

Around Ashton

Community news from Ashton Hayes and Horton-cum-Peel Parish Council
Spring 2018

Golden Lion Update

Following the October community consultation regarding the Golden Lion, a Community Benefit Society was established. It has been registered with the Financial Conduct Authority (FCA) as the 'Ashton Hayes Community Hub Limited'.

The extended moratorium that the Parish Council triggered to protect the sale of the Golden Lion runs until late March. Consequently the working group has been busy preparing a Share Offer prospectus and a detailed Business Plan. The objective being to incentivise the community to invest in shares in the Golden Lion and to seek external grants and loans.

The aim of the Share Offer is to raise £250,000 as a minimum, from the Ashton Hayes community. Additional funding is being sought from share matching, grants/loans, and potentially a mortgage against the property. Overall some £520,000 is needed for the purchase, refurbishment and initial operating funding.

The Share Offer and Business Plans have achieved the independent Community Shares Standard Mark, awarded to share offers that meet national standards of good practice.

A press release was made on Wednesday 21st February that has already generated significant interest outside the village and has initiated press interviews regarding the share launch.

At a public meeting held at the Primary School on Thursday 22nd February the group presented



their plans to over 100 local residents which was well received.

The formal share launch took place on Monday 26th February 2018 and runs until closure on 28th March 2018, or when the maximum target is reached, whichever is sooner. Copies of the prospectus have been distributed to every parish household.

The website, www.goldenlionashtonhayes.co.uk, gives details of the prospectus, business plan and the Model Rules governing the operation of the society. The Model Rules cover a wide range of matters including Share redemption and transfer in terms of what is/is not allowed under various scenarios.

Naturally questions and queries will arise during the Share Offer and where these are addressed to the management committee, they will endeavour to put these plus responses in a Frequently Asked Questions section on the website. Or you can go to the Parish Rooms on Saturday 17 or 24 from 10.00 to 12.00 and talk through your queries directly with them.

Estone Road houses almost ready



The 15 houses being built on Ashton Lane are close to being finished ... they will be completed by late April. Both the shared ownership houses and those for rental are being advertised now. Those living in Ashton Hayes or with close connections to Ashton Hayes are given first priority and following that, approaches and applications from people who are in surrounding villages are considered and then finally people from further afield. Equity Housing are concerned that to date there have been only a small number of approaches made by people living in or with close connections to Ashton Hayes and so this is a reminder to anyone interested to get into contact with Equity in respect of the shared ownership houses and the Council [CWaC] in respect of the properties for rent.

Parish Council Update

Parish Council Vacancies

We currently have two vacancies on the Parish Council. The work involved is varied and interesting. Councillors work together as a team to get things that matter to the community done and the company is good. If you are interested and want to find out more contact Kirsty Lowe [Clerk] kirsty@ashtonhayespc.co.uk or speak to one of the existing parish councillors.

Ashton Hayes and Horton-cum-Peel Speedwatch

During August and October of last year, a group of Parish Council members and other volunteers manned 'Smiling Sid', the speed gun equipment, on the main (B5393) routes in and out of the village, as well as taking measurements on Duck Lane, Pentre Lane and Gongar Lane.

The B5393 measurements (Church Road and Ashton Lane) were passed to CWaC and the police in order to justify police speed camera operations. So far this year there has been police speed camera activity both outside the school and by the playing field, also the police camera-van team have done a safety assessment, meaning they could appear at any time – SO PLEASE WATCH YOUR SPEED!

As a separate exercise CWaC set up a 'black radar box' outside the school in early December. CWaC will use speed and traffic numbers data from this apparatus as part of a borough-wide exercise considering 20MPH zones; they will produce a report later in the year. The speedwatch group have asked CWaC to show us their data, so we may compare it with our own and perhaps justify further police camera activity in the village.

Whilst talking about police activity in the village please be aware that the inconsiderate and illegal parking we have all been seeing at both ends of West End and also at the junction of Peel Crescent and Gongar Lane will be being drawn to the attention of the Police. In both cases parking in this way creates a real hazard for motorists approaching and negotiating the junctions as it blocks drivers vision and means they have to drive out into the road thus putting themselves and others in danger. Such poor parking needs to stop and alternative parking spaces found by those concerned.

