

ISSUE no.1  
2015/2016

# Ashover Parish Council Annual Report 2014/2015



LOCAL COUNCIL  
AWARD SCHEME  
FOUNDATION



**Ashover**  
Community First

## CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Dear Parishioners,

As the council comes to the end of its four year term, every effort is being made to conclude current business. Inevitably, there will be some items of business which will be ongoing for the new council to take forward. During the last year dialogue with Derbyshire County Council has taken place on transport, highway issues and library service. Your Parish Council's views have been conveyed to Derbyshire County Council via Barry Lewis, our elected Derbyshire County Council representative.

This year has seen a great deal of local interest on planning, particularly on the Narrowleys Lane Housing proposal. The need for housing, put forward by the current government, has led the Parish Council to start the process for a "Neighbourhood Plan". This process is to determine acceptable sites to meet with the housing requirement up to 2031 and will require public meetings to take place at various stages of the plan's creation.

With funding from the Ashover Community Medical Centre Ltd., a new fitness training unit has been installed on the sports field and their help with funding for the Christmas Event was also much appreciated.

As a result of legal action taken by a non-parishioner against your

Parish Council, it has been necessary for the council to incur legal advice. I am pleased to add in both cases the courts rejected the cases levelled at the Parish Council, as there was no case to answer.

On behalf of the Parish Council, I would like to wish Peter Ramshaw well, as he is not seeking re- election as the Ashover Ward Representative to North East Derbyshire District Council. Peter has served for a number of years as both Parish and District Councillor.

To the retiring Council, I would like to extend my thanks for Members' contribution and support over the last four years and also to Sara, our Clerk, whose role includes RFO and Clerk to the Burial Board, for her tireless efforts in keeping us an Accredited Council. Thanks also to John Bown in his role as Parish Lengthman.

Last, but by no means least, a very sincere thanks to all the parishioners who have contributed in making our parish the envy of many parishes in Derbyshire.

*Councillor Ed Willmot*

CHAIRMAN

ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL

April 2015

## ASHOVER PARISH REMEMBERS

**Commemorative Event remembering the fallen in all wars.**

A five minute silent vigil remembering the fallen of all wars was held around the War Memorial on Sunday 3 August 2014 at midnight.

There was a gathering of over a hundred people at a sombre and silent occasion. As the clock struck twelve midnight on the third of August 2014 we moved into the fourth of August 2014 hearing a single bell tolling for five minutes.

This was followed by part of 'Ode of Remembrance', which is from Laurence Binyon's poem "For the Fallen" and this was read by Councillor Edward Willmot, Chairman of Ashover Parish Council. The conclusion of the event was a prayer by the Rector of All Saints Church Ashover, the Revd Ralph Lawrence.

The Memorial was draped with the union flag and candles surrounded all sides. Also poignant, were grown Flanders poppy seeds, which had been sent by the Bishop of Derby to all Churches earlier in the year and at Ashover All Saints Church the young people at the May Day Celebration of Praise Service, planted the seeds in anticipation.



In recognition of lives lost in all wars, your Parish Council installed 4 picnic tables, sited around the playing field on Milken Lane, each of which carries a remembrance plaque. One of the tables was kindly donated by the students of Eastwood Grange School using the proceeds from their fundraising at the May Day event in 2014.

## 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.

## ASHOVER COMMUNITY MEDICAL CENTRE LTD

This year has seen a very significant one in the life of the Community Trust.

The Trustees have continued to apply the available funds of the Charitable Trust, and during this financial year in excess of £17,000 has been granted to individuals and projects within the community. The purchase of outdoor fitness equipment and the swing seat were made possible with grants from the Trust. Both of these items fit well with the ongoing healthy living objects of the Trust.

The Trustees have also made significant steps to secure the future of the Trust by setting up a company limited by guarantee. The Charitable Trust is within the company and continues working as before, benefitting the community with grants to individuals as well as local organisations.

Parishioners are reminded that the Trust was set up by the community, and it is the community who are able to benefit from it. The Trustees consider requests for help with group projects, or educational and recreational activities for school age children, which fit well with the Trust objectives.

To contact one of the Trustees – Jacqueline Collins, Andrew King, Ed Willmot, or Philip Clark, call 01245 590356.

## ASHOVER PARISH LOCAL NATURE RESERVES

Over the last few years, staff from the Countryside Service at Middleton Top have been hard at work producing management plans for the three Heathland sites in Ashover Parish – namely Ashover Rock, Highoredish and Eddlestow Lot, with a view to have all three sites designated as Local Nature Reserves.

The management plans for the three sites were completed late last year, and received support from Natural England. In January this year, the proposal went before the cabinet committee, and I'm pleased to confirm that the decision was taken to approve the declaration of all three sites as Local Nature Reserves.

The Countryside Service intends to formally open the sites as LNR's on Wednesday 10th June this year. There will be a small event at Ashover Rock – a photo opportunity, and possibly a short guided walk.

We would like to extend our thanks to all the volunteers who have given their time and effort out on the sites, clearing scrub and removing litter (amongst many other tasks). In particular, I would like to thank Richard Felton for all his help and support around Ashover.

*Aidan Rumble* COUNTRYSIDE RANGER  
Derbyshire County Council  
Countryside Service  
Middleton Top Visitor Centre

## CEMETERY

The maintenance contract for the cemetery by Derbyshire County continues to be carried out satisfactorily. Under a separate contract we continue to weed kill the paths and borders to maintain their functionality.

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. Due to the current economic climate no increase in charges has been levied for the coming year. This is the fifth year that no increase has been levied for 'in parish' fees

*Councillor Chris Miller*

CHAIRMAN OF THE BURIAL BOARD

## CHRISTMAS LIGHTS SWITCH-ON 7th December 2014

This event, until 2014, has been characterised by fine weather but last year, that run of good luck came to an end, with icy blasts and sleet

making it most unpleasant to be outside.

Fortunately a back-up plan for bad weather had been put in place and was actioned that afternoon.

At 5pm there was a brief respite from the rain and Richard Felton, with his usual aplomb, carried out the ceremony of lighting the tree, which looked beautiful.

