

Entries below are previous Latest News items that date back approximately one year from the most recent entry.

**15/01/2024**

LATEST NEWS - the headlines

- County councillor report - January
- rainfall data updated
- Community Cafe users - winter opening times/dates
- a Helping Hand for South Norfolk residents - see Reminder below
- 100 club winners
- DVLA scam warning
- Ashby Amblers post Christmas lunch - see Gallery

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next parish council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 13th March 2024 at 7.00 p.m. at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall, Ashby Road, Thurton.

EXCERPTS FROM THE JANUARY COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT - the full report is at [HERE](#)

Householders to get free DIY waste for small projects

Norfolk residents will be able to dispose of small amounts of DIY waste at Norfolk's Recycling Centres free of charge from 31 December following changes made by Norfolk County Council.

The change applies to small-scale projects carried out by householders on their own home, allowing them to bring a maximum 100 litres (must fit into 2 x 50l bags) for free or one single item (maximum size of 200cm x 70cm x 75cm). Each household is allowed four free visits with DIY waste every four weeks. Anything beyond this will still be charged at normal rates.

The change in policy follows Government abolishing charges for the disposal of limited amounts and types of DIY waste at recycling centres across the UK.

Prior to 31 December, customers with DIY-type construction and demolition waste will continue to be directed to the 'Pay as you throw service' which is available at all centres.

Traders must continue to pay for DIY waste.

For more information visit [www.norfolk.gov.uk/DIYwaste](http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/DIYwaste)

24/7 FREE TRAVEL TO ALL DISABLED BUS PASS HOLDERS IN NORFOLK

From 1 February 2024 all Norfolk residents who hold a disabled concessionary travel pass will be eligible for free bus travel 24 hours a day, seven days a week when travelling within the county.

The decision, which was published today by Norfolk County Council, means that more than 14,500 people across the county who hold a concessionary bus pass due to disability, and their eligible companions, will now be able to travel on any bus at any time free of charge across Norfolk.

Previously concessionary pass holders with a disability were only able to travel for free on buses off-peak (all day on Saturdays and Sundays but only from 09:30 Monday to Friday) except for those registered blind or visually impaired.

Offering free travel at all times is over and above the minimum requirement set by government, and is something that a local authority can choose to do but doesn't have to do. The change was recommended following an updated equality impact assessment of the scheme which concluded that it is now unfair to offer a discretionary enhancement to just one group of disabled people (i.e. those who are blind or visually impaired).

The recommendation agreed by the individual cabinet member was to 'extend the concessionary travel discretion of free travel at all times to all eligible disabled passholders and eligible companions, from 1 February 2024.'

WARNING - DVLA SCAM

A warning to all who licence their vehicle/s online.

If you receive an email purporting to be from the DVLA asking you to update your details as they have a database problem ....don't.

The email will tell you that if you fail to do so your licence will be invalid. It will also ask for your name, address, vehicle make, along with your credit card details including your 3 digit security number.

It certainly looks genuine and even has a real link to the DVLA website.

It's been reported to be a scam.

VILLAGE HALL 100 CLUB WINNERS 2023

March D Mickleburgh no.74; April E Bircham no.33; May J Hawes no.51; June J Byrne no. 49; July M Millward no.34; August J Lambart no.40; September J Wilson 73; October G Gibling no.20; November J Baugh no.83; all £40. £120 Superdraw November C Brown no.31; December M Taylor 27; January L Patterson 44.

BIN COLLECTIONS - NEVER MISS ONE AGAIN!

Download the free Bin Collections app to keep up to date with your bin collection days and find out about recycling.

Search Bin Collections South Norfolk on the App Store or Google Play.

Or go to <https://www.southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk/sncbinapp>

(It really works!)

#### BUSES - NEVER MISS ONE AGAIN!

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Go to [bustimes.org](http://bustimes.org), select the map and you can see the bus. The square with a number is a bus.

(It really does work! But be advised, it updates about every minute so there is a delay in showing an actual bus position.)

#### NHS DENTIST - A CAUTIONARY PIECE OF ADVICE

The text about this subject can now be found in Latest News Archive on this page, below.

