

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 22 January 2009 at 7.45 pm at

Ashby and Thurton Village Hall

Present:, Terry Kitt, Carol Powell, Sarah Cook and Edgar Hoddy.

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor,
Derek Blake, District Councillor and 0 Members of Public.

1. Election of Acting Chairman for the meeting.

Terry Kitt was proposed by Sarah Cook to stand as acting Chair, seconded by Carol Powell, Terry Kitt agreed to stand.

a Apologies

Apologies were received from Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright and Mark Rolph, Councillors accepted their apologies.

2. Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 20 November 2008

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

Thurton and Ashby St Mary Residents Association (TARA). Councillors remained uncertain of the objectives of the association and would like to invite members of the group to attend the next Parish Council meeting for an informal discussion.

Speeding, PCSO Kevin Nightingale had included Ashby on the list for the Speed Activated Message (SAM) survey for the future.

5. Freedom of Information Act

The Freedom of Information Act came into force at the beginning of 2005 and encourages greater openness and transparency across the whole public sector. The Act provides individuals or organisations with the right to request information held by a public authority. The Act obliges every public authority to adopt an approved Publication Scheme. The approval for all existing publication schemes expired on 31 December 2008. The information Commissioner's office has produced a new model publication scheme that all public sector organisations must adopt from 1 January 2009. The model scheme may be adopted without modification and such adoption requires no further approval. The Clerk will circulate the publication to Councillors. Sarah Cook proposed to adopt the Freedom of Information Act 1 January 2009 without modification, seconded Carol Powell and agreed unanimously.

6. Correspondence-tabled separately-There was nothing to discuss from the recent correspondence.

7. Finance - The payment table, proposed by Edgar Hoddy, seconded by Carol Powell and agreed unanimously.

Receipts				
31.12.08	Balance of current account		£ 500.00	
31.12.08	Balance of savings account		£1,267.43	£ 1,767.43
01.01.09	Bank Interest January		£ 1.01	£ 1.01
		Balance	Subtotal	£ 1,768.44
Payments				
22.01.09	L Gray CILCA Training	100237	£ 162.50	
22.01.09	L Gray Salary and Expenses	100238	£ 338.65	
		Subtract	Total	£ 501.15
		New	Balance	£ 1,267.29

8. Planning

Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Planning Decision
2008/2392 10.12.2008	Land Adj 33 Ashby Road, Thurton Proposed residential development comprising of 5 new dwellings & garages and one replacement garage (and ancillary works)	Abstained	

The comments already returned to planning services for the above planning application were, "Ashby St Mary Parish Council recognises the planning application site is in the Village of Thurton. As a result of the site not being in our village we do not believe it to be appropriate to approve or refuse directly as a Parish Council.

We would however wish to strongly request that the full impact of the proposed development on the neighbouring properties is fully considered prior to a decision. Ashby St Mary Parish Council is aware of a number of concerns raised by residents which include over development/density of the site, highways and access issues, the scale of the individual properties (given that most of the surrounding properties in Thurton are bungalows). However, the most significant concern is the detrimental impact from overlooking". Councillors discussed the planning application and would like the following conditions considered if the development is approved. During construction the deliveries of materials to the site be restricted to outside school times on Mill Road and Ashby Road and the parking of Tradesmen needs to take into consideration the residents and users of these roads. The consideration of providing a footway in front of the development to overlap with the foot way on the opposite side of the road to be included and approved as part of the application.

9. Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

The report from Terry Kitt included the following points; An electrical test and survey will be undertaken soon due to regular problems. The contract for the school to use the playing field is now in place. A BMX circuit had been dug out and along with further work will be ready for use shortly and netting had been put up behind the goal posts. The police had visited the site to advise on security issues. A recent proposal to provide a footpath from The Meadows and Vale Road through the playing field to Ashby Road no longer seemed viable. The committee will discuss further improvements and refurbishment required at the next meeting.

10. Web Site

The Web site continued to maintain good levels of information and was now fully functioning.

11. Homewatch

Although Ashby had not had any recent cases of bogus callers there had been some bogus Water Authority callers locally, along with several thefts in the Poringland and Stoke Areas.

No Cold Calling Zones – Terry Kitt had brought No Cold Calling Zones to the attention of Councillors. After research the Clerk reported that quite a lot of No Cold Calling Zones had been set up. No Cold Calling refers to sales men calling at your house unannounced trying to sell goods and services. Zones are usually set up by residents in identifiable areas such as an individual road or close who have a history of bogus callers and scams and have vulnerable residents. Once accepted sign posts would be installed to put off potential Cold Callers and residents would need to work together under a co-ordinator. There is also a training pack available with information to help residents.