Parish Council Budget Setting and Precept Proposal

In December and January the Parish Council work to set their annual budget for the financial year ahead in order to inform the setting of the Precept which is the amount Parish Councils can claim from council tax payments.

This year the charge for properties in Band D or above will be £34.36 per household and the Parish Council are pleased to have been able to limit the increase to approximately the rate of inflation against a backdrop of reduced funding sources for Parish Councils and increasing demands.

The Parish Council continue to support village life and community initiatives such as AHSRA, the community shop, the working group aiming to restore the Golden Lion Public house to the village, the play area and café, the local churchyard and the Parish Room Trust as well as acting for the community in respect of local government matters such as planning and highways.

If you have any questions at any time about Parish Council finances or accounts you are welcome to contact our Clerk, Kirsty Lowe, kirsty@ashtonhayespc.co.uk.

Our annual audit also takes place between 31st March and September and notices relating to the audit can be found on Parish Council noticeboards and the website. In addition to this all residents are welcome to attend our Parish Council meetings held in the Parish Room West End, usually on the second Monday of each month with the exception of August.

Community Shop News

Winter has returned with a vengeance and taken us all by surprise, so visit our Community Shop and treat yourself to delicious and warming pies and quiches from Cowards in Frodsham.

Our shop relies heavily on our wonderful volunteers – we could not operate without you - and we are always looking for more in every area, particularly at the moment for someone to put the papers out in the shop on Saturday and Sunday mornings. Please call in at the shop or telephone 01829 759023 if there is anyone out there who can help us!

Health and Safety is always a priority with our management and we are delighted to report that the shop recently received a good report from the Fire Authority.



Parish Council Update

Reporting Faults and Concerns directly to the Council

Rather than wait until the next parish council meeting or until you bump into one of the parish council members you can report faults and concerns to CWaC directly. Although it is possible to do this via the telephone it is more effective if done online via the internet. They have a system for reporting which can be accessed by googling 'CWAC reporting'. You will then see a page which provides a number of different issues to report on and you choose the one that fits with what you are concerned about and follow their instructions. They will confirm receipt of the report and give you a reference number. Hopefully you will find the matter acted on more quickly.

Village Spring Clean

We are once again tackling the litter and rubbish strewn around the village and surrounding areas following a very successful exercise last year. We are starting earlier in the year this time so as to be better able to see the rubbish in the verges and hedgerows ... last year the vegetation masked some of it.

We are totally reliant on volunteers to make it work so please think about whether you can help. It's happening on the mornings of 24th and 25th March and we will be meeting at the Pavilion [Playing Field] at 10.30am. Equipment can be supplied and there will be tea, coffee and cake for those who help on their return to the Pavilion. There are flyers in the post office, shop and the café and if you are willing to get involved please let us know by filling in a slip on the flyer or e-mail jane@ashtonhayespc.co.uk. Letting us know in advance will assist us in making sure we have enough refreshments for everyone!

Village Welcome Packs

The Church and the Parish Council have been engaged in the planning of a brochure which welcomes new residents to and informs them about the village and wider parish. This will have some detail in about the many groups, clubs and organisations that are in the area and part of our community. The practical development of this brochure has been the work of Linda Peppin and we are waiting now for all the various organisations to submit their information to her to load into the booklet. The local WI has very kindly offered to pay the costs of the printing of these brochures and there will be one distributed to each household plus a stock held back for anyone moving into the village or wider parish area. The website will also contain a copy and all those contributing will be asked to keep their entries in the brochure up to date and accurate.

We think this will be of great assistance to people moving in to the community. Certainly those who have done so recently have told us that it would have helped them. Well done and thank you to David and Linda for having undertaken most of the work in respect of this initiative.

Ashton Lane Planter and Entrance to the Village

Due to damage caused to the large stone planter at the entrance to the village on Ashton lane, the Parish Council are having to repair and possibly replace the structure. This will undoubtedly be at a cost to the Parish Council and through them the local residents. The nature of the damage would suggest that a vehicle has driven/knocked into it causing the structure to be displaced. The practice of parking either side of this structure has been the subject of concern for a while and, whilst there is no actual evidence that it is one of those vehicles that has caused this damage, it is easy to see how that might happen. The Parish Council would ask that parking on those verges before and after the planter stop as it seems unnecessary and unhelpful.

