlog as fast as we can so please bear with us – and rest assured that if you report it, we will sort it."*

So far this year, the county council has received 7,633 reports about potholes compared to 5,295 during the same period last year. Principal engineer Glyn Dutton explained why so many potholes have appeared on the county's roads in recent weeks.

*"Potholes are caused when rainwater finds its way under the road surface through tiny cracks in the road. The sheer volume of water on our roads in recent weeks and the force it created pushed up the road surface from below breaking up the asphalt. The problem is made worse by*

*freezing temperatures because the water expands in the cracks as it turns to ice and breaks up the road surface even further causing more damage.”*

**If you spot a pothole report it and we'll sort it. Tell us online at [www.derbyshire.gov.uk/reportit](http://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/reportit)**

## **PRIMARY CARE CHARITABLE TRUST**

The Trustees continue to manage and maintain the Ashover Medical Centre building. The building is still in good order despite the constant use.

Parishioners are reminded that the Trust was set up by the community, and it is the community who are able to benefit from it.

As a guide, during this financial year the Trust has supported many projects. Grant aid has been given to the Mayday Carnival event, the Christmas Lights switch on and the Parish Party. The refurbishment of the village toilet block was made possible due to a Trust grant. Individual grants have been given to allow young parishioners to enhance their education with trips abroad and the local sports and senior citizens clubs have also been beneficiaries.

So don't be afraid to ask for help! The Trustees will consider requests, and, in these more austere times, help with group projects, or extracurricular educational and recreational activities for school age children, fit well with the Trust objectives.

Contact one of the Trustees – Jacqueline Collins, Andrew King, Ed Willmot, or Philip Clark, on 01245 590356.  
Philip Clark, Secretary and Trustee (01246) 590356.  
(Ashover Primary Care Charitable Trust)

## **PRIMARY SCHOOL**

The school has had another exciting year with lots of things happening – too many to mention – so here are just a few.

The school has provided the children with a range of sporting opportunities and takes an active part in the North East Derbyshire Sports Partnership. Children have taken part in netball, cross country, cricket, tennis, football, Sports Hall Athletics, multi skills, swimming and dance competitions through the year. A big thank you goes out to all staff and parents who have supported these events.

The school choir took part in the Clay Cross Music Festival at the Winding Wheel in Chesterfield. They performed a variety of songs with schools from the local area. The choir also visited Grove House and Ashgate Hospice at Christmas to sing a selection of Christmas Carols. These visits were much enjoyed by the residents and children. Thanks go to Mrs Preston for organizing these events.

The school has continued to take part in and supported 'Derbyshire Ready', a project developing enterprise skills through the curriculum. This has resulted in children from Reception to Year 6 taking part in a variety of activities and sharing the results of these with parents and their peers. For example Years 5 and 6 held an 'Egyptian Market' for parents at the end of their theme on Egypt, whilst Year 2 held a healthy café for parents. The school has also organized and taken part in a Tupton cluster 'Dragons Den' competition with 8 other schools. This resulted in a grand final at the Dunston Innovation Centre. The schools Enterprise Ambassadors have also trained teachers from schools in Derbyshire about enterprise, as well as making a presentation to the Derbyshire Advisory Service for education.

The school council has again been actively responsible for arranging charitable fundraising events such as raising money to pay for 3 children's schooling in the Gambia. They have also looked at ways we can improve our school.

Friends of the School have been active; organizing a Beetle Drive, a Christmas Market alongside the Ashover toddler group,

producing a school calendar and coasters for Mother's and Father's Day to name just a few. They have also organized and ran discos for the children. Our thanks go out to all who have worked on the Friends of the School committee for their continued support.

The Governors continue to provide extended services through Ashover Childcare. Ashover Childcare provides; a breakfast club, aftercare and holiday club service as well as running a private nursery.

The school thanks everybody who contributes to school life and supports the children and staff; enhancing the experiences we can provide as they do. Our thanks also go out to all our children for the hard work they do, and the parents for the support they give to the school. It does not go unnoticed.