12. Annual Parish Meeting Planning

It was discussed and agreed to include the No Calling Zones information in the Annual Parish Meeting invite and at the meeting.

13. Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

A146 – Requests for the installation of wooden posts along the A146 between Ashby Road and Vale Road were being considered. Terry Kitt asked for wooden posts to be installed from the George and Dragon junction to the crossing. More information available at the next meeting.

Repair of road surface dressing – between Langley and Claxton and Hardley Road, Chedgrave would be requiring attention.

X2 bus service between Lowestoft and Norwich. The service had improved in places and two newer double decker buses had been put on the route.

Northern Distributor Road – The planning application to be submitted next year but funds are unlikely to be available from the County Council until 2014. A Government grant could be available soon to start the Postwick Hub a complicated junction to eventually connect the A47 Southern Bypass to the new NDR at Postwick and Broadland Business park.

Trowse lights – The Highways Agency recognise the traffic lights are in need of replacement and have plans to replace them later in the year.

Hobart High School – With increased levels of pupils on the role, extra class rooms were required. Plans to provide a new canopy for the swimming pool along with changing rooms from modular buildings could see the re-designating of the old changing rooms as class rooms.

Recession affecting NCC – The present recession is affecting the revenue and budgets available. There are fewer large planning applications, more over 60 eligible for Pension Credits and benefits, an increase in the eligibility for free school meals and pupils being transferred from private schools to the local schools, all create a drain on resources.

Report from Derek Blake, District Councillor

Parish Plan Review - Derek confirmed he had submitted the updated Parish Plan to the relevant officers in South Norfolk. Regarding building development of Ashby, Derek queried if affordable housing projects need to be included in the no further development view.

Car Park at Loddon – The issues had been resolved and the Car park was making money.

Planning Training Session – the next planning training session would include renewable energy sources.

Housing – Of the 52k houses in South Norfolk most had doubled their value in recent years, much more affordable housing is required as salaries had not increased in line with property.

Recession affecting SNC – The present recession is affecting the available revenue at South Norfolk. Unemployment is rising which increased the amount of Job Seekers allowance being claimed. A review of the benefits department had also seen an increase in eligible claimants and again planning applications had fallen. The rate of Council Tax would be affected by the increases in the Parish Councils Precept Claims and the concessionary bus service had been proving a drain on resources.

14. Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

Internal Accounts Audit by Mark Rolph. The accounts at present are audited 3 times; the time scales for the main audit to be sent away had been reduced. The Clerk will investigate by contacting Norfolk Association of Parish Councils the best practice for the next meeting.

Parish Plan Review, Derek Blake had asked if the no development in Ashby St Mary included Affordable Housing development and if so should be included in the Parish Plan.

Date of next meeting 19 March 2009

The meeting closed at 9.30pm

Annual Parish Meeting of Ashby St Mary Parish Council

All residents are invited to come along

Thursday 23 April 2009

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 19 March 2009 at 7.45 pm at
Ashby and Thurton Village Hall

Present: Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright, Carol Powell, Terry Kitt and Edgar Hoddy.
Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor and 0 Members of Public.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Rolph, Sarah Cook and Derek Blake, District Councillor

2 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 22 January 2009

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

Freedom of Information act. Councillors were required to agree on a price, per page for the Clerk to reproduce information to residents under the Freedom of Information Act. After a discussion it was agreed to charge 20p per A4 sheet and postage would be charged at the recommended rate for the items in question.

5 Parish Plan – Affordable Housing

The Parish Council attention had been drawn to fact the no further development of Ashby St Mary had not addressed the issue of an Affordable Housing Development. After a discussion Councillors requested the following statement be added to the Parish Plan as an Appendices, 'There is inadequate infrastructure in the Village to support any further development however, this could be reviewed in the event that proven local need for affordable housing were identified'.

6 No Cold Calling Zones

The Parish Council supports the idea of residents setting up 'No Cold Calling Zones' and would like to provide information at the Annual Parish Meeting. The clerk would contact the Safer Neighbourhood Police team to see if any leaflets were available for the Annual Parish Meeting.

7 Correspondence (tabled separately)

Village Hall Burglaries - The clerk had forwarded an email to Karen Bonsell, bookings clerk to the Village hall, information from the Police concerning an increase of Village Hall burglaries in the area.