After Richard's speech, the marshals guided the crowd to the church. There were so many attendees that it took nearly 15 minutes for everyone to enter. It was estimated that well over 200 people had made the effort to come despite the weather.

Inside everyone enjoyed refreshments (served by Anne and Amanda) and then took their seats. Once seated, Father Christmas (Michael Marshall), Maud the donkey and helpers, Penny and Elspeth, made their entrance, to a wonderful reception.

The Town Crier (Merrick Bull) then directed proceedings aided by the band and the church choir.

The event was greatly enjoyed by all and the shelter of the church encouraged much mingling and lingering, so much so that it has been decided to use the church again this year.

Our thanks go to the Ashover Community Medical Centre Ltd. for funding the beautiful tree and some of the refreshments.

*Christine Brocksopp*

## 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 previous 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. In conjunction with Derbyshire County Council and in discussions with the Chesterfield and Amber Valley Community Car scheme organisers, arrangements were made which retained 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. 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

Due to a lack of passenger numbers during recent Shopperbus trips the Parish Council resolved that the scheme be suspended at the end of 2014 and reviewed thereafter if demanded.

## 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@derbyshiretimes.co.uk](mailto:grassroots@derbyshiretimes.co.uk) or telephoning (01246) 504525.

## COUNTY/DISTRICT COUNCIL LIAISON MEETINGS

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

## DONATIONS/GRANTS

During 2014/15, your Parish Council donated £910 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 £110, Baby & Toddler Group £50, Ashover Cricket Club £500. Additionally, sum of £368 was donated towards the Churchyard and Clock Maintenance.

## EASTWOOD GRANGE



My name is Anthony Armstrong I have recently taken up post as Principal at Eastwood Grange School and I would like to offer a warm welcome to Ashover Parish Council. I have worked within Special Educational Needs schools for a number of years and I have always worked tirelessly to foster good relationships between schools and local communities. Prior to taking up post and subsequently to my arrival there have been a number of really exciting changes I would like to share with you.

Eastwood Grange was founded in 1990 as both a Residential School and Children's Home and was acquired by Priory Group in 2003. I am aiming to ensure 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 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 additional needs and implement ways of alleviating them.
- Learn how to manage their behavior 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 on site:

- Our staffing structure has been further developed with a new Senior Management Team in post
- We have developed the therapy support offered to the young people in our care with a Consultant Psychiatrist, Educational Psychologist, music therapist, Occupational Therapist and Speech and Language Therapist as required
- We have reduced the number of pupils in residence on site at Eastwood Grange and have opened 2 new refurbished community homes: 1 in Rotherham and 1 in Chesterfield both finished to a high standard to offer a more 'homely' environment.
- The refurbishment of our residents' rooms is complete at Eastwood Grange and provides a caring and nurturing environment for the young people.
- The education facility is due to be refurbished in the summer of 2015.
- We offer a full National Curriculum whilst focusing on the individual needs of our young people

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.

As the new Principal I am very committed to ensure that Eastwood Grange becomes a positive member of the Ashover community as both our young people and staff enjoy their involvement in local community events including the 2015 May Day Carnival. I look forward to meeting with you all soon.

*Tony Armstrong*

PRINCIPAL, EASTWOOD GRANGE

T: 01246 590255

## EMPLOYEES

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

## FITNESS EQUIPMENT



This year the Parish Council installed new fitness equipment on the playing field to encourage healthy lifestyles within the community. The equipment is a multi-gym provided by 'The Great Outdoor Company'. Ashover Community Medical Centre Ltd. granted £7,000 in support of the project, with Ashover Parish Council financing the balance of £1,994. It's hoped that the 4-station gym comprising leg press, lateral pull-down, cross trainer and shoulder press, will encourage residents to have a go and get fit or to include the equipment into their fitness regime. Whilst the new multi-gym is aimed at adults, the Parish Council has also improved its children's play facilities during the summer, by installing a new

basket swing.

## FOOTPATH AND BRIDLEWAY GROUP

This year's activities were the usual mixture of steady improvements to Rights of Way, made possible by the work of local land owners, volunteers and others from out of The Parish, supported by Derbyshire County Council's Countryside Service and Rights of Way inspectors. The nature of such work means that few people see it happening!

### Thanks to landowners:

- (i) There have been improvements to drainage to help the footpath behind Bassett Barn and similarly off Vernon Lane.
- (ii) Better drainage has helped with a path around Span Carr.
- (iii) Change of land use has enabled a fence to be removed from a path near Eaton Lane. Enclosed paths often become overgrown and this year has been especially good for bramble growth!
- (iv) The legal diversion of the path around Trinity Farm near Highoredish is a considerable improvement and more attractive to everyone. It provides one of the best views in The Parish, towards Ogsten.
- (v) Two new benches have been provided. One of the benches is in Alton and the other near to Eddlestowe Car Park, with splendid views down the valley from its vantage point.
- (vi) Overgrown hedges have been cut back by several of the paths, including by the bridleway by the former Manor Inn.

### Thanks to volunteers:

- (i) Stone slabs have been rescraped and uncovered. The stones up to Overton have been renamed 'the stairway to Heaven' by one parishioner.
- (ii) Many trees have been removed from across bridleways and paths, where they fell. Vegetation from around stiles and gates has been cut back.. Thanks to Stevensons' Countryside and Garden

Services, who receive a grant from D.C.C. through the Parish Council, some of the more difficult cut backs on bridle paths and Back Lane have made a real difference. Quarry Lane, Alton needed the assistance of the Countryside Service to supplement the work of volunteers over the fast growing path.

- (iii) Cut backs to protect the environmentally sensitive areas on The Fabric have taken place. Unfortunately, the area is covered in Dog Poo, much to the disgust of the majority of dog owners. This is not very pleasant for the work force. Thanks to the Parish Council, there is now a Dog Bin by the main entrance to The Rock and another one at Overton Hall – so no excuse.

**Thanks to walkers and riders** most paths are well used and this cuts down the need for maintenance. One local walking group has walked over 150 km. along Ashover paths, which helps to define legal routes and bashes some of the bracken. Ashover School continues to help by using the local paths as a key to opening a practical view of the community and its history.