*Peter Hallsworth*

HEADTEACHER ASHOVER PRIMARY SCHOOL

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

### 'Loos with news' open in Ashover



*Cllr Willmot (second left) is pictured breaking the loo roll to open the new lavatory block, watched by (l-r) Cllr Christine Brocksopp, Andrew King (representing the Primary Care Trust) and Cllr William Armitage.*

The old stone public conveniences on Moor Road have been completely renovated and the redundant telephone kiosk in the small room at the front of the building turned into an information point featuring parish news and

attractions, maps and details of local walks.

The major makeover has cost almost £27,000 and has been made possible by a substantial donation of more than £22,000 by Viridor Credits Environmental Company through the Landfill Communities Fund, and financial assistance of £5000 from Ashover Parish Council and £2253 from Ashover Primary Care Trust as the Contributing Third Party.

Parish Council Chairman Ed Willmot officially opened the building this week by cutting a length of toilet roll at the entrance to the information point. He told councillors and guests: "This is a momentous occasion."

At an informal buffet arranged by Parish Clerk Sara Atkinson later, Cllr Willmot paid tribute to the hard-working team of council members and supporters who had transformed an unwanted building into "a very useful" visitor amenity.

The Parish Council agreed to lease the lavatory block from North East Derbyshire District Council when it was threatened with closure because of economy measures.

New doors, windows, cubicles, electrical fittings, frost-proof sanitary ware, slip-proof tiled floors, tiled walls and improved insulation have been installed in all parts of the building and the baby-changing facilities in the disabled toilet section have been updated.

Ashover is believed to be one of the few parish councils to accept responsibility for upgrading and maintaining its public conveniences.



## QUALITY STATUS

The Quality Parish and Town Council Scheme was launched in 2003 following the Government's *Rural White Paper*, 2000. The aim of the Scheme is to provide benchmark minimum standards for parish and town councils. The Scheme is supported by six National Stakeholders, the Commission for Rural Com-

munities, the Department for Communities and Local Government, the Department for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, the Local Government Association, the National Association of Local Councils and the Society of Local Council Clerks.

In order to achieve Quality Status, parish and town councils must demonstrate that they have reached the standard required by passing several tests. These are:

- Electoral Mandate
- Qualifications of the clerk
- Council meetings
- Communication and Community Engagement
- Annual Report
- Accounts
- Code of Conduct
- Promoting local democracy and citizenship
- Terms and conditions
- Training

Ashover Parish Council first obtained 'Quality' Status in January 2006. In January 2010, notification was received from the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils, that Ashover Parish Council had been successful in obtaining re-accreditation under the Quality Council Scheme for a further four years i.e. up to January 2014. Your Council was due for reaccreditation in January 2014, but as the scheme is being reviewed and updated the steering group has agreed to freeze the Quality Parish status until the re-launch of the scheme.

## **RECYCLING FACILITY**

Household Waste Recycling Centres (or Civic Amenity Sites) are provided by the county council for the disposal of waste produced from households which is either too large or too bulky to be accepted by the normal district council weekly collection. Your nearest site is located at Stonegravel, Sheffield Road, Chesterfield which has full recycling facilities. The site is open seven

days a week from 8.30am – 6.00pm (closed 25/26 December and 1 January). Most types of household waste are accepted. Hardcore and soil is only accepted in small bagged up quantities of not more than 50kg (two sacks max.) one visit per week. For hazardous waste or any information please contact DCC direct on (01629) 580000 ext. 7532.

## **RIGHTS OF WAY**

These are ultimately controlled and maintained by Derbyshire County Council. The Parish Council is in a position to assist with some funding under its Minor Maintenance Agreement (MMA) with DCC. If you know of any maintenance issues please relay these to DCC on 01629 580000 ext. 7645. During 2011/2012 your Parish Council used its total Minor Maintenance budget of £675 on minor maintenance to rights of way around the parish (nos 23, 68, 77, 136 and 145).