8 Finance

Receipts				
31.12.08	Balance of current account		£ 500.00	
31.12.08	Balance of savings account		£ 767.29	£ 1,267.68
01.01.09	Bank Interest February		£ 0.29	£ 0.29
		Balance	Subtotal	£ 1,267.68
Payments				
19.03.09	SNDC Dog Bin Service	100240	£ 60.79	
		Subtract	Total	£ 60.79
		New	Balance	£ 1,206.89

The payment table was proposed by Terry Kitt and seconded by Carol Powell

a) Bank Card

After several complications and updates to be completed Councillors were requested to agree on the name to be included on the bank card. It was agreed for the Chairman's name to be detailed on the card along with Ashby St Mary PC Website.

The forms will be returned to the bank and a card would be issued shortly.

b) Village Hall Annual Fee

The Parish Council had started to pay for the hire of the Village Hall annually and now required an invoice for the hire of the hall for 2009/10. Terry Kitt would request an invoice at the next Village Hall Committee meeting for 6 meetings in the small room and 1 in the main hall.

c) Audits for Councils Accounts

It was discussed and agreed by Councillors that as Chris Dix was the appointed as the internal auditor for the Parish Council accounts it was no longer necessary for a councillor to audit the accounts. The accounts would now be reviewed informally at a meeting during the year.

d) Appoint internal auditor

Chris Dix was appointed as Internal Auditor for the 2008/09 accounts, proposed Peter Wright and seconded Terry Kitt.

9 Planning

Planning Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Planning Decision
2008/2392 10.12.2008	Land Adj 33 Ashby Road, Thurton Proposed residential development comprising of 5 new dwellings & garages and one replacement garage (and ancillary works)	Abstained	Withdrawn
2009/0196 09.02.09	Ashlea Mill Common, Ashby St Mary Proposed two storey rear extension, first floor side extension and loft conversion of main house including installation of dormer windows	Approved in principle	

Planning Application comments by Councillors.

The present system of sending round planning applications had not been working effectively recently with several Councillors not receiving planning applications before the return date. It was agreed for the Clerk to email Councillors details of Planning Applications in order that they may be viewed on line and for Councillors to return their comments to the Clerk via email. The plans would be available from the Clerk if required. The Clerk agreed to text message both Edgar Hoddy and Carol Powell when planning had been received.

10 Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

Due to the meeting date being changed Terry Kitt was unable to attend the last meeting.

11 TARA – Thurton and Ashby Village Residents Association

Although invited no representative of TARA was available for the meeting. Councillors still remain uncertain regarding the aims of this association and will make a further request for a representative to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council in May.

12 Web Site

The web site invoice had not been paid due to the bank card not being issued. A Cheque would be issued at the next meeting for £32.74 via Mark Rolph to meet the invoice.

The web site may be frozen until the payment for the invoice is received.

13 Homewatch

Carol Powell had nothing to report for Ashby St Mary. Councillors were made aware that Poringland Police had been experiencing problems from a recent influx of travellers around the A140 Ipswich Road area.

14 Annual Parish Meeting Planning.

Councillors agreed the draft flyer, with one change to the date of issue on the agenda to 2 April 2009, in order that distribution could take place as soon as the flyers were printed. It was agreed for the Annual Parish Meeting to remain on St George's Day, 23 April, after concerns were raised of historically the village having many celebratory events on this day.

Once the flyer had been printed the Clerk would distribute an agreed amount for each Councillor to deliver to households. The following reports were requested from Councillors, Chairman's Report – Robert Todd, Financial Report – Linda Gray, Homewatch – Carol Powell and Web site – Mark Rolph.

15 Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

Bus Stops on A146 were being constructed to provide a low floor compatibility with the buses for disabled passengers.

Old School Building, Thurton was still subject of discussion regarding ownership. So far ownership details had included the Beauchamp Family, the Church and the County Council.

Widening of crossing island on A146 for Thurton school. The owner of the land on the side of the George and Dragon has not been located. Wooden bollards will be in place on the pavement soon between Ashby Road and Vale Road.

Bus Service the X2 service seems to be running well at present.

Church Road, Claxton that continues into Ashby requires a weight restriction and the drainage problems are being investigated along with flooding at Claxton Corner.

Potholes between Church Lane and The Avenues had been repaired.

Seething Primary School rebuild had been prohibited by the study of newts on the land

Hobart High School is entering into a partnership headship with Loddon Junior School.

16 Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

Tara – Thurton and Ashby Residents Association.

17 Next Meeting Annual Parish Meeting to be held 23 April 2009 7.45pm

**Annual Parish Meeting
Thursday 23 April 2009
Ashby and Thurton Village Hall
7.45pm**

All residents are invited

The meeting closed at 9.15pm

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 21 May 2009 at 7.45 pm at

Ashby and Thurton Village Hall

Present: Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright, Carol Powell, Terry Kitt and Sarah Cook.