**Thanks to D.C.C.** Amongst other things, several finger posts have been replaced and hand rails have been attached to the old bridge on Vernon Lane. Rights of Way continue to establish the correct lines of paths and to follow up health and safety issues.

**And thanks too to the Parish Council:** The information kiosk between the 'ladies' and 'gents' in the village has been well received by hundreds of visitors and has been a useful place to disseminate footpath information.

Our small group meets six times a year, for no longer than an hour each time. If you want any further information about our work, then please contact either Richard Felton (590786) or Karen Haywood (590145).

*Richard Felton* FOOTPATHS GROUP

## FOOTBALL & CRICKET CLUBS

**Black Swan FC:** After a slow start, Black Swan picked up at the latter part of the season. With a more settled squad, Swan went on an unbeaten run to secure a mid-table finish in the Chesterfield Sunday League Division 2.

*Wayne Carline* BLACK SWAN FC

**Ashover Cricket Club:** During the winter our cricket club undertook three different projects to significantly improve the facilities of the club.

Firstly we purchased covers to improve the standard of the wicket, secondly we had our artificial wicket serviced and repaired and lastly we had a new patio frontage at the pavilion including new drainage.

The cricket club committee feel that the above improvements highlight our resolve to maintain, and where we can improve our facilities for the benefit of our members and the village in general.

On the playing side we are encouraged that in spite of many clubs struggling for players we have managed to bolster our playing strength and retain the 5 senior and 13 junior teams we continue to run. However we know not to rest our laurels so should anyone within the village know of anyone who would like to join our club please contact any of our committee members.

Finally the club would like to thank Ashover Parish Council for their continued support as we look forward to the summer with considerable optimism.

*David Cooke* CHAIRMAN ASHOVER CC

## GRIT BINS

Your Parish Council owns and fills a total of 37 grit bins sited around the parish. During the winter a total of £3,578 was spent on filling grit bins and snow clearance. The salt is supplied for use on the highway adjacent to 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)

### Hard Courts

The hard courts will be available for booking by any club or organisation, affiliated to a league, at the following times:-

Monday	1800hrs – onwards
Wednesday	1800hrs – onwards
Friday	1800hrs – onwards
Saturday	1300hrs – 1800hrs
Sunday	1300hrs – 1800hrs

1. The hard courts shall be available for municipal (free) use at all other times from 8am to dusk and when they are not 'on hire' during booking times.
2. Any booking will be paid for monthly in arrears and proof of public liability insurance will be produced by the booking organisation at the time of booking.
3. Any organisation which makes a block booking will be issued with a key for the hard courts entrance and the pavilion (toilet use only and access to light card meter) which must be signed for and paid for if lost.
4. The costs will be as per the charges currently displayed in the pavilion.

5. No organised Competitions or League matches will be played in municipal hours.
6. That if players are waiting, a playing time rule of 30 minutes as is stated on our notice board on a first on first off basis.
7. Bookings may be taken for the year ahead, but within the booking year i.e. April to March.
8. Block bookings may be taken for up to 12 months ahead during the booking year.
9. The notice board will be refurbished and split such that the Parish Council uses one side (locked) and the other side (unlocked) shall be for public use. The Parish Council retains the right to remove any notice from the public notice board.
10. The club/meeting room may be booked by anyone hiring the hard courts as per the charges currently displayed in the pavilion.
11. The Parish Council shall retain the right to use its discretion to make the hard courts available for hire and municipal use as appropriate e.g. junior coaching sessions.
12. A board will be made available to place outside the courts to notify the public when they are "on hire" and not available for municipal use.

## HOSPITAL Chesterfield Royal Hospital

Despite the well-publicised problems which are affecting the NHS, your local hospital is doing better than most. Although its margins have been much reduced in recent years, it continues to operate with a small surplus – the only hospital Trust in the region to do so. It continues to invest in improved patient services. Currently its twelve operating theatres are being upgraded and re-equipped and work is about to start, in partnership with Macmillan, on a new Cancer Services Unit. In the past eighteen months nursing

numbers have twice been increased, to ensure the quality of care to patients.

The hospital nevertheless faces some daunting challenges. Whatever you hear about the ring-fencing of NHS budgets, healthcare providers are being obliged to tighten their belts. Year on year they are required to make efficiency savings, typically of 4% and these are reflected in a reduced tariff – the amount which the hospital gets paid for the services it provides. The easy economies have already been made. Now they are starting to bite! Moreover, while the numbers of people using Accident and Emergency Services have been steadily rising in Chesterfield as elsewhere in the country, hospitals are paid at a marginal rate (30% of the tariff) for emergency patients in excess of a baseline set five years ago!

Meanwhile, there are national shortages of clinical staff in several specialities and, in order to attract staff with the necessary skills, the Trust is striving to make Chesterfield a satisfying place to work, with plenty of opportunities for career development.

In partnership with other members of the healthcare community, including GPs, commissioning groups, community hospitals and nurses, mental health services and the County Council, Chesterfield Royal is participating in a drive to improve co-ordination and provide "joined up healthcare for the 21st Century". The idea is that, in future, those patients who do not need to be in hospital will, more promptly than at present, receive or continue their treatment closer to home, with social services and other support as necessary. Partnership working across the boundaries between the various organisations has not always been a tradition of the NHS, but there is already evidence to indicate that we are further advanced down this road in Derbyshire than our counterparts in many other parts of the country.

On a personal note, this will be my last report on Chesterfield Royal. At the end of this year I will have completed three terms as

a Governor for North East Derbyshire – a total of nine years, which is the maximum allowed under the legislation. It has been a privilege to represent the community in this way and I have been continually impressed by the level of support for the hospital and the NHS more generally. I hope my successor, when elected, will find the role equally as rewarding as I have and I am confident that the Trust will remain in good hands.