A total of 12 applications have been submitted to Derbyshire County Council under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 to add non-classified highways, bridlepaths and footpaths to the Definitive Map and Statement as a Byway Open to All Traffic (BOAT). Your Parish Council has lodged strong objections to each application received for consultation. Application locations (and decisions made to date by DCC) are shown below:-

1. Non-classified highway Sheepwash Lane, Milltown – BOAT rejected. Order adding it to the definitive map as a bridleway has been confirmed.
2. Non-classified highway at Nuttingfield Farm, Littlemoor - BOAT rejected and an Order made and advertised adding it to the definitive map as a bridleway – no objections were received and this route has now been confirmed as a bridleway.
3. Footpath 146 Holestone Gate Rd to

Overton Rd – BOAT rejected and footpath status to remain.

4. Bridleway 140 Vernon Lane, Kelstedge – BOAT rejected and Bridleway status to remain.
5. Non-classified highway at Marsh Green – An Order adding it to the definitive map as a BOAT has been confirmed.
6. Non-classified highway Coach Road, Ashover – Awaiting decision.
7. Non-classified highway Back Lane, Ashover – Awaiting decision.
8. Footpath 60 Overton to Fallgate – BOAT rejected and Footpath status to remain.
9. Bridleway 136 Abrahams Lane, Ashover – BOAT rejected and Bridleway status to remain.
10. Non-classified highway Lea Road and upgrade part of Bridleway 145 Ashover – Consultation awaited.
11. Bridleway 145 Coffin Lane, Ashover – Consultation awaited (much of this claim is a duplicate of 10 above).
12. Lane near Eastwood Grange, Ashover – duplicate claim for no.2 listed above (bridleway).

Further information and an information sheet on modification orders may be obtained from the Rights of Way Office at Derbyshire County Council (01629 580000).

## SCAMS

Derbyshire Police has issued the following advice on how to better protect yourself against unwanted calls:

- Be sceptical
- Take your time
- Know who you are dealing with
- Protect your financial information

**If you want assistance in finding out if it is a scam contact Consumer Direct on 08454 04 05 06**

If you want to cut the junk contact:-

**Mailings** - 0845 703 4599 or [www.mpsonline.org.uk](http://www.mpsonline.org.uk) (Registration is free)

**Telephone Calls** - 0845 070 0707 or [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk) (Registration is free). You can also contact your telephone company to block callers who withhold their number.

**Text/SMS** - 0845 070 0707 or [www.tpsonline.org.uk](http://www.tpsonline.org.uk). If you then receive a message you don't want you can reply with the word STOP.

Email - if you would like advice go to [www.getsafeonline.org](http://www.getsafeonline.org)

## SPEED AWARENESS

Your Parish Council has been invited to join an initiative with other local councils in the area, in the purchase and annual maintenance of a speed gun for the Police. Members supported the initiative and will attend a meeting to discuss the possibility further.

Nationally, there are campaigns to reduce speed limits in villages to 20mph, and Members would like to hear parishioners' views on whether they think this would work in Ashover parish.

## SPORTS ASSOCIATION

Ashover Sports Association is an organisation representing all sports clubs in the parish. Its prime function is to facilitate any problems or difficulties which may arise.

## STREET FURNITURE/PROPERTY

A rolling programme continues to operate for the maintenance of parish owned street furniture, including parish seats, bus shelters

and notice boards and parish owned property. Where possible, the maintenance work is carried out by the Parish Lengthman as part of his duties and other work, such as vegetation strimming around some seats, is carried out under contract. Risk assessments and inspections have been undertaken in accordance with legal requirements.

## **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

Your Parish Council continues to subscribe to the Derbyshire Association of Local Councils (DALC) and the Institute of Cemetery & Crematorium Management (ICCM) on an annual basis. DALC offers free legal and professional advice on all aspects of parish and town council business backed up by experts at NALC (National Association of Local Councils) and regular information circulars. Likewise ICCM also offers free advice to its members and regular newsletters. Your Parish Council is registered under the Data Protection Act and the subscription is renewed annually with the Information Commission.

## **TENNIS CLUB**

For full details of how to join please contact the Club Secretary, Ellie Salomoni, on 01629 581629 or email [Ashovertennis@aol.com](mailto:Ashovertennis@aol.com) or [Ashovertennis@btinternet.co.uk](mailto:Ashovertennis@btinternet.co.uk). Further details about the club can also be found on the Lawn Tennis Association's website.