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor, District Councillor and 4 Member of Public.

- 1 **Appointment of Chairman** - The Clerk asked for nominations for Chairman. Terry Kitt proposed Robert Todd, seconded by Sarah Cook there were no further nominations and agreement was reached unanimously. Robert Todd accepted the post of Chairman. The acceptance of office form was completed and witnessed by the Clerk.
- 2 **Appointment of Vice Chairman** – Carol Powell proposed Peter Wright continued in the role as Vice Chairman seconded by Terry Kitt and as there were no further nominations agreement was reached unanimously. Peter Wright accepted the post as Vice Chairman. The acceptance of office form was completed and witnessed by the Clerk.
- 3 **Declaration of Interest** – All Councillors - Councillors completed and returned the Declaration of Interest Forms.
- 4 **Standing Orders** – General Review – The Clerk presented a summary of the Standing Orders adopted 22 May 2008. The presented summary was unanimously agreed.

- 1 **Apologies** were received from Mark Rolph, Edgar Hoddy and Derek Blake
- 2 **Declaration of Interest**
There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.
- 3 **Minutes of the meeting held on 19 March 2009**
The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.
- 4 **Matters Arising**
Cold Calling initiative in connection with Trading Standards. Councillors were keen for a Cold Calling Zone to be arranged on Ashby Road and Mill Road. The Clerk to contact Thurton PC and Trading Standards with a proposal that only two signs would be required to cover both villages. A Co-ordinator for the zone was known to Terry Kitt.
- 5 **Correspondence**
Race Night – Thurton Primary School June 6th 2009 7.30pm for more information contact the
school office on 01508 480335
Family Fun Weekend – June 20th & June 21st At Thurton & Ashby Village Hall.
Dog Bin emptying – change to twice weekly emptying - Agreed
- 6 **Finance**
Balance of Account and Payment table
Councillors agreed for an IT Reserve transfer of £50.00 be transferred to the Web site Account
Proposed Terry Kitt and seconded Peter Wright.

Receipts	Balance of current account		£ 706.97	
	Balance of savings account		£ 500.00	£ 1,206.97
April 09	Precept		£ 1000.00	
April 09	Bank Interest March		£ 0.04	£ 1,000.04
		Balance	Subtotal	£ 2,207.01
Payments				
21.05.09	APM Refreshments via L Gray	100241	£ 36.85	
21.05.09	Roberts Printers APM Printing	100242	£ 42.00	
21.05.09	Ashby & Thurton VH Annual Fee	100243	£ 29.00	
21.05.09	Norfolk ALC Membership	100244	£ 93.40	
21.05.09	L Gray Salary & Expenses	100245	£ 362.65	
21.05.09	1&1 co.uk Web site provider	100246	£ 34.23	
21.05.09	IT Reserve Transfer to Website Account	100247	£ 50.00	
		Subtract	Total	£ 648.13
			Total	£ 1,558.88

a Audit – The Clerk had produced the figures for the annual audit which were presented to Councillors. The annual audit was agreed by all Councillors

b Asset register – The Asset register depreciation of 25% was discussed and agreed

7 Planning

Planning Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Planning Decision
2009/0625 23.04.09	Lilac Cottage, Low Common, Ashby St Mary Change of use of meadow to residential curilage and conversion and extension of existing garage and annexe	Approve	
2009/0677 01.05.09	Land Adj Ashby Road, Thurton Proposed residential development comprising 4no. new dwellings & garages and one replacement garage (and ancillary works)	Conditional Approved	

Planned Development of 33 Ashby Road, Thurton.

Members of the public had attended the meeting to discuss their concerns regarding the application for the development with Councillors. Councillors confirmed that while the Parish Council had agreed to the development of land in principle they had raised further concerns relating to, the footway not being extended past the development, safety of both pedestrians and cars and the new road junction and the scale of the development in comparison to the surrounding dwellings. Although concerns raised from the previous application had been addressed, Councillors were aware of the concerns of the residents.

8 Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

At the recent Annual General Meeting the committee were re-elected and Esther Thomas was the new Secretary. A Play Area development group had been formed to raise funds for new play area equipment. The maintenance of the hall was ongoing and the electrics required some work. Due to the Pre-school experiencing low numbers a reduce rental fee for the hall had been negotiated.

9 TARA – Thurton and Ashby Residents Association

Janet Rackham of TARA reported the following; the residents association had been formed in connection with Saffron Housing and its main aim was to support those in social housing along with residents in tied/leased and rented properties with housing issues. It also wanted to support

the local community with local community and social events. There would be approximately 3 meetings a year organised by Saffron Housing. The issues being discussed at present were speeding in the village and parking outside the school. The aims of TARA were available on the Thurton Community Website and would be available on the Ashby St Mary Website soon.