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

*Bernard Everett*

(Ashover resident and Public Governor for North East Derbyshire Chesterfield Royal Hospital Foundation Trust)

## LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

The Local Council Award Scheme exists to celebrate the successes of the very best local councils, and to provide a framework to support all local councils to meet their full potential. All local councils want to serve their local communities and make a real difference to the lives of the people that live there. The scheme offers councils the opportunity to show that they meet the standards set by the sector, assessed by their peers, and to put in place the conditions for continued improvement.

The Award Scheme has been designed to both provide the tools and encouragement to those councils at the beginning of their improvement journeys, as well as promoting and recognising councils that are at the cutting edge of the sector. It is only through the sector working together to share best practice, drive up standards and supporting those who are committed to improving their offer to their communities that individual councils and the sector as a whole will reach its full potential. The scheme was created in 2014 and is managed on behalf of local councils by the Improvement and Development Board (IDB).

Your Parish Council has maintained 'Quality' status since 2006 under the previous scheme and has automatically been awarded 'Foundation' level under the new scheme. This award is due for renewal in 2016, when your Parish Council will again seek accreditation under the new award scheme.

## LOCAL HOUSING Housing Strategy at NEDDC

The new housing development by Wildgoose at Fallgate includes three affordable homes for rent. The homes will be owned and managed by Dales Housing, and let to applicants who have been nominated from the council's Housing Register.

If you would like to apply for affordable housing in Ashover or the wider district you will need to be entered on the Housing Register. For an application form and further information go to [www.choicemove.org.uk](http://www.choicemove.org.uk) or telephone 01246 217650 to speak to the Choice Move team. The allocations system is carried out by Rykneld Homes on behalf of the council. You will receive priority for properties in the Parish if you have a local connection with Ashover.

Following the last local housing needs survey the estimate of the affordable housing requirement for Ashover Parish was 13 units.

*June Haslam* HOUSING STRATEGY OFFICER  
North East Derbyshire District Council

## Rykneld Homes

Have your say!

Estate walkabouts

At Rykneld Homes we are keen to encourage tenants and residents to join our quarterly estate walkabouts. They are a great opportunity for you to meet with your Neighbourhood Support Officer and members of our partner organisations to discuss any issues affecting your neighbourhood.

Our next walkabouts will be on Monday 8 June at 10am and Tuesday 8 September at 10am meeting on the corner of Malthouse Lane. For further information contact Louise Rowley on 01246 217312.

## Annual Satisfaction Survey

Thanks to everyone who filled in last year's Annual Tenant Satisfaction Survey from Rykneld Homes.

We were very pleased to receive our highest ever satisfaction rate for the services we provide – at 91%. The result places Rykneld in the top 25% of landlords in the country.

We use your feedback to help us strengthen and improve the services we provide – so keep your comments coming!

This year's survey is due out in the summer – don't forget if you fill one in you could be in with a chance of winning £100 in shopping vouchers!

Here are some of the things you said about our services in 2014.

- Overall satisfaction - 91%
- You can contact us easily – 96%
- We treat you fairly and equally - 92%
- We listen to your views – 86%
- Repairs and maintenance – 84%
- Arrears support and advice - 92%
- Do you find the Contact Centre helpful and friendly - 99%
- Area Housing Office satisfaction – 98%
- Communication – 94%
- Independent Living Service – 99%

Tenants reported their priorities as:

- Repairs and maintenance
- Overall quality of homes
- Neighbourhood as a place to live

Your biggest issues were car parking and dog fouling. These are ongoing issues that we have helped to address through the provision of additional bins and a car parking/garage site review is a project that has been identified in our Business Plan.

*Jill Ward* COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER  
Rykneld Homes, Pioneer House,  
Mill Lane, Wingerworth,  
Chesterfield, S42 6NG  
Tel: 01246 217549  
E-mail: [jill.ward@rykneldhomes.org.uk](mailto:jill.ward@rykneldhomes.org.uk)

## LOCAL PLAN (DRAFT) 2011 - 2031

Following the Parish Council meeting in March 2015, your Parish Council submitted

its comments on the consultation document from North East Derbyshire District Council on the draft Local Plan for 2011 – 2031. These comments were:-

“The Parish Council accept the need for new housing across the whole of North East Derbyshire to achieve government imposed targets and also provide sustainable housing for future generations, but this must not be achieved to the detriment of some of the finest landscape in Derbyshire or overly disturb the lives of the current residents.

The current Draft Local Plan suggests overly high numbers for the four targeted settlements of Ashover Parish.

They are:-

Ashover 40%	115 Dwellings
Fallgate 20%	30 Dwellings
Kelstedge 20%	25 Dwellings
Littlemoor 14%	20 Dwellings

Nowhere in the plan has it been shown that there is a need for these numbers, in fact the take up of housing stock advertised by Rykneld Homes shows that there is very little local need!

The draft local plan shows a total number of new builds for the Parish as 17 when in actual fact the true number since 2011 to date is 41.

If we look at the population spread across the rural west, which has a target of 30 dwellings per year, then the proportion for Ashover Parish is 5 per year. This number has been regularly exceeded over the last 5 years. There is no reason to believe that this trend will not continue, in fact it may well increase in view of the relaxation of permitted development rights for agricultural buildings.

The draft plan makes reference to sustainability and growth, but in Ashover the area does not lend itself to industrial development, rather more home workers and agriculture.

Building more homes in the parish where people, will by necessity have to commute to work, at the suggested levels will put more pressure on an overloaded road network, much of which is single track, and on a

dwindling bus service. Paragraph 5.9 of the draft plan looks to get people working nearer their homes.

The current infrastructure within the village of schools and medical centre would also struggle to cope with added influx of people.

The plan mentions the need for affordable housing yet nowhere does it define what affordable housing is, and how with land prices in the Ashover Parish, these can be achieved.

Consideration needs to be given as to why Ashover needs 40% growth in housing over the length of the plan yet Cutthorpe, which has very similar housing numbers and population, needs 0% both of which have, according to Appendix A an ageing and declining population.

Consideration has not been given to current Settlement Development Limits or Special Landscape Areas.

There is a need to preserve the green belt and the green fields which surround this beautiful part of the country.