#### EMERGENCY ADVICE

The Parish Council's emergency advice leaflet has now been delivered to each village household.

It is hoped parishioners never have to use any of the services referred in it but it is hoped, if required, the information will be of assistance.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE ASHBY EMERGENCY GROUP

Ashby St Mary parish council has introduced a method of messaging all parishioners in the event of an impending national or parish emergency e.g. extreme weather, pandemic, danger to life etc.

It hopes you agree to become part of an Ashby Emergency Group for this purpose. All parishioners should have received hand-delivered notices about this new service. Without your details it will not be possible to be included.

(For your reassurance, the requested details will be used by the parish council solely for the purposes of emergency messaging or to keep you informed of important matters within the parish).

#### A HELPING HAND FOR SOUTH NORFOLK RESIDENTS

South Norfolk District Council recognise how important it is for our elderly residents to stay in their own homes for as long as possible and sometimes a small change can make a big difference.

The Council's Handyperson+ scheme supports residents with a wide range of small household repairs and minor adaptation work.

The experienced team can help with many tasks including fitting key safes, fall prevention adaptations, smoke alarms, grab rails and better lighting. They can also offer advice on staying warm during cold weather. As well as small works, the handyperson will chat to residents during a visit to see if they would benefit from any additional help.

They have an in-depth knowledge of grants, allowances and services a resident may be eligible for. In addition, the team can direct residents to relevant community support, including social clubs or events in the local area to help combat loneliness.

You may be eligible for the service free of charge if;

You are over 65

Have a long-term condition or disability AND

Receive either Housing Benefit, Guaranteed Pension Credit or Universal Credit.

You may be eligible for our handyperson service with an hourly charge of £10.32 if;

You are over 65 AND

Have a long-term condition or disability

You may be eligible for our handyperson service with an hourly charge of £20.78 if; You are under 65 you have no long-term condition or disability.

This does not include the cost of any materials.

To contact the Council to request the Handyperson+ service please call 01508 505284, or email:

[handyperson.snc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk](mailto:handyperson.snc@southnorfolkandbroadland.gov.uk)

#### HIGHWAY RANGERS

Ashby gets announcements in advance of visits to be made by the Highway Rangers. Councillors usually have some parish matters to report to them. However if any parishioner notices any of the following, please get in touch and report it to our council chairman who liaises with the Rangers about matters that require their attention.

- Potholes

- Regular incidents of standing or flooding water – additional inspection of gullies and grips at these sites

- Signs – ensuring visibility and good condition of Highway signs, removal of illegal signs

- Paths – siding out and ensuring a safe surface for the user
- Public Rights of Way – maintaining clear access within the village boundary

01/12/23

LATEST NEWS - the headlines

- minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 8th November 2023
- rainfall data updated
- Emergency Advice information circulated
- Ashby Emergency Group introduced
- a Helping Hand for South Norfolk residents
- 100 club winners

### COMMUNITY CAFE - CAROLS IN DECEMBER

A reminder the Community Cafe is open on Monday 11th December from 2-4p.m. at which free refills of coffee and tea will be offered! In addition for the festive season the children of Thurton School will be singing carols.

### NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next parish council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 10th January 2024 at 7.00 p.m. at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall, Ashby Road, Thurton.

### DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

When published, the draft minutes of the last meeting will appear in the appropriate *HERE* link on the *MANAGEMENT* page. All Council Meeting Minutes can be inspected at any reasonable time by appointment with the Clerk.

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£120 Superdraw November C Brown no.31.

#### ASHBY & THURTON WALK AND TALK

The Walk and Talk event took place in August while local children were on holiday which undoubtedly contributed to the terrific turnout.

About 30 took part and the amount raised for Thurton & Ashby Preschool garden project was £70.

Look out for local announcements of future Walk & Talk dates.

#### CYCLIST IN ASHBY OR THURTON?

Interested in joining a friendly, village cycling group?

The Ashby Amblers group was formed in Easter 2022 and continues to flourish. Gentle riding is assured!