10 Web Site

The Web site had experienced problems but once the payment for the domain was made these would be rectified. After a discussion it was agreed for the Clerk to contact GS Computers in Loddon for advice and the updating of equipment.

11 Homewatch and Police Report

Carol Powell had not received any reports from Homewatch recently. Kevin Nightingale had emailed a Police Report for the area to the Clerk.

12 Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

Grass cutting – A programme of verge cutting had started but at this early stage would be focussing on the cutting of angelica in the verge.

SNAP Police Meeting in Loddon. Antisocial behaviour in Loddon had been discussed along with thefts from the Bergh Apton Sculpture Trail.

A146 – The footway on the Thurton Street side of the A146 close to the bus shelter had an overgrown hedge but the land owner remained unidentified. The need for bollards/posts on this side of the road was again discussed.

Bollards/Reflector posts outside the Vicarage

There had been a discussion regarding the newly placed bollards/reflector posts at the Annual Parish Meeting. Councillors were not happy that bollards/reflector posts could be placed with out communication to any local organisation in a relatively quiet part of the village when bollards/posts had been requested for some time on the Thurton Street side of the A146 to protect pedestrians when crossing the very busy main road. Robert Todd would contact Liz Millward the Traffic Engineer NCC and Terry Kitt would contact John Longhurst Head of Highways.

13 Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

14 Date of next meeting needed to be changed from the original date as the clerk was now unable to attend the new date discussed was Tuesday 7 July pending the Village Hall being available.

The meeting closed at 10.20pm

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 7 July 2009 at 7.45 pm at

Ashby St Mary and Thurton Village Hall

Present: Robert Todd (Chairman), Mark Rolph, Terry Kitt and Edgar Hoddy.

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor and 0 Member of Public.

1 Apologies were received from Peter Wright, Carol Powell, Sarah Cook and Derek Blake, District Councillor. Councillors accepted their apologies.

2 Declaration of Interest; No declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 21 May 2009

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

Cold Calling Zones – awaiting reply from Thurton PC regarding a collaborative venture.

Reflector posts/bollards on Ashby Road. Robert Todd and Terry Kitt had contacted both Liz Millward and John Longhurst at Highways to discuss the reasons regarding the location of the reflector posts/bollards. They were assured the installation was a temporary measure to let the grass grow on the verge.

5 Correspondence (tabled separately)

Broads Authority Planning Conference 30 September 2009

6 Finance

Receipts	Balance of Web site account		£ 84.23	
	Balance of current account		£ 500.00	
	Balance of savings account		£1,053.75	
	Bank Interest		£ 0.07	
		Balance	Subtotal	£ 1,638.05
Payments				
07.07.09	Chris Dix Internal Auditor	100249	£ 45.00	
07.07.09	Norfolk ALC Insurance	100250	£ 183.75	
07.07.09	Ashby and Thurton VH	100251	£ 35.00	
07.07.09	L Gray Salary & Exp	100252	£ 363.39	
		Subtract	Total	£ 627.14
	Balance Total		Total	£ 1,010.91

Grass Cutting Donation St Mary's Church. A request from Ashby St Mary PCC had been received regarding a donation towards the costs of grass cutting at the Church. Councillors discussed and agreed for a donation of £200.00 to be issued at the September meeting.

7 Planning

Planning Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Decision
2009/0625 23.04.09	Lilac Cottage, Low Common, Ashby St Mary Change of use of meadow to residential curtilage and conversion and extension of existing garage and annexe	Conditional Approved	Withdrawn
2009/0677 01.05.09	Land Adj Ashby Road, Thurton Proposed residential development comprising 4no. new dwellings & garages and one replacement garage (and ancillary works)	Conditional Approved	Refused
2009/0798	Dewberry, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary	Approve	TBA

26.05.09	Single storey kitchen extension		
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8 Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

Councillors extended their congratulations to Karen Bonsell and her team regarding the success of the Fun Day. Terry Kitt reported the Village Hall Committee had elected its committee and he would continue representing the Parish Council on the committee. The Playgroup had been offered a decreased hire rate of the hall due to reduced numbers which will impact on their financial position in the new term.

9 TARA – Thurton and Ashby Residents Association

Councillors had now viewed the aims of TARA on the Thurton online website and agreed several were in direct conflict with the aims as they were reported in the last meeting and there was no indication the association had been set up by Saffron Housing as previously stated.

10 Web Site

The Web site had now been updated and the Parish Plan to be reviewed at the next meeting.

