



Ashton Parish Council

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2023-24

7 Cllrs were elected uncontested at the May meeting.

What has happened during this last year for APC:

- APC would like to thank our Ward Cllr, Ian McCord, who has been supportive and responsive to issues we have had. eg: Fly tipping, planning queries, flooding issues
- APC laid a village wreath for Remembrance.
- APC continue to budget funds for the **Ashton Village News**. We request to put in a page update in each one published.
- APC continue to budget to fund the flower planters for the village. Julia Lawrence is doing these for us and does a fantastic job.
- APC are to invest in a third Mobile Speed Sign for the village as permanently siting them makes more sense and less H&S issues.
- Defibrillator for the village is sited at the pub and the system for it's use and monitoring works well. We are to fund a bleed kit and distribute alert cards for the whole village.
- Parish Online is proving very useful.
- Cllr McAllister completed Ncalc Leadership Award and mentioned at the NCALC AGM
- Clerk appointed Chair of NCalc
- Playing Field Lease has finally been sorted. After 2 yrs of work, £20k of Playground equipment has been added.
- Street Lighting – all bulbs have been replaced with LED heads
- APC now funding the cleaning of the bus shelter and playground equipment.

Outstanding issues:

- Flood Alleviation meeting Dec 2021 – we are still awaiting plan for our culverts.
- CCTV cameras for fly tipping
- Purchase of dog poo bins.

Year 4: we have applied for and now granted funding for the following projects:

1. New notice signage by the playing field
2. A bench seat in the Rec

Attached is a APC 'to do' list

Sarah

Sarah McAllister May 2024

CHAIRMAN Ashton Parish Council

ANNEX A

APC 'TO DO' LIST

Not an exhaustive list and not in priority order

PC

1. Streetlights LED + New + Inventory
2. New Electricity Provider
3. Emergency Plan
4. Flooding Culvert Etc
5. CCTV - Will Need S50
6. Speed Signs 2nd Sign Issues 3rd Sign Plan
7. Dog Bin Locations Will Need S50
8. Defibrillator Cards/Recall/Training
9. Planning Meetings
10. Planning In Ashton
11. CIL
12. Hedgerows Road Hill And Crown Corner
13. Adopted Road
14. Highways Path Road Closures Etc
15. Bus Stop
16. Play Equipment Inspection + New
17. Cllr Recruit/ Training – see annex B
18. Safety Checks - Does New System Work?
19. Police Liaison
20. Footpaths + Fix My Street Reporting
21. Speed Data Reporting

Clerk

1. Year end accounts
2. Audit internal /external
3. Charity commission
4. Pension enrolment
5. S50's
6. Funding - windfarm/playground
7. Website
8. New emails

NCALC TRAINING

Foundation

Below are the courses you need to complete to reach Foundation

- [Off to a Flying Start](#) (training)
- [Finance for Councillors](#) (training)
- [Code of Conduct in Practice](#) (training)
- [The Good Councillors Guide](#) (reading)
- [The Good Councillors Guide to Finance and Transparency](#) (reading)
- [The Good Councillors Guide to Being a Good Employer](#) (reading)

Suggested timeframe: within first 12 months of becoming a Councillor

Core

Below are the courses you need to complete to reach Core

- [Planning Nuts and Bolts](#) (training)
- [An intro to employment law](#) (training)

Suggested timeframe: within first 24 months of becoming a Councillor

Leader

Running alongside these stages is **Leader**. You don't need to complete **Foundation, Core and Advanced** before attempting to reach **Leader** (although it may help if you are new to the sector).

Below are the courses you are recommended to complete for **Leader**:

- [Chairperson and Leadership Training](#) (training)
- [Leadership in the Community](#) (training)
- [An introduction to Leadership and Management](#) (e-learning)

Advanced

Once you have reached **Foundation and Core**, and for those Councillors who are really keen, you can specialise in areas of training to reach **Advanced**. You can complete as many or, as little, of the various courses under the **Advanced** stages as you wish and there's no timeframe for completion. The following is not an exhaustive list:

Finance

- Internal controls
- Internal and external audits
- An intro to VAT
- Contracts and Procurement

Planning

- Community infrastructure Levy (CIL) and S106
- Neighbourhood Planning
- [The Good Councillor's Guide to Neighbourhood Planning](#)
- Community Emergency Plan Workshop

Employment Law

- Appraisal training
- Disciplinary/ grievance handling

Regulatory

- GDPR
- FOI
- Transparency code
- [The Good Councillors Guide to Cyber Security](#)

Other

- Common Land and Village Greens
- Parish Mapping
- [The Good Councillors guide to Transport Planning](#)
- [The Good Councillors guide to Community Business](#)
- Allotment Management
- Playground Management and Inspection
- Risk Assessment