## **TREE WARDEN**

Your Tree Warden is Mrs Linda Stephenson who took up the the role in 2013. Linda may be contacted for advice on (01246) 590497.

### **Ash tree die-back**

Britain's Ash trees are at risk from a serious fungal disease (Chalara fraxinea). The disease affects all Ash trees and in mature trees they display die-back in shoots/ twigs and crowns. It would be an absolute disaster if this disease found its way into Ashover Parish, so I urge

people especially walkers, to practise good bio-security in gardens and woodlands to prevent any accidental spread of the disease, this may include disinfecting footwear after walks and planning routes so as not to walk from one woodland into another. All other symptoms of this disease can be found on [www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara). This website has numbers to phone to report potential sightings and also an accurate description of symptoms. Please be vigilant to avoid the spread of this fatal disease.

### **Does ivy damage trees?**

*(Extract from an article published by London Borough of Richmond upon Thames)*

Ivy uses trees for support but does not feed on the tree. Generally healthy trees will not allow ivy to become fully established. However, as trees age their crowns may begin to allow more light to penetrate. In such situations the extra light can stimulate growth in the ivy at the expense of the tree which subsequently declines.

Ivy tends to establish itself in deciduous trees. These trees lose their leaves in winter, to lower their wind resistance. Because ivy is evergreen, it raises the wind resistance and increases its weight which means that the tree is more likely to suffer damage in stormy conditions. In addition, the presence of ivy can hinder tree inspections and may conceal serious defects in a tree. To remove ivy from the tree you will need to cut away a section about an inch in length further down to isolate the growth towards the top of the tree. This will then die back and fall away or can be pulled from the tree.

Linda Stephenson

Ashover Parish Tree Warden

## **UPPERTOWN SOCIAL CENTRE**

The Centre provides a first class facility for social activities for the people of Ashover and surrounding areas. It has comfortable and up to date facilities for parties, birthdays,

weddings and other special occasions but is equally suited to conferences, training sessions or meetings.

Facilities include:

- Licensed bar
- Fully fitted kitchen for outside caterer or hirer use
- Function room for up to 120 people
- Car parking for 25 cars

(this area can be used to erect a marquee)

The Centre is run on a not for profit basis as a charity, which would not be possible without the committee of local people and a group of willing volunteers.

To book the Centre or for more information contact Eddie Marriot on 01246 590502 or 07966 154798 or visit the web site [www.uppertown.org](http://www.uppertown.org)

Uppertown Social Centre, Ashover, S45 0JF.



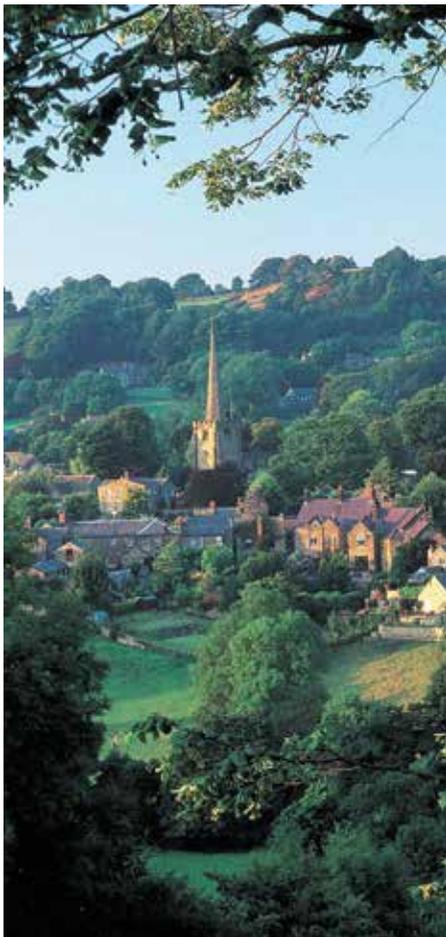
Date	Time	Event	Tickets
Sat 24th May	7:00 for 8:00pm	A Sixties Night with Captain Jack	£6 including food.
Sat 14th June	7:00 for 8:00pm	Irish and Country Night with Ursula and Conor McKay and The Barry Doyle Band	£12 including supper
Sat 5th July	7:00 for 8:00pm	Irish Night with Pat Jordan and Finians Rainbow	£12 including supper
Sat 26th July	7:00 for 8:00pm	Country - Rock-n-Roll with The Haleys	£12 including supper
Sat 16th August	7:00 for 8:00pm	An ELVIS tribute evening	£10 including supper
Sat 13th Sept	7:00 for 8:00pm	Irish Music with The JJ Galway Band	£12 including supper
Sat 11th Oct	7:00 for 8:00pm	Rock-n-Roll with The Cadillacs	£12 including supper
Friday 31st Oct	7:00 pm onwards	Halloween Party Night at Uppertown	Tickets t.b.a.
Sat 8th Nov	6pm onwards	Bonfire Night Bonfire and fireworks display	£4 all ages (under 5's free)
Sat 15th Nov	7:00 for 8:00pm	Irish & Folk Night with Murphy's Marbles	£12 including supper
Sat 13th Dec	7:00 for 8:00pm	Irish, Country & Rock-n-Roll with The Cassidy Showband	£12 including food