11 Homewatch

Rogue traders had once again been present in the area. If implemented the Cold Calling Zone could restrict the behaviour of door to door sellers especially for vulnerable residents.

12 Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Congratulations were extended to Adrian Gunson for his success in the recent local elections resulting in his re-election as County Councillor for Norfolk County Council.

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

Cllr Gunson’s expenses had been published in the Eastern Daily press on 20 June 2008.

Grass cutting, the verge cutting schedule had been changed resulting in the programme being started later than usual resulting in overgrown grass and hedges in several areas.

Finger Posts missing at the junction of Hellington Hill and Green Lane had been reported.

Reflector posts on Ashby Road would be temporary and removed within 6 months.

Trowse bypass lights to be replaced in this financial year by the Highways agency.

Sand and Gravel on several roads in the area due to recent rain storms had been reported.

Local Government review, The Boundary Committee would publish a statement on 15 July stating the preferences for unitary councils in Norfolk.

Derek Blake, District Councillor was not present at the meeting but the following issues were raised to be reported to South Norfolk Council.

Housing Policy, Councillors discussed the recent move by South Norfolk to relax certain areas of the housing policy and requested the clerk writes to Derek Blake stating that residents were against the building of houses in Ashby as published in the Parish Plan and on sustainability grounds. Any further building development would not be acceptable unless it was required for local people to remain in the village and identified as affordable housing.

Road Signs, the clerk to report road signs for Mill Common and Hall Road required attention.

13 Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

Parish Plan Review, Section 137 Payments and Meeting Dates

14 Date of next meeting 24 September 2009

The meeting closed at 9.12pm

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 24 September 2009 at 7.45 pm at

Ashby St Mary and Thurton Village Hall

Present: Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright, Carol Powell, Mark Rolph, Terry Kitt, and Sarah Cook.

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk), Adrian Gunson, County Councillor, Derek Blake, District Councillor and 0 Members of Public.

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Edgar Hoddy and Kevin Nightingale PCSO and accepted by Councillors.

2 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2009

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

Finger post replacement. - The missing finger posts on Hellington Hill, Green Lane junction had been reported and now replaced. The Clerk had recently reported the missing finger posts at the junction of Church Road, Chapel Road and The Street.

Police - Sargeant Mark Aldis reported that a hand held speed gun was now available at Poringland SNT and local officers would receive training shortly.

Street Name Plates - The Clerk had contacted Jim England at NCC to undertake an inspection of street signs. The inspection identified 3 name plates that needed replacement.

Footpath - Peter Wright had reported at the last meeting the footpath from Mill Road to The Street was becoming impassable. This had been reported to SNDC and work to clear the footpath was now complete.

Housing Policy - The Clerk at the last meeting had been instructed to write to Derek Blake, District Councillor to convey the Parish Councils concern with the proposed relaxing of specific areas of the Housing Policy. Derek Blakes's reply had been circulated to all the Councillors.

Bidwells - The Clerk had been contacted by Bidwells regarding the ownership of an access track off Church Road. The landowners had now been contacted.

5 Correspondence had been tabled separately and previously circulated.

6 Finance

Receipts	Balance of Web site account		£ 84.23	
	Balance of current account		£ 500.00	
	Balance of savings account		£ 449.11	
	Bank Interest		£ 0.05	
		Balance	Subtotal	£ 1,033.39
Payments				
	Ashby PCC Grass cutting Donation	100254	£ 200.00	
	Mazars Audit Charge	100255	£ 57.50	
		Subtract	Total	£ 257.50
			Total	£ 775.89

Section 137

This item would be discussed at the next meeting as the precept had not been received and the accounts required further discussion. A decision regarding the Precept and Section 137 payments would be made at the next meeting. The Clerk would provide a budget document.

7 Planning

Planning Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Planning Decision
2009/0625 23.04.09	Lilac Cottage, Low Common, Ashby St Mary Change of use of meadow to residential curtilage and conversion and extension of existing garage and annexe.	Approve	Withdrawn
2009/0677 01.05.09	Land Adj Ashby Road, Thurton Proposed residential development comprising 4no. new dwellings & garages and one replacement garage (and ancillary works)	Conditional Approved	Refused
2009/0798 26.05.09	Dewberry, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary Single storey kitchen extension	Approve	Approved
2009/1085 09.07.09	Mill Cottage, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary Proposed subdivision of residential curtilage and erection of detached bungalow and garage.	Approve	Approved

2009/1445 1 Hill House Cottages, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary.

Proposed 2 storey and single storey side extensions.