The validity of the public consultation also needs to be questioned in view of the fact that there are over 850 houses within the parish yet only 200 leaflets advertising the public drop in session and exhibition were delivered. The NE Derbyshire newspaper which did carry an article mentioning the drop in session was only delivered on the day of the session.

Please note the following ecological comments:-

- (1) The Parish of Ashover (Including Littlemoor, Alton, Fallgate, Ashover village and Kelstedge) is situated in an anticlinal valley which is an out-post microcosm of the White Peak.
- (2) The Parish of Ashover abutts and is overlooked by the Peak National Park at its north-west perimeter. As such it is a natural gateway from the Trent plain to the Peak District National Park.
- (3) This unique geological and topographical position makes Ashover Parish a busy

centre for such leisure activities as Ashover Show, Ashover May Day Carnival, Festival of Light, regular caravan rallies, walking, mountain biking, horse riding and geological studies, all of which attract many holiday makers and visitors from outside the district.

- (4) We note in strategy 5.39 especially that "The high quality countryside towards the Peak District will be protected from development" and believe because of (1), (2) and (3) above that Ashover Parish fulfils the criteria of High quality countryside.
- (5) We consider therefore that the proposed housing target for Ashover Parish of 190 new dwellings in the Local Plan is:-
  - (a) In conflict with strategy 5.39
  - (b) In conflict with strategy D12 Tourism
  - (c) Is unachievable in practice
- (6) We also note that:-
  - (a) Ashover Parish has achieved 60 new dwellings in the last 20 years, a growth rate of 9.25%
  - (b) That the proposed housing target for Ashover Parish in the local plan is a growth rate of 27% compared with an overall target growth for the rural West of 7.6%.

Because of all the above we respectfully suggest that Ashover Parish Housing target for 2011-2031 be set at a natural expansion of 10%."

ASHOVER PARISH COUNCIL March 2015

### MAY DAY CARNIVAL

As always many children want to take part in this event and this year we have forty children, the parade gets longer every year!

One of the delights is to see the May Queen & King with their attendants, and the garland attendants who all look so colourful & fantastic, and the large crowd of mums, dads, aunts, uncles etc. villagers & visitors who come to support and watch them, they are never disappointed.

We have full capacity of stalls, many of which are for a charity, and May Day provides the opportunity for these many

dedicated people to raise money for their specific charity.

There are many events happening during the day, one of the firm favourites is the "fun run" and thanks go for all those who help to make that event such a success.

Without all the help that is given towards may day it would never happen, we are always happy to welcome anyone who can spare time to come and support the event before, during and after, there's always a lot to do!!!!

*Councillor Rosemary Early*

### NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANS

Late last year your Parish Council made the decision in formulate a neighbourhood plan for the benefit of the community. A neighbourhood plan is a community led framework for guiding the future development and growth of the area. It may contain a vision, aims, planning policies, proposals for improving the area or providing new facilities, or allocation of key sites for specific kinds of development. All neighbourhood plans have to meet various conditions but do carry more weight than parish plans or community plans.

A steering group was set up by the Parish Council to lead on the formulation of the plan, this comprise three parish councillors, three members of the community and a consultant from a company called 'Your Locale' who are experienced in creating neighbourhood plans.

The process will be partly funded by the Parish Council and possibly grants from amongst others 'Locality' and the 'National Lottery', one has already been granted and further applications will be made as the plan continues.

We recently sent a questionnaire to parishioners asking for their input on various aspects of the proposed plan, and wish to thank everyone who responded for their contribution, which will make an important contribution to the final plan.

We will be following up on this

questionnaire with a public meeting giving parishioners a further opportunity to comment on the plan before we go for final approval by the inspectorate. Please keep a look out for notices in the parish advising of the meeting along with notification on the website.

*Councillor Richard Fidler* CHAIRMAN  
NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

### 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.

### OIL BUYING SCHEME

Are you off the gas grid and reliant on oil to heat your home, office or community building?

We can negotiate a price on your behalf resulting in significant savings. A recent new member paid 57.99 ppl (not including VAT) for 500 litres in March 2015 direct to one of the oil companies before they had been able to order oil through our scheme. In March, our members paid 33.39 ppl (not including VAT). This would have been a saving of 24.5 ppl, a whopping £123 on a 500 litre order. Membership still costs just £20 per year whether you are a private household, community building or business. Excellent value for money.

In November 2011, Rural Action Derbyshire launched this countywide bulk oil buying scheme for users of domestic heating oil (kerosene). The scheme aims to help people living off the gas grid save money on the cost of their heating bills by making the most of joint buying power to shave pennies off the price per litre.

We believe that finding a way to keep fuel costs as low as possible is particularly important in rural areas, where many households don't have mains gas. Research commissioned by our national RCC network has shown that 35% of the households in Derbyshire don't have mains gas and that more than half of the people living in fuel poverty in the county live in rural areas.

We only buy oil once per month and this is how we build a large enough order to persuade suppliers to lower their price per litre. We order between 50,000 and 100,000 litres of fuel each month, depending on the season. Members get the same price whether they order 500 or 5000 litres. On average we make a saving of 5 pence per litre but this will depend on market forces and supply and demand. An average household that uses 2500 litres of fuel per year would save approximately £140 per year purchasing with us, even after taking the £20 annual membership fee into account. A full list of prices secured since the scheme began is available from our office, or you can download it below.

The more members we have, the more buying power we have to negotiate a better price. If you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us for more information. Tell your friends, neighbours and the wider community so that everyone can benefit. If you are currently a member of a local bulk oil buying scheme, speak to your coordinator about the prices they have been able to achieve and then compare with ours.

WE LAST BOUGHT OIL ON 14 April 2015 at 34.89 PPL PLUS VAT AT 5%

### How does it work?

Join the scheme by returning the membership form (see below) and the fee to us. You will then receive an order schedule and order forms.

Post or email your order to us stating whether you would like the exact amount or

your tank 'topped up'

Leave us to negotiate with the suppliers and agree the best price on your behalf. You will be notified by phone or email within 3 days of the ordering deadline

Your oil will be delivered within ten working days of the order being placed with a supplier. So please be prepared, plan ahead and don't run out!

