



Ashingdon Parish Council

NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2022

NEW BENCHES AT THE PARK



Two new picnic benches have been installed, made from recycled plastic

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL has installed two new picnic benches in the infant play area at the Memorial Park, these are both made from recycled plastic and are wheelchair friendly. They were provided to mark the celebration of the late Queen Elizabeth II Platinum

Jubilee.

The new toilets in the park are still not open as yet which is an area of great frustration for both the residents and the parish council. We are working closely with RDC to get them open as soon as possible

FURTHER to our advanced warning in the June Newsletter the gates at the Ashingdon Memorial Park will be locked at 11 p.m. and reopen at 7 a.m. every day. This is to reduce the anti-social behaviour and vehicles causing a nuisance to residents.



Book your slot to visit Rayleigh Recycling Centre

Remember you now have to book a slot to visit Rayleigh recycling centre. The booking system started from May 2022. We have taken this measure following feedback from site users and local residents to address excess queuing and traffic at Rayleigh recycling centre, and on the surrounding roads. By trialling a booking system at Rayleigh we hope to improve how we manage this service and reduce queuing at peak times.

Telephone 0345 603 7625 to book



MEET YOUR PARISH COUNCILLOR



Cllr. Declan Lynn

I have moved to the beautiful village of South Fambridge this year. Whilst new to the Ashingdon area, I have always lived in Essex, Previously living in Billericay and Leigh-on-Sea. Day to day I work in London for a financial services institution and have done so for 14+ years. I'm a keen runner so I use this time to explore the area and I am amazed at the amount of footpaths and green belt open space that Ashingdon Parish has and I feel strongly that this needs to be protected. I also enjoy following the mighty Southend United and despite their recent woes the past year or so has seen myself and my future father in law travelling up and down the country visiting new grounds on away days. I joined the council in October as I have an immense pride in where I live and I want to work with the other council members to help my local community where we can. I always look forward to hearing any residents views and what improvements they think can be made to the local area, so please get in touch.



REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022 — 1st ASHINGDON AND PROUD



ONCE again the 1st Ashingdon Scout Group and Groups from around the District came together to organise a splendid Remembrance Day Service at the Ashingdon Memorial Hall, the scouts paraded along the Ashingdon Road before entering the hall.

The hall was packed with around 250 residents and the service was conducted by Rev. David Redbond who retires next year and John Blundell thanked him for his loyal service and presented him with a small gift from the group. He also thanked the hall committee for their help with the event.

Scouts from the Group had been doing an excellent job selling poppies around the district during the preceding week.



Top and bottom: Scouts from the Groups marching along the Ashingdon Road. Left and right: Cubs and Scouts selling poppies for the British Legion appeal.



STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS - STOP PRESS

1st Ashingdon Scout Group has received a grant from the Essex CC Locality Fund to go towards providing a safe, secure outdoor space for the young people to enjoy outdoor scouting activities. Our thanks go to Cllr Laureen Shaw for putting us forward for the grant.

CO-OPERATION

THE Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall has received a grant from our local Coop store. A total of £3,615.67 has been raised by you, our community, to help with the refurbishment of the kitchen when buying from our Coop. The hall Committee met with the Coop at The Golden Cross to gratefully receive the donation. The parish council also made a grant of £1,000 toward works in the ladies toilets.



CAN WE HELP WITH A GRANT?

If you are a charity or local community organisation in Ashingdon, Ashingdon Parish Council has a small fund available to offer Grants to such organisations. If you think you qualify you can obtain an application form from the Clerk to the Parish Council whose details are below.

If you have any comments or enquiries, or have something you would like included please contact Clerk to the Parish Council, Mrs Karen Boyce via e-mail at ashingdonparishcouncil@outlook.com

Please address all correspondence to 4 Warwick Drive, Rochford, Essex SS4 1HP



Cllr. David Catchpole
Chairman

CHAIRMAN'S NEWS

As the days get shorter we move ever closer to another Christmas and an approaching New Year. We all look back at the disappearing year and hope the new one will bring better times. Clearly the cost of living crisis will effect us all and will be with us into the early months of 2023. On the positive side we have seen off the worst effects of Covid 19 although it is still an ever present danger for many. I had the honour of representing the parish council at the service of remembrance held at St. Andrews Church in Rochford for the late Queen Elizabeth II. During 2022 your council has continued with the planned conversion of street lights to LED as and when the old ones became unserviceable. Frustratingly we have still not finalised the lease with RDC for our Parish Office and public toilets at the Memorial Park pavilion. We have received many complaints from residents as to why the toilets remain closed and I can assure you that the parish council shares that frustration. We are very hopeful they will be available in the early months of 2023.