The above application had been received recently and was discussed at the meeting. The Councillors decision was to approve the application;

8 No Cold Calling Zones

Thurton Parish Council had discussed the proposal that both Ashby St Mary PC and Thurton PC should work together to encourage a No Cold Calling Zone to be applied to Ashby Road/Mill Road. Thurton Parish Council had agreed in principle to support this proposal once they had found a volunteer coordinator. The Clerk would contact the Ashby St Mary's Co-ordinator confirming that the Parish Council had officially agreed to the setting up of a No Cold Calling Zone and to offer their whole support.

9 Parish Plan Review

Mark Rolph had reviewed the Parish Plan, Councillors discussed and agreed the updates proposed by Mark. Once updated the plan would be sent to Derek Blake, District Councillor and Councillors would make sure anyone moving in to the village would receive a Parish Plan.

10 Review of Footpath Map

Terry Kitt had updated the village map in the Parish Plan to include the footpaths. This would also be included on the Web Site.

11 Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

Terry Kitt reported the Village Hall Committee had drawn up a wish list that would require a substantial amount of funding. It was agreed that the Chairman would meet the Chairman of Thurton PC and the Village Hall Committee to discuss the way forward.

12 Web Site

Mark Rolph had included the updated Parish Plan review on the Web site and included referring new residents to contact the Clerk for further copies of the Parish Plan.

13 Homewatch

Carol Powell reported the Homewatch Co-ordinator had now gone and Homewatch would be covered by the Safer Neighbourhood teams locally. A report sent by PCSO Donna Boggis regarding reported crime in the area was read out.

14 Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

Streetlights – Along the A146 would be replaced shortly.

Trowse bypass – The traffic lights would be replaced by the Highways Agency shortly

Hobart High School – Had received very good GCSE results again. The refurbishment plans for the swimming pool were ongoing and the White Dolphin swimming club had raised 11K

Finger Posts- Missing on Church Road and Chapel lane had been reported to Highways.

Road sweeper – Issues were discussed with Councillors relating to the quality of the work undertaken by the Road Sweeper and the amount of grit left on the road in areas.

Traffic Counter – Had been installed on Mill Road relating to HGV's using the road.

Report from Derek Blake, District Councillor

Long Stratton Bypass – Work could start on the eastern side by Christmas.

Affordable Housing Schemes – Over 60 villages in South Norfolk had taken up the option were a need had been identified for affordable housing.

Audit commission – An investigation of the existing housing stock regarding the fitting of insulation had been undertaken.

Wren funding. – Although certain aspects of the fund had changed Ashby St Mary remained well placed for funding. All community groups could consider funding from Wren.

Handy person scheme – SNDC would contact reputable tradesmen in the area to those on benefits and would give contact details to others.

Tree and Hedge cutting – The contract for this year had finished, slightly earlier than usual

Joint Core Strategy – This matter was ongoing and the consultation would be complete in December. Decision regarding the Northern Distributor Road could affect the plans for housing developments in the Broadland Area.

15 Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

Precept and Section 137

16 Date of next meeting 12 November 2009

The meeting closed at 9.50pm

ASHBY ST MARY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 12 November 2009 at 7.45 pm at

Ashby St Mary and Thurton Village Hall

Present: Robert Todd (Chairman), Peter Wright, Carol Powell and Terry Kitt,

Also Present: Linda Gray (Clerk)

1 Apologies

Apologies were received from Mark Rolph, Sarah Cook, Edgar Hoddy, Adrian Gunson and Derek Blake

2 Declaration of Interest

There were no declarations of interest relating to items on the Agenda.

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 24 September 2009

The minutes, previously circulated, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 Matters Arising

Road Name Plates – Several name plates had now been renewed.

Parish Plan Update - The Parish Plan update would now be sent to Derek Blake and South Norfolk Council for their information.

Finger Posts – At Chapel Road, Hall Road and The Street had not been replaced. This had been reported again to Highways and the engineer would replace the signs in a few weeks.

5 Correspondence (tabled separately)

Minerals Site Allocations Development Plan Document and Waste Site Allocations Development Plan Document. Councillors did not have a comment for the consultation as the sites did not affect the village but would ask to be kept informed of future developments and changes to the plans. The Clerk would return the consultation document with this comment.