All ages and abilities are welcome no matter which type of bicycle you own and ride.

The Ashby Amblers currently now have over 20 members from Ashby, Thurton, and even as far afield as Heckingham, Thurlton and Norwich.

We meet every Tuesday at 09.30 opposite the Thurton George & Dragon pub.

See more in Gallery on the *HISTORY* page!

Email [ashbywebmaster@gmail.com](mailto:ashbywebmaster@gmail.com) for more details

#### BIN COLLECTIONS - NEVER MISS ONE AGAIN!

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#### BUSES - NEVER MISS ONE AGAIN!

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#### ASHBY RAINFALL

As usual the latest rainfall figures for our parish can be found via the link on the *HANDBOOK* page.

#### REMINDER - NHS DENTIST - A CAUTIONARY PIECE OF ADVICE

The text about this subject can now be found in Latest News Archive on this page, below.

#### REMINDER - NORFOLK COMMUNITY WATCH - 'WATER BOARD' SCAMS

Norfolk Against Scams Partneship is working with National Trading Standards and Anglian Water to address the global and growing issue of scams and fraud.

They know of cases where criminals have posed as Anglian Water employees in an attempt to gain access into someone's home and they are committed to protecting customers against scammers and fraudsters.

How do I know if a caller is genuine?

The text about this subject can now be found in Latest News Archive on this page, below.

Acknowledgment: Norfolk Community Watch Sept 2023

<https://members.ourwatchmember.org.uk/AlertMessage/Attachment/4317B91E18EC1FB37BE68A1D0D21B160>

#### HIGHWAY RANGERS

Ashby gets announcements in advance of visits to be made by the Highway Rangers. Councillors usually have some parish matters to report to them. However if any parishioner notices any of the following, please get in touch and report it to our council chairman who liaises with the Rangers about matters that require their attention.

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- Regular incidents of standing or flooding water – additional inspection of gullies and grips at these sites

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12/09/23

LATEST NEWS - the headlines

- minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of 26th July 2023
- rainfall data updated
- 'Water Board' scams

NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

The next parish council meeting is scheduled to take place on Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7.00 p.m. at Ashby & Thurton Village Hall, Ashby Road, Thurton.

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE LAST PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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ASHBY & THURTON WALK & TALK

Organised by Maria Todd, the Walk & Talk event held on 29th August was a resounding success. The August event took place while local children were on holiday which undoubtedly contributed to the terrific turnout.

About 30 took part and the amount raised for Thurton & Ashby Preschool garden project was £70.

Look out for local announcements of future Walk & Talk dates.

NORFOLK COMMUNITY WATCH - 'WATER BOARD' SCAMS

Norfolk Against Scams Partnership is working with National Trading Standards and Anglian Water to address the global and growing issue of scams and fraud.

They know of cases where criminals have posed as Anglian Water employees in an attempt to gain access into someone's home and they are committed to protecting customers against scammers and fraudsters.

How do I know if a caller is genuine?

Everyone calling on behalf of Anglian Water always carries an identity card which they'll give to you to inspect. It has a Braille strip on the back and a free phone number. Always ask for identification before letting anyone into your home.

If you're unsure whether the caller is a legitimate Anglian Water employee, take their card and close the door while you call us, anytime, day or night, on 0800 145 145.

Anglian Water will NEVER say we're from 'the water board' – many scammers use this phrase to gain access into your home.

What do I need to do?

Lock – make sure your back door's locked before answering the front door Stop – think 'am I expecting anyone?'

Chain – secure the door chain, if you have one, before opening it Check – ask for, and double-check, the caller's identity. If you're in any doubt, don't let them in.

Extra protection through Anglian Water Priority Services. The free priority service register, provides free practical support to people who might need extra help due to age, ill health or disability, including families with young children or those with caring responsibilities.

If you feel you would benefit from an extra layer of protection, sign up to Priority Services and add a password to your account.

Any genuine employees visiting you will know your password, so you can be sure that they really work for us.

Find out more by visiting [www.anglianwater.co.uk/priority-services](http://www.anglianwater.co.uk/priority-services)

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## Ashby Rainfall

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