

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

The Parish Office, Ash Green Sports Centre, Ash Road, New Ash Green, Kent, DA3 8JZ

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14 March 2025

Dear Councillor

You are hereby summoned to attend the next meeting of the Ash-cum-Ridley Parish Council which will be held at **7.45pm on Thursday 20 March 2025 at Hodsoll Street & Ridley Village Hall, Hodsoll Street, TN15 7LE.**

Yours faithfully

A de Jager

Alison de Jager
Parish Clerk

AGENDA**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE****2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS****3. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES** of the Parish Council meetings held on 12 February 2025 (to follow), 20 February 2025, (attached) and 11 March 2025, (to follow).**SUSPENSION OF MEETING**

- **TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM THE COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS' AND VILLAGE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE.**
- **PUBLIC SESSION**

4. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 4.1 **Ukraine – Co-operation Agreement** – to receive a verbal report from Jordan Meade, Deputy Cabinet Member for Communities, Kent County Council.

5. CLERK'S REPORT – tabled at meeting**6. COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION****(APPENDIX A ORANGE)**

- 6.1 **Community Warden Contract** to review and comment on the attached draft contract from Kent County Council.

7. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE**(APPENDIX B PINK)**

- 7.1 **Current Financial Position:** To receive a verbal update from the Deputy Clerk on the Council's current financial position and note the reports received.
- 7.2 **Approval of Payments:** To approve the payments made from 14 March 2025.
- 7.3 **CPRE** – To authorise the renewal of the annual membership to CPRE – The Countryside Charity in the amount of £36.00

7.4 Policies.

1. **Equality & Diversity Policy** – to give consideration to adopting the replacement policy attached.
2. **Health & Safety Policy** – to carry out a review of the attached policy.

- 7.5 **Grant/Donation Applications** - to give consideration to the appeal for funding from the Following groups – application forms attached:

1. New Ash Green Junior Football Club
2. West Kent Mediation
3. HiKent

8. PLANNING

(APPENDIX C GOLD)

8.1 Applications:

25/00590: 2 The Link, Ash Road, New Ash Green, DA3 8HG - Additional doors and windows to existing property

- 8.2 To note the notes of the Planning Applications Working Group meeting of 5 March 2025.

9. ASH GREEN SPORTS CENTRE

(APPENDIX D BLUE)

- 9.1 **Current Financial Position:** To receive a verbal update from the Deputy Clerk/Finance Officer on the Sports Centre's current financial position.
- 9.2 **Approval of Payments** – To approve the payments made from 14 March 2025.
- 9.3 **Sports Centre Management Committee** – To receive the minutes of the meeting of the Sports Centre Management Committee held on 04 March 2025. (to follow).
- 9.4 **Sports Centre Budget 2025/26** – To ratify the Sports Centre Budget for 2025/26 as set by the Sports Centre Management Committee.

10. NORTHFIELD

(APPENDIX E LIGHT GREEN)

- 10.1 To note the minutes of the meeting of the Northfield Management Committee held on 10 March 2025.

11. COMMUNITY AND ENVIRONMENT

- 11.1 **New Ash Green Children's Centre** – update at meeting.
- 11.2 **Kent Fire and Rescue Services** – to receive a verbal update following the meeting with Steven Lewis of Kent Fire & Rescue Services held at Hodsoll Street Village Hall on Tuesday 4 March 2025.

12. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION:

- 12.1 To receive verbal reports from all Councillors, for information only.

13. PROGRESS TRACKER

(APPENDIX H LIGHT BLUE)

- 12.1 To note the progress tracker of Council decisions.

ASH-CUM-RIDLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Agenda Item: **Full Council (17 April 2025)**

Report Title: **County and District Councillor's Reports**

COUNTY COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Brazier reported that Arriva's decision to withdraw the 489 New Ash Green to Gravesend service is due to underuse. He advised that Cllr Penny Cole has been working with GoCoach and Kent County Council to amalgamate the C3/489 service and that GoCoach were open to looking at a provision.

This is the last meeting of the Parish Council to be attended by Cllr Brazier as he is retiring after serving for 28 years. He said that it had been a privilege to represent the residents and he will miss this work, and wished the Parish Council well.

Cllr S Fishenden thanked Cllr Brazier for his dedication and support of those in the Parish, attending meetings and supporting the Sports Centre with his member grants and wished him well in his future endeavours. Cllr C Clark gave recognition to all that Cllr Brazier has done for individual residents, using his knowledge and experience to help. Cllr Brazier found it enormously satisfying to be able to assist, for example assisting with a school transport appeal to allow a student to continue to attend a school.

DISTRICT COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Cllr Mark Lindop congratulated Cllr Brazier on his 28 years of service and his knowledge and expertise will be missed by KCC. A petition has been set up to continue the 489 bus service. Peter Tasker has established that the Solar Farm planning application does not include the intended installation of a large Battery Energy Storage System (BESS) which has a high fire and water contamination risk which could affect 50,000 homes in north Kent. The BESS is the equivalent of 48 containers in size.