## **WEBSITE**

The Parish Council's website gives information on your Parish Council and its activities including Meeting Information, Agenda, Minutes, Planning Applications, Newsletters, Cemetery Matters, Community Transport, Policies, Useful Contacts and of course the contact details of your Parish Councillors and its staff. Please visit [www.ashover-pc.gov.uk](http://www.ashover-pc.gov.uk).

## **WORLD WAR COMMEMORATION**

- Your Parish Council has been discussing ideas to mark the centenary of WW1 and, following an initial proposal to The Parochial Church Council, is offering to contribute funds towards the creation of a stained glass window in All Saints Church. The process to turn this into a reality will be a long one, with many steps involving governing bodies in the Church as well as local people. This is an embryonic idea, but one that ideally would involve as many parishioners as possible and leave a lasting legacy. It may be much broader in scope than WW1 and ideas will be sought and considered. Any proposals will have to have the approval of various bodies within the Church and those concerned with heritage at the very least, so a long way to go, but a collaborative one nevertheless. If you have any comments please send an email to [ashoverpc.consult@gmail.com](mailto:ashoverpc.consult@gmail.com).



# FINANCIAL REPORT

At the Parish Council meeting held on 15 October 2013, consideration was given to the recommendations of the Finance Committee for the precept application for 2014/15. The precept requirement had been analysed, and included the projected sums for future Capital Expenditure on Parish Assets together with the requirement for a six months net revenue spend.

The Finance Committee carefully considered each code and cost centre in the accounting system, recognising the need to limit expenditure, and maintain services as far as possible due to the current restraints and economic climate, and taking into account a realistic income figure.

The Precept figure for 2013/2014 was £60,960.00. Having deliberated the budget, an anticipated realistic income figure of £17,090.00 set against an anticipated expenditure figure of £78,050.00 produced an annual Precept

figure of £60,960.00 for the Financial Year 2014/2015. This maintained the Precept figure for a further year with no loss of service.

The request to the District Council was reviewed following receipt of further correspondence from NEDDC. Following the withdrawal of the transitional grant funding, and a reduction in the remaining Council Tax Support Grant funding by the District Council, an increase of £403.82 would be required in order to maintain a Precept of £60,960.00.