Pay for your fuel direct to the supplier. Arrangements vary but you will be notified of payment options once the supplier has been agreed.

For more information please contact us on 0845 313 8800 / 01629 592970 or [emailoil@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk](mailto:emailoil@ruralactionderbyshire.org.uk)

RURAL ACTION DERBYSHIRE

### 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; and
- 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 HALL

2014/2015 has been another brilliant year at Ashover Parish Hall Events Centre!

The centre continues to go from strength to strength and has been consistently busy throughout the year with all sorts of different bookings from folk festivals to exercise classes, anniversary parties to art exhibitions. Again, we would like to thank the local community

for their amazing support - we really couldn't do it without you.

Wedding bookings for 2014/2015 are again increased on last year and this trend looks set to continue into 2016. We have seen some beautiful weddings and fabulous parties, from Paul and Steph's stunning country wedding to Harriet's Harry Potter themed 18th birthday party. This year has also seen a flurry of anniversary party bookings so congratulations to all those celebrating an important anniversary this year!



We have been grateful to receive many compliments and thank yous from satisfied customers and we are very proud to have helped both Parishioners and people from beyond the Parish borders to enjoy their special celebrations here in Ashover.

We continue to have a variety of clubs, classes and community groups based at the centre - please see the news section of our website for a full list. New classes this year include 'Clubbercise', 'Just Dancing' (children's dance classes) and Spanish for Toddlers.

We have also seen a whole host of theatrical performances this year, including the annual Parish Panto (Jack and The Beanstalk), the respected High Tor Players (Meat and Two Veg, What's for Pudding and Duets) and local group Interesting Theatre Company (Blithe Spirit and Murder on the Nile). More performances and public events are scheduled for the coming months so make sure you like us on Facebook, follow us on Twitter (links on [www.ashoverparishhall.com](http://www.ashoverparishhall.com)), visit our website or keep your eye on our notice boards for details.

This May we welcomed local mother-of-two, Amy Corker, to the team. Amy lives in the village and has taken over from Jessica as Centre Manager.

Unfortunately Jessica could no longer continue in the role for health reasons, but has stayed involved with the centre on a voluntary basis. Alex has also stayed part of the team and continues to look after the centre's communications as well as conducting weekend viewings by appointment.

Looking to the future, It's going to be a busy a summer and autumn with weddings, parties and theatrical performances booked in almost every weekend up until Christmas. We do still have dates available though, so if you are planning something special and need the perfect venue, please get in touch.

We intend to do all we can to make sure the upward trend in bookings continues into the future and every customer who visits the centre leaves happy after enjoying a fantastic event.

By building links with quality local event suppliers such as Fisher Marquees, Bown's Butcher Catering, Elizabeth Aprilis Event Planning and Zest 4 Events, we are able to offer our customers recommendations,

advice and information on how to create the perfect event, be it a wedding or special birthday.

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 or event of any kind please get in touch with Amy or Alex to find out more about our fabulous facilities.

Tel: 01246 590005

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

Social Media: you will find links to our Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Flickr accounts on our website homepage

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

*Alexandra Hodgkinson* MANAGER

ASHOVER PARISH HALL

### PARISH PARTY & PANTOMIME

**Party:** This has become a very traditional occasion for the families of Ashover parish; the opportunity to be together sharing food, drink and chat is very popular.

As always after the "bun fight" comes musical chairs, and pass the parcel, also the choosing of the May Queen, King & Attendants for the coming May Day; another traditional occasion.

After all this, everyone settles down for the entertainment of the Pantomime, which provides more fun and laughter to complete the party.

**Pantomime:** This year's panto was Mother Goose and had a cast of 20 actors supported by another 34 children from the school who gave their all, playing many different roles.

The panto was increased from two nights to three this year, the first performance played to a large and enthusiastic audience who encouraged all the actors and the atmosphere was electric! However, on the second performance, due to the high winds the country was experiencing and just after thirty minutes of the panto, the parish hall had a power cut!, which affected other areas in the

village. The decision to evacuate the hall had to be taken; the procedure was followed by everyone confidently and all returned to their homes safely.

The final performance attracted a lot of people and the actors had great support and cheers for their last

performance. The pantomime is building up great relationships with the community and school, and each one develops into a team togetherness working hard, and putting a lot of effort into achieving a great pantomime.

*Councillor Rosemary Early*

### PAROCHIAL CHURCH COUNCIL

**The Village Coffee Shop**, which has been held in the Bassett Rooms on the first and third Tuesday mornings 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, including with Peak Care residents, who are brought along regularly and enjoy chatting with other villagers. All donations received at specific sessions during the year were allocated to selected charities, with the session in aid of Save the Children's work in combating ebola deserving special mention. A separate coffee morning also raised funds for *Medecins sans frontieres* in their work against ebola.

Another continuing success has been **Village Film Time**, held on Thursday evenings eight times a year, together with **Family Film Time** for children and their parents, held on Saturday afternoons several times a year, both in the Bassett Rooms. We are pleased to report that Peak Care residents and staff regularly enjoy the Village Film Time evenings.

In 2014 All Saints Church organised a **Christianity Explored course**, led by the Rector, for those interested in learning about the Christian faith.

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 "visited" 125 different venues during Advent 2014.

**The Ashover Celebration Choir** has taken part in all the major Christian festivals and also led services in local churches. They have sung at various village celebrations over the Christmas period and, by invitation, at weddings, funerals and the Honeybells Concert.

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 activities** 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.

The **website** for Ashover, Brackenfield, Handley and Wessington churches has been temporarily unavailable while we were changing hosts, but by the time you read this report it should be up and running again, providing information, news and a calendar of upcoming events. It can be found at [www.amberchurches.org](http://www.amberchurches.org). These churches also produce a **monthly magazine**, Amber News.

Church members again 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**.

A joint project by the Parish Council and

the Church's Parochial Church Council (PCC), to **commemorate the centenary of the First World War** by installing a stained glass window in the church in memory of parishioners who had lost their lives in that war and in subsequent conflicts, was abandoned after a preliminary report showed that the financial commitment would be far greater than had originally been envisaged. Instead, the PCC is examining a proposal that a **commemorative plaque** be placed in the church as a memorial to all who have lost their lives in war.