6 Finance

Receipts	Balance of Web site account		£ 84.23	
	Balance of current account		£ 500.00	
	Balance of savings account		£ 391.63	
1 Sept	Bank Interest		£ 0.02	
30 Sept	Precept		£ 1,000.00	
Payments		Balance	Subtotal	£ 1,975.86
12 Nov	L Gray Salary & Expenses	100256	£ 353.03	
		Subtract	Total	£ 353.03
			Total	£ 1,622.83

a Precept

The Clerk had prepared and presented the budget for 2010/11 in order for the precept to be agreed. Councillors discussed at length the amount of precept claimed in previous years and if an increase was required. It was agreed not to increase the precept this year and maintain the £2,000.00 amount which had not changed in the last 10years. Councillors felt the impact of increased Council Tax on residents, by increasing the precept, in this present economic climate could not be justified by the Parish Council.

b Section 137 payments

After the discussion relating to the budget for next year it was agreed to donate the same amounts as last year to the following organisations, Loddon on Call £150.00, East Anglia Air Ambulance £100.00 and BYRUS £100.00. The cheques would be issued at the January meeting.

7 Planning

Planning Application Ref & Date	Address and Proposal	Parish Council Decision	South Norfolk Decision
2009/1445 18.09.09	1 Hill House Cottages, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary- Proposed 2 storey and single storey side extensions	Approve	Awaiting Decision
2009/1592 19.10.09	Bronte Cottage, Mill Common, Ashby St Mary Proposed change of use of agricultural field to residential curtilage.	Refuse	Awaiting Decision
2009/1717 04.11.09	Land to the rear of Hill House Cottages, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary. Proposed new conservatory	Awaiting Decision	Awaiting Decision

Bronte Cottage, Mill Common, Ashby St Mary.

Councillors discussed the planning application at length and the response returned.

Land to the rear of Hill House Cottages, Mill Road, Ashby St Mary.

This planning application had been received on the day of the meeting and the Clerk had brought the plans along for Councillors to consider. All the Councillors present returned their comments but the plans would still require comments from those Councillors not present.

8 No Calling Zone.

The Clerk had been in contact with the Co-ordinator for Ashby St Mary but Thurton Parish Council had not yet found a Co-ordinator for the scheme.

9 Report from Representative on the Village Hall Committee

The Village Hall Committee had a meeting next week and there was nothing to report at present. The Parish Council were willing to support any future Wren Application for funding for the Multi Use Games Area and Robert Todd the Chair is awaiting a meeting to be arranged by the Village Hall between them and the two parish council chairmen to discuss a way forward.

10 Web Site

The Web site had been updated with the Parish Plan update for 2009, and thanks were extended to Mark Rolph for his work on the Web site and Parish Plans updates.

11 Homewatch

Carol Powell had a postal delivery scam to report on. A card is left requesting you to phone a number to re organised the delivery of a parcel. The parcel does not exist and by ringing the number the scammers will take £15.00 from you via your telephone bill.

12 Public Consultation and Reports from County and District Councillors

Report from Adrian Gunson, County Councillor

Mr Gunson was not present but had contacted the clerk with his report.

Finger Posts Missing at Church Road and Chapel Lane – These had now been ordered and would be installed in the next few weeks.

Footway at Thurton on A146 – A scheme to widen the footway from The Street to the Bus Shelter in Thurton along the A146 would be underway shortly and oak post would be installed on the opposite side of the A146 from Ashby Road to Vale Road.

Trowse Bypass Traffic Lights – The lights are owned by the Highways Agency and would be replaced during December or January. Most of the work would take place at night between 8pm and 6am when lane closures would be in force along with a reduction in the speed limit. Work continuing during the day should not cause any disruptions to the road.

Hobart High School – The planning application for the changes to the Swimming pool would be submitted shortly. Norfolk County Council along with the School and the White Dolphins Swimming Club had provided the bulk of the funds needed, but further funds would be required if the work is to start in June 2010 as planned.

Footpath from Chedgrave Pits Road to Hardley Dyke – This footpath needed work to remove a fallen tree and improve the surface, both of which have now been completed.

Bus Connection – A bus connection between Loddon and Rockland is being considered. The route would include Claxton, Langley and Chedgrave and work on a part time basis.

Through Ticketing on Buses – It was now possible to buy a return ticket in Thurton to Long Stratton, Wymondham, Aylsham, Reepham or Acle or anywhere in the Greater Norwich Area on one ticket (even if a change of bus or bus company is required). The service is expected to be increased to Kings Lynn, Gt Yarmouth and Cromer in the long term.

Park and Ride Price increases – There will be an increase in prices for the season ticket and multi trip tickets for all the Park and Rides in Norwich.

13 Other Matters for future agendas and items for information

Meeting Dates for 2010

21 January 2010	15 July 2010
18 March 2010	23 September 2010
20 May 2010	18 November 2010

Annual Parish Meeting 22 April 2010

14 Date of next meeting 21 January 2010

The meeting closed at 9.00pm