Your Parish Council resolved that the cut in Council Tax Support Grant funding would be absorbed and a Precept request put forward to NEDDC as follows:-

Precept Figure:	£57,700.67
plus Council Tax Support Grant Funding:	£2,855.51
Total Funding for 2014/2015 =	£60,556.18

## Summary Receipts & Payments Year Ended 31 March 2014

Year Ended 31 March 2013		Year Ended 31 March 2014
<b>Receipts</b>		
60,342.00	Precept Received	57,700.67
246.61	Interest Received	286.45
<b>60,588.61</b>		<b>57,987.12</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>		
6,032.18	Administration	29,289.46
1,462.15	Pavilion	3,903.80
40.00	Allotments	40.00
20,599.00	Cemetery	19,537.00
803.02	Community Transport	329.00
9,146.93	VAT Refunds	8,827.51
<b>98,671.89</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>119,913.89</b>
<b>Running Costs</b>		
26,975.47	Administration	26,731.23
950.00	Section 137	570.00
0.00	Other Grants	100.00
3,859.43	Pavilion	5,218.98
857.94	Toilets	2,906.01
20,582.87	Capital Projects	33,988.72
102.86	Allotments	366.42
8,378.37	Cemetery	10,429.95
33,122.92	Parish Upkeep	22,434.50
1,289.14	Community Transport	790.33
9,332.14	VAT on Payments	12,670.83
<b>105,451.14</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>116,206.97</b>

## Summary Receipts & Payments Year Ended 31 March 2014

Year Ended 31 March 2013		Year Ended 31 March 2014
<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Summary</b>		
80,244.29	Opening Balance	73,465.04
98,671.89	Add Total Receipts	119,913.89
178,916.18		193,378.93
105,451.14	Less Total Payments	116,206.97
73,465.04	Closing Balance	77,171.96

### These cumulative funds are represented by:

35,206.45	Current/Reserve Account	38,483.21
225.93	War Memorial Account	0.00
33,850.56	National Savings Account	34,104.44
4,182.10	Village of the Year Account	4,584.31
73,465.04		77,171.96

## FOR PARISH COUNCIL INFORMATION

www.ashover-pc.gov.uk

AND NOTICE BOARDS LOCATED AT:-

- Alton Hill, Alton
- Moor Road, Ashover
- The Causeway (bus shelter), Kelstedge
- Ashover Road (bus shelter), Littlemoor
- The Pinfold (nr. Miners Arms), Milltown
- The Social Centre, Uppertown

A summary of Minutes is available in “Grassroots” section of ‘The Derbyshire Times’ and in the Parish Magazine

*For contact details of your Councillors and Clerk, please refer to page 27 and 28 of this report.*

For information and help on the following services, please call the appropriate authority (details at the right of this page) :-

Bulk Waste Collection Service	<b>NEDDC</b>
Bus Shelters	<b>APC</b>
Car Park (Milken Lane)	<b>APC</b>
Cemetery (Ashover)	<b>APC</b>
Council Tax	<b>NEDDC</b>
Common Land	<b>APC</b>
Dog Waste Bins	<b>APC</b>
Dog Wardens	<b>NEDDC</b>
Education	<b>DDC</b>
Energy Advice Centre	<b>NEDDC</b>
Environmental Health	<b>NEDDC</b>
Fly Tipping	<b>NEDDC</b>
Grit Bins	<b>APC/DCC</b>
Highways	<b>DCC</b>
Housing	<b>NEDDC</b>
Libraries	<b>DCC</b>
Licensing	<b>NEDDC</b>
Parish Plan (Ashover parish)	<b>APC</b>
Parish Seats	<b>APC</b>

Pest Control	<b>NEDDC</b>
Planning Permission	<b>NEDDC</b>
Play Area (Ashover)	<b>APC</b>
Playing Field/Hard Courts (Ashover)	<b>APC</b>
Potholes	<b>DCC</b>
Public Toilets	<b>APC</b>
Recycling (inc. blue box/bag scheme)	<b>NEDDC</b>
Refuse Collection	<b>NEDDC</b>
Reg. of Births, Deaths, Marriages	<b>DCC</b>
Register of Electors	<b>NEDDC</b>
Rights of Way (footpaths/bridleways)	<b>DCC</b>
Social Services	<b>DCC</b>
Street Cleaning	<b>NEDDC</b>
Street Lighting Repairs	<b>DCC</b>
Trading Standards	<b>DCC</b>
War Memorial	<b>APC</b>

