

Ashfield-cum-Thorpe Parish Council

Approved Minutes of the Annual meeting of the parish held on Wednesday 27th April 2016 at the Village Hall,
The Street, Ashfield-cum-Thorpe

The Parish Council invited all local residents to the annual parish meeting. To address the challenges of life in Ashfield, to accurately represent the interests of the whole community we encouraged residents to come along, take part and find out more:

Attendees: Cllr G Hazlewood, Cllr R Grimsey, Cllr S Garrett, Cllr Anne Langley, Cllr Ruth Hart, Alison Garrett (Chair Earl Soham Community Primary School) Malcolm Pease (community Council), Cllr Matthew Hicks (Suffolk County Council and Mid Suffolk District Council)

Chairman's Welcome

Chairman G Hazlewood thanks everyone for attending. It's been another quiet year. Sally Loader, the Parish Clerk had resigned at the end of last year and so far the Council has been unable to find a replacement. Cllr Matthew Hicks offered to contact the Clerks within his ward to see if anyone was interested in taking on another parish.

1. Agree minutes taken of the Annual parish meeting held in 2015
Minutes duly signed
2. Report from Suffolk Police
Appended to the minutes
3. Report from Mid Suffolk District Councillor Matthew Hick
Appended to the minutes
4. Report from Parish Paths Liaison Officer - Cllr Robert Grimsey delivers the report: Ashfield has 10 miles of public footpaths and bridleways. All routes are generally accessible and for the most part well used. The AFG looks after the network, trimming, replacing waymark posts and signs when required. Roadside finger posts are the responsibility of Suffolk County Council to whom we report problems and occasionally seek assistance. I carry out a full audit of the entire path network, including bridges once a year. Parishioners are encouraged to use the paths, in the event of finding hazards or obstructions.
Please contact Malcolm Pease or myself so we can fix it.
5. Report from the Community Council - Chairman's Report Malcolm Pease
It has been a steady year. The Committee has recruited a new Committee member but the Council is always on the lookout for new volunteers. Further improvements have been made to the Village Hall With assistance from Cllr Matthew Hicks locality budget. The Hall continues to be well used for a number of events throughout the year.
6. Report from the Ashfield Ladies Group
 - No report given
7. Report from the Welfare Trust
Appended to Minutes
8. Report from the Chair of Earl Soham School Governors
 - Alison Garret was pleased to report that after a period of some uncertainty following the departure of the previous head teacher, the School had been able to appoint a new head teacher who was currently the acting Head teacher. A new teacher had been recruited for Blue Class (years 4-6) who would start in September. Two supply teachers were providing cover in the interim. The new curriculum had been introduced and was

proving challenging as the standards were considerably harder than what the children had been used to. The School has been working closely with Helmingham School which was allowing some sharing of costs and ideas. It allowed the teachers a wider peer group with whom they could discuss things with rather than having to work in semi-isolation.

9. Public forum

- No comments raised

Simon Ashton, Parish Clerk

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10 May 2017