Fly Tipping Outbreak

Those of you walking around the footpaths close to Peel Hall and Badgers Brook may have seen recent evidence of fly tipping. The Parish Council is aware of two instances of this in the last month. Those who have spotted it have been sensible enough to photograph it and we can use this as evidence in discussion with the Council.



The Council do take action against fly tippers so any information you might have about this is welcome ... just pass it on direct to the Council through their on line reporting system and/or tell one of your local Parish Councillors about it. Let's keep our community litter free.

A54 Junction and Improving Safety

CWAC will be receiving a report and recommendations from officers following the court case which we understand to be being held in April. This is tied to the tragic death of the motor cyclist there in November 2016. In the meantime the Council Officer we have regular contact with has advised us to report to the Council via their 0300 123 7036 [Highways] telephone number or their 0300 123 8123 [General Helpdesk] telephone number any minor accidents and bumps there. These would be the ones not necessarily reported through to the Police and is so the Council has a more full picture. When we do this we should ask the Contact centre to log the call to Helena Crawford and mark it as 'information' so highways can keep all the reports in the same place. It would be useful for the Parish Council to be aware also of such incidents so an email at the same time to jane@ashtonhayespc.co.uk with the detail for information would be helpful.

Grants for Local Students

The Tarvin Educational Trust is a charity that was established in 1955 to manage the endowment of the old Tarvin Grammar School. Its purpose is to assist the educational needs of children of secondary age or older who live in the Ancient Parish of Tarvin. This is an area that covers Tarvin, Kelsall, Ashton Hayes and Clotton Hoofield, and the trust is managed by representatives from those parishes and a member of Cheshire West and Chester Council as the local education Authority.

This assistance may take the form of financial assistance for tuition fees, books, musical instruments and travel on approved courses.

The next round of applications should be made no later than 2nd April 2018 to the Clerk of the Governors, Mr David Cotgreave, Brown Heath Farm, Tarvin, Chester CH3 8NE, dhcotgreave@btinternet.com.

Not many people may be aware of the Trust, or the fact that in 1666 a local man, Mr. Pickering, founded a Grammar School for the free education of 20 poor local children. He built the School Room and a house for the teacher next to the church in Tarvin, and these buildings exist today as the Parish Rooms and an adjoining cottage.

It is the rents from these and from some agricultural land in Tattenhall that provide the Trust with its modest income (£8,000 to £10,000 per annum) and allow it to continue to support the educational needs of local young people.

Ashton Allotments Association

Well the rain finally stopped and we had a lovely bright day on Friday 2nd February but:

*“If Candlemas be fair and bright,
Winter will have another flight”*

So here we are at the time of writing with the “Beast From The East” presenting us white allotments, which actually look much more encouraging than the water logged ones we have suffered for the last several weeks.

As ever we are most grateful to our manure supplier; and those who got their muck dug in will doubtless benefit as the frost produces a mould.

Several intrepids are still harvesting leeks, parsnips and brassicas from the soggy (now hard) going, giving much satisfaction despite the adverse conditions.

There was a good attendance at the AGM on 21st February when a number of decisions were taken for the coming year, the committee were elected and a very social time was had by all.

We are pleased to welcome one new member, since the last edition of Around Ashton, but unfortunately another has had to relinquish a plot on health grounds, leaving a vacancy. Anyone interested in taking on the newly vacant plot may contact davidrouthwaite@hotmail.com or phone David on 01829 752070 – first come first served!



Regular groups & activities in Ashton Hayes

Remember When/Keeping History Alive
Parish rooms. Mondays 10.30 - 12.00,
approximately every 6-8 weeks.

Walking group
Increase the number of steps you walk by joining us every Tuesday 10.00 - 12.00 at the Pavilion.
Short walks around the recreation field or longer walks around the village.

Craft group Parish rooms. Tuesdays 10.00 - 12.00

Social group Varied programme of activities, 2.00 - 4.00pm Next meeting on March 20th.

Library session plus dominoes and crafts.
Parish rooms. Wednesday 10.00 - 12.00.
Refreshments available.

IT support also available from an OPAL volunteer on various dates.

Art group Time Bank office. Wednesdays 2.00 - 3.30pm.

Tai Chi Ashton & Mouldsworth Village Hall. Thursdays 1.30 - 2.30pm. Free trial session available.