### NEDDC

North East Derbyshire District Council  
Council House, Saltergate,  
Chesterfield S40 1LF  
Tel. 01246 231111  
Clean & Green Line 01246 217610  
Council Tax & Benefits 01246 217600  
Online: via the online contact form

### DCC

Derbyshire County Council  
County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG  
Tel. 01629 580000  
and Call Derbyshire 01629 533190  
E:mail contact.centre@derbyshire.gov.uk  
Text: 86555

### APC

Ashover Parish Council  
40 Woodland Way, Old Tupton  
Chesterfield S42 6JA  
Tel. 01246 863018  
E.Mail: parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk

## INFORMATION AND HELP

### Derbyshire County Council

01629 580000

or Call Derbyshire 01629 533190

### North East Derbyshire

#### District Council

01246 231111

#### Police

NON-URGENT calls to report crime, anti-social behaviour, non-violent crime or general information: 101

Please note: You **MUST** continue to use 999 where a crime is in progress, for serious crime or where violence is being used.

#### Citizens Advice Bureau

Providing consumer advice, free of charge on a range of issues or complaints.

Website: [www.adviceguide.org.uk](http://www.adviceguide.org.uk)

Consumer Helpline: 08454 040506

Textphone: Dial 18001 followed by helpline number 08454 040506

## EMERGENCY SERVICES

*Always dial 999 in case of an emergency*

### Derbyshire Police:

101 (calls to report crime, anti-social behaviour, non-violent crime or general information)

Please note: You **MUST** continue to use 999 where a crime is in progress, for serious crime or where violence is being used.

### Derbyshire Fire & Rescue

Administrative and fire safety enquiries:  
01332 771221

### Power and supplies

Electricity: Western Power Distribution (emergency) 0800 056 8090

Gas (emergency) 0800 111 999

Severn Trent Water (emergency)

0800 783 4444

or 0845 9881188 (flooding)

Environment Incident hotline

0800 807060

National Floodline

0845 988 1188

### Hospitals/medical

NHS 111 is a new service that's being introduced to make it easier for you to access local NHS healthcare services in England. You can call 111 when you need medical help fast but it's not a 999 emergency. NHS 111 is a fast and easy way to get the right help, whatever the time.

NHS 111 is available 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Calls are free from landlines and mobile phones.

Royal Derby Hospital

01332 340131 - Main switchboard

Chesterfield Royal Hospital

01246 277271

Buxton Hospital

01298 214000

## Your Parish Councillors



**William Armitage**

(01246) 590486  
Green Bank  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover S45 0ER



**Rosemary Early**

(01246) 590738  
Lexley Gables  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover S45 0ER



**Christine Brocksopp**

(01246) 590358  
White Lion House  
Butts Road  
Ashover S45 0AX



**Richard Fidler**

(01246) 590155  
Porthlea  
Alton Lane  
Littlemoor S45 0BE



**John Cook**

07803 230702  
Farhill House  
Far Hill  
Ashover S45 0BA



**Chris Miller**

(01246) 590253  
Hill House  
Hill Road  
Ashover S45 0BU



**Steve Dronfield**

(01246) 590721  
Willow Tree Farm,  
Hunger Hill Lane,  
Stonedge S45 0LP



**Sandy Bull**

(01246) 591117  
Willow Cottage  
Ashover Road  
Kelstedge  
Ashover S45 0DT



**Nigel Early**

(01246) 590738  
Lexley Gables  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover S45 0ER



**Ed Willmot**

(01246) 590260  
The Pines  
Hill Road  
Ashover S45 0BZ

## Your County and District Councillors



**Barry Lewis**  
County Councillor  
01773 830871  
Mobile: 07920484207  
2 King George Street  
Wessington  
S55 6DZ



**Peter Ramshaw**  
NEDDC Councillor  
(01246) 590455  
Wheatcroft Cottage  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover S45 0ER

## Your Parish Council Staff



**Sara Atkinson**  
Parish Clerk  
(Burials & Finance)  
(01246) 863018  
40 Woodland Way  
Old Tupton  
Chesterfield S42 6JA  
[parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk)



**John Bown**  
Parish  
Lengthman