*Keith Mellor* ASHOVER PCC SECRETARY

## PLANNING

Your 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).

## POLICE INFORMATION



*Michael Coates*

It's hard to believe, but Crime has fallen again across the Area, like a Mermeration of Starlings descending to the trees. But now is not the time to get complacent like Polar Bear Cubs snuggled against their Mother in a cave, we should be more vigilant and watch for things that are out of place, more like a Kestrel hovering searching for prey.

If something looks out of place, call us, howl like a Wolf in the dawn, and the pack will come. Don't hide like a Field Mouse quivering on a stalk of corn, wondering if it's safe, boom

like a Bittern and let us check it out.

Guard your valuables, like a Squirrel hiding its nuts, shut your garages and lock your doors, become a Crocodile protecting its nest of eggs and don't allow Snakes to slither in and take your goodies. Given the opportunity, these people will take what they can, like a Hamster filling its pouches.

If you can, fit an Alarm, the panic cries of a Blackbird alert many different species to a threat and the Criminals, like Snow Leopard avoid the noise of humanity.

Fit window locks to secure your home, if it's hard to get in like a Hermit Crabs Shell, many Thieves will turn away.

We can always improve our homes and lives, like a Bower Bird improving its nest site, but we don't need to attract the poorer examples of the Species.

If you want me, get in touch or stop me in passing.

I'm a pussy cat really, so I don't bite. Even though I'm a Force Willdlife Officer!!

*Mike Coates, PCSO 4412*

WINGERWORTH AND RURAL SNT

Tel 101

E-mail: [michael.coates.4412@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk](mailto:michael.coates.4412@derbyshire.pnn.police.uk)

## PUBLIC CONVENIENCES

Following threat of closure by the District Council in 2008, the old stone public conveniences on Moor Road were taken over by the Parish Council and refurbished in 2013, including the redundant telephone kiosk in the small room at the front of the building, which was turned into an information point featuring parish news and attractions, maps and details of local walks. Ashover is believed to be one of the few parish councils to accept responsibility for upgrading and maintaining its public conveniences.

## 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 Stonegravels, 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 2014/2015 your Parish Council used its total Minor Maintenance budget of £675 on minor maintenance to rights of way around the parish (nos 145, 136, 143, 51 and 37).

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 Holystone 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 (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. 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

### SPEED AWARENESS

**Parish Councils in North East Derbyshire club together to provide speed camera for local police.**



Ten parish councils in the North East Derbyshire area have clubbed together to provide a speed camera for police to use in a joint bid to make local roads safer.

**Ashover,** Heath and Holmewood, Morton, North Wingfield, Pilsley, Shirland and Higham, Stretton, Sutton cum Duckmanton, Tupton and Wingerworth parish councils have all contributed to the campaign, and provided funding for the camera and maintenance.

Local residents regularly raise concerns regarding safety and speeding in their community and look to their local parish councillors for help. All the councils which have provided funding were keen to be involved in a pro-active scheme working alongside the police to help address these issues.

Officers plan to use the camera in the area to help educate drivers, for enforcement checks and in regular speed awareness campaigns.

Sgt. Les Rawson, of the local Safer

Neighbourhood policing teams, said: "Speeding and road safety is a concern to local residents and this device will be a real benefit to our teams, and the officers who work in the Clay Cross area.

*"We already have a great partnership with the local parish councils and will use the camera as part of our ongoing commitment to keeping our roads safe, as well as focusing on any areas which may have been highlighted as an issue to the parish councils."*

The camera was officially handed over by representatives from the local councils to at Clay Cross police station on Thursday, October 2.

To contact your local Safer Neighbourhood policing team call 101, or visit the website: www.derbyshire.police.uk.

### 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 or Ashovertennis@btinternet.co.uk.

Further details about the club can also be found on the Lawn Tennis Association's website.

### TREE WARDEN

Are you interested in joining a working group to look at problems relating to trees in this area in a practical and constructive way?

The matters that cause most concern are as follows:-

- 1 Ivy growing up trees and hedges which restrict tree growth and their feeding systems, causing the tree to die.
  - 2 Saplings growing by the sides of roads which are growing into larger trees and restricting road widths.
  - 3 Tree Preservation Orders, their uses and abuses.
  - 4 Consideration of how to best preserve mature trees and plan for their replacement.
- If these are also your concerns and you would like to join our group, or just give your opinion, please contact me.

*Linda Stephenson*

ASHOVER PARISH TREE WARDEN  
(01246) 590497

### 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.

### 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.

Uppertown Social Centre, Ashover, S45 0JF

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

**UPPERTOWN SOCIAL CENTRE  
2015 PROGRAMME**

Sat 23rd May	<b>Frank McCaffrey Irish Evening</b>	Irish Evening
Sat 13th June	<b>Ursula &amp; Conor, McKay &amp; Barry Doyle Band</b>	Irish Evening
Sat 11th July	<b>The Haleys</b>	Country Evening
Sat 8th Aug	<b>ELVIS Tribute Night</b>	Rock'n Roll
Sat 12th Sept	<b>Pat Jordan &amp; Finians Rainbow</b>	Irish Evening
Sat 17th Oct	<b>Murder Mystery Night with 3 course meal</b> <i>Tickets must be purchased in advance</i>	
Sat 31st Oct	<b>Halloween Party &amp; Disco</b>	Kids Fancy Dress & Disco
Sat 7th Nov	<b>Bonfire &amp; Fireworks display with Live Music</b>	
Sat 21st Nov	<b>The JJ Galway Band</b>	Irish Evening
Sat 12th Dec	<b>The Haleys</b>	Country Evening

**FINANCIAL REPORT  
PRECEPT 2015/2016**

At the Parish Council meeting held on 21 October 2014, consideration was given to the recommendations of the Finance Committee for the precept application for 2015/16. 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 Committee deliberated each code and cost centre in the accounting system, recognizing the need to limit expenditure as far as possible due to the current restraints and economic climate, and taking into account a realistic income figure. The 12 to 16 year Capital Assets Renewal Programme continued to be included in the precept sum and this would be revised to reflect ongoing capital expenditure. **The costs associated with production of a Neighbourhood Plan were considered along with the necessity to include a sum to allow for the local council elections in May 2015.**

The Precept figure for 2014/2015 was £60,556.18 and this included Tax Support Grant Funding of £2,855.51. Having deliberated the budget, an anticipated realistic income figure of £19,824 set against an anticipated expenditure figure of £83,380 produced an annual Precept figure of £63,556 for the Financial Year 2015/2016. Advice has been sought from NEDDC on the possible Tax Support Grant for 2015/2016 and indications were that there would be no significant change. Therefore, subject to the level of Tax Support Grant received from NEDDC, the Precept figure would be £63,556.