French Parish rooms. Fridays 10.00 - 12.00. Usually twice a month.

Lunch group Pavilion Café. Fridays 12.00 - 1.30pm.

If you'd like to come along to any of our activities, please contact our Volunteer Co-ordinator, Caroline Massos on (01829) 751398 or email ash-worthtime@hotmail.co.uk

We are also looking for volunteers to give people who don't drive the chance to attend local groups and activities. There is no regular commitment required. Please contact us if you can help.

Sponsorship Opportunity



Hello, I'm Emma Varey. I live in Ashton Hayes and go to Tarporley High School. Through my school I have the chance to go to Ecuador in South America in 2019 to help the locals. We will be helping to build schools and working on other community projects for the people who live there. We will also have the chance to travel to the Amazon

rainforest to help replant deforested areas. However, I have to raise half of the cost of the expedition. To help do this my first fundraising event will be a Swimathon. I'm going to swim 100 lengths, which is something I've not done before. Please will you sponsor me so that I can help change people's lives?

You can sponsor me at www.gofundme.com/gatyc-ecuador-expedition or by adding your details to the sponsorship form in the village shop or Pavilion Café.

Thank you.

Ashton Hayes and Tarvin Flower Club

Do you like flowers and enjoy meeting people? Why not join us for an evening of entertainment as you watch a skilled flower arranger demonstrate their art. All arrangements are raffled so you may even take one home with you! You do not have to be a member or join, just come.

We meet in Tarvin Community Centre, on the second Wednesday of the month at 7.30 p.m., (except August and December) and you would be assured of a friendly welcome. Further information from 01829 740832 or 01829 740473.

11th April	Sylvia Bower	All kinds of everything
9th May	Stonedd Hughes	Turning over a new leaf
13th June	Garden Visit	Mayfield, Bunbury
11th July	AGM	

Ashton Vets Football

The Vets have maintained their good early season form reported in the last edition. After 9 league games, they are second in the league to Bunbury and comfortably ahead of the team in third place. They have won 6 games, drawn 2 and lost only once.

In addition, several friendly games have been played against teams who are not in the league such as Chester Nomads, and last week-end they defeated Mold 2-1 at home. The team have plenty of players signed on and the only issues have been the weather and lack of referees, without which matches have to be cancelled from time to time.

Ashton Phoenix play in the Friday night league on a floodlit pitch in Ellesmere Port and are mid-table having played 7 games, won 4 and lost 3 games.

The Vets contact is Chris Moore (tel: 07921266397).

An Easter Welcome at St John's, Ashton Hayes



You are very welcome to join us for our Easter services at St John the Evangelist Church in Ashton Hayes. We are also joining with our friends from St Cuthbert's Church in Mouldsworth for a Walk of Witness on Good Friday.

Our special services are:

Palm Sunday (25th March)

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
Palm Crosses given out
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion
Palm Crosses given out

Maundy Thursday (29th March)

- 7.30 p.m. Holy Communion

Good Friday (30th March)

- 10.30 a.m. Walk of Witness from St John's to St Cuthbert's
An ecumenical event of prayer and walking. Bring your Palm Cross!
- 2.00 p.m. Hour at the Cross
A time for prayer and reflection

Easter Day (1st April)

- 9.00 a.m. Holy Communion (Book of Common Prayer)
- 10.30 a.m. Holy Communion (for all ages)
Easter eggs for children!

We look forward to seeing you.

David Lamb (Vicar)



ASHTON HAYES
theatre club presents

2018

An evening of laughter, tears and great entertainment



SPEAKEASY

MONOLOGUE SLAM

April

Fri 13th & Sat 14th



Tickets £12

price includes **Ploughmans Supper** in the interval

Tarvin Community Centre at 7.30pm

Book at: www.ashtonhayestheatreclub.co.uk

Tel: **01829 751327** or **07707 830286**

Don't miss out on the Ploughmans Supper and live music in the interval.

There will be a bar and an opportunity to vote for your favourite act.

It promises to be a bit different with laughter and tears and a chance to see some new faces performing.

Tickets will also be on sale in the Community Shop

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENTER A MONOLOGUE OR HAVE ANY QUESTIONS CALL YVETTE 07707 830286