This represents a £3,000 increase on the previous year due to the cost of local council elections in 2015.

Therefore, subject to the level of Tax Support Grant received and public consultation, a Precept figure of £63,556.00 was approved.

**Please see figures below:-**

*NB:- ANTICIPATED FIGURES*

<b>COST CENTRE</b>	<b>Exp. 2014/15</b>	<b>Inc. 2014/15</b>	<b>Exp. 2015/16</b>	<b>Inc. 2015/16</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Administration	31524	2450	35081	5255
Section 137	600	0	600	0
Pavilion/Courts	4410	2250	4195	2279
Public Toilets	1720	0	2780	0
Capital	8716	0	10164	0
Allotments	100	40	100	40
Cemetery	8700	12000	8700	12000
Parish Maintenance.	21645	0	21160	0
Transport	635	350	600	250
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>78050</b>	<b>17090</b>	<b>83380</b>	<b>19824</b>
<b>PRECEPT</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>£60960</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>£63,556</b>

At the Parish Council Meeting held on 18 November 2014 (Minute No. 172/14) it was resolved that a **Precept Sum of £63,556.00 (Sixty Three Thousand Five Hundred and Fifty Sixty Pounds) be requested for 2015/2016 in the following terms:-**

**Precept £60,986.04**

**Support Grant £2,569.96**

## Summary Receipts & Payments Year Ended 31 March 2015

Year Ended 31 March 2014		Year Ended 31 March 2015
<b>Receipts</b>		
57,000.67	Precept Received	57,700.68
286.45	Interest Received	293.14
<b>57,987.12</b>		<b>57,993.82</b>
<b>Operating Income</b>		
29,289.46	Administration	19,978.88
3,903.80	Pavilion	1,934.85
40.00	Allotments	40.00
19,537.00	Cemetery	22,515.00
329.00	Community Transport	155.00
8,827.51	VAT Refunds	13,794.18
<b>110,913.89</b>	<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>116,411.73</b>
<b>Running Costs</b>		
26,731.23	Administration	32,645.30
570.00	Section 137	910.00
100.00	Other Grants	0.00
5,218.98	Pavilion	3,925.61
2,906.01	Toilets	2,547.08
33,988.72	Capital Projects	16,088.32
366.42	Allotments	72.78
10,429.95	Cemetery	9,719.10
22,434.50	Parish Upkeep	27,647.51
790.33	Community Transport	562.00
12,670.83	VAT on Payments	11,001.46
<b>116,206.97</b>	<b>Total Payments</b>	<b>105,119.16</b>

## Summary Receipts & Payments Year Ended 31 March 2014

Year Ended 31 March 2014		Year Ended 31 March 2015
<b>Receipts &amp; Payments Summary</b>		
<b>73,465.04</b>	<b>Opening Balance</b>	<b>77,171.96</b>
119,913.89	Add Total Receipts	116,411.73
193,378.93		193,583.69
116,206.97	Less Total Payments	105,119.16
<b>77,171.96</b>	<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b>88,464.53</b>
<b>These cumulative funds are represented by:</b>		
38,483.21	Current/Reserve Account	53,561.40
0.00	War Memorial Account	0.00
34,104.44	National Savings Account	34,360.22
4,584.31	Village of the Year Account	542.91
<b>77,171.96</b>		<b>88,464.53</b>

## 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 26 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,  
2013 Mill Lane, Wingerworth, Chesterfield  
S42 6NG Tel. 01246 231111

### DCC

Derbyshire County Council  
County Hall, Matlock DE4 3AG  
Tel. 01629 580000 & 08456 058 058  
(helpline)

### APC

Ashover Parish Council  
40 Woodland Way, Old Tupton  
Chesterfield S42 6JA  
Tel. 01246 863018

## 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.

### Consumer Direct

Providing consumer advice, free of charge, on a range of issues or complaints. 8am to 6.30pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 1pm on Saturday on 08454 04 05 06 or visit the website [www.consumerdirect.gov.uk](http://www.consumerdirect.gov.uk) or textphone 0845 128 1384.

## 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**  
Green Bank  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0EP  
01246 590486



**Martha Hayward**  
Arkaig House  
Pudding Bag Lane  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0BT  
01246 590771



**Steve Dronfield**  
Willow Tree Farm  
Hungerhill Lane  
Stonedge  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0LP  
01246 590721



**Chris Miller**  
Hill House  
Hill Road  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0BX  
01246 590253



**Nigel Early**  
Lexley Gables  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0ER  
01246 590738



**Alison Tyson**  
Church Street  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0AB  
01246 590009



**Rosemary Early**  
Lexley Gables  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0ER  
01246 590738



**Ed Willmot**  
The Pines  
Hill Top Road  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0BZ  
01246 590260



**Richard Fidler**  
Porthlea  
Alton Lane  
Littlemoor Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0BE  
01246 590155



**Vacancy**

## Your Parish Council Staff



**Sara Atkinson**  
40 Woodland Way  
Old Tupton  
CHESTERFIELD  
S42 6JA  
01246 863018

[parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk](mailto:parishclerk@ashover-pc.gov.uk)



**John Bown**

## Your County and District Councillors



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



**William Armitage**  
*NEDDC Councillor*  
Green Bank  
Hockley Lane  
Ashover  
CHESTERFIELD  
S45 0EP  
01246 590486