Your council has installed two new picnic tables in the infant play area at the Memorial Park in the memory of the late Queen's Platinum Jubilee and we hope to make further improvements in the play areas in the future. We have also re-introduced the gate locking at the park to reduce the anti social behaviour in vehicles at night. The gates will close at 11 p.m. and open at 7 a.m. The council is very pleased that we can once again hold our Christmas Buffet on the 8th December for the residents of Ashingdon after a lapse of two years. I am also pleased to welcome a new councillor Mr Declan Lynn who lives in South Fambridge, this area has long been unrepresented and we look forward to his contribution at council meetings. At this point I have to thank my fellow councillors for their support during 2022 and also our Clerk who works tirelessly to ensure the council runs as smoothly as possible. All the councillors are volunteers and give their time and effort for the good of the parish. We still have two vacancies so if you feel that you could spare the time and would like to give back something to the community you will be most welcome. And finally I would like to wish all the residents of Ashingdon a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

**ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL WOULD LIKE TO WISH YOU A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND A HAPPY AND PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.**

Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund



Essex County Council are urging organisations across Essex to apply for their new Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund.

The £100,000 fund offers grants of up to £1,000 so organisations can create new spaces or activities, or extend their existing services.

The fund is open to charities, clubs or associations, community interest companies and town and parish councils.

Grants can be used for things like equipment to run new activities, venue or catering costs, operational costs including utilities, and staff or volunteer expenditure.



[Find out more or apply to the Community Winter Warmth and Welcome Spaces Fund](https://ealc.gov.uk/winter-warmth-and-welcome-spaces-fund/)
at the EALC website
<https://ealc.gov.uk/winter-warmth-and-welcome-spaces-fund/>



Memory Lane Cafe was originally set up in 2019 when it was felt that there was a need for a meeting place for people with Alzheimers, Dementia and their carers to enjoy a few hours of companionship and meet with other carers along with their cared for loved ones in a friendly and relaxing environment, where they can share their common experiences.

We hold the cafe at the Hockley and Hawkwell Day Centre on the first Saturday of the month from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tea, coffee and refreshments including home-baked cakes and fun entertainment are provided. To date this includes singers, bell ringers, a magician, chair aerobics, bingo and many other enjoyable activities. We have also enjoyed several afternoon teas and a Christmas celebration. We provide all of the above totally free of charge. Our guests have said how much they enjoy attending each month and our numbers have been gradually increasing.

We are very grateful to **Ashingdon Parish Council** for awarding us a grant of £300 which we will use towards organising future activities. If you would like further information please email:

Pam.foster@thememorylanecafe.org.uk

or call Pam Foster on **07768 367497**.

We also have a Facebook page Memory Lane Cafe (Rochford District).

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS



Monday 5th December 2022

Monday 9th January 2023

Monday 6th February 2023

Monday 6th March 2023

Monday 3rd April 2023

Monday 8th May 2023



CONTACT THE CLERK ON 07950 947731 FOR MEETING DETAILS

CONTACTS AND INFORMATION

Ashingdon & East Hawkwell Memorial Hall bookings **07307 692889**

St Andrews Church Hall bookings – Julie Goodge **01702 205918**

Neighbourhood Police **101**

1st Ashingdon Scout Group (St Andrews)

Group Scout Leader - Roger Constable **01702 548834**

Cubs – John Blundell **01702 545666**

Brownies – Hilary Skeggs **01702 291131**

County Councillors

Laureen Shaw **01702 540398**

District Councillors

Mike Carter **07958 707070**

Danielle Belton **07525 714715**

Roger Constable **01702 548834**

Parish Councillors

David Catchpole (Ashingdon ward) **01702 544516**

Debbie Constable (Ashingdon ward) **01702 548834**

Sean Chittenden (Hockley ward) **01702 543704**

Pat Hennessy (Hockley ward) **01702 205060**

Glen Dryhurst (Ashingdon ward) **01702 543380**

Terry Flowers (Ashingdon Heights ward) **07776 013543**

Dan McCarthy (Ashingdon ward) **01702 530870**

Sue Osborne (Ashingdon ward) **01702 544871**

Declan Lynn (Ashingdon ward) **07990 901756**

Clerk to Ashingdon Parish Council

Karen Boyce

4 Warwick Drive, Rochford, Essex SS4 1HP

ashingdonparishcouncil@outlook.com **07950 947731**

All contacts correct at time of printing

Rochford District Council

Council Offices, South Street,
Rochford, Essex, SS4 1BW

Essex County Council

County Hall, Market Road,
Chelmsford, Essex, CM1 1QH

Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall

Ashingdon Road, Rochford,
Essex SS4 3HF

Telephone 07307 692889

www.ashingdonmemorialhall.uk

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL WEB SITE

Take a look at:

www.ashingdonparishcouncil.gov.uk

PLANNING

All planning applications are now dealt with during our regular monthly council meetings at St. Andrews Church Hall, Church Road. Members of the public are welcome to attend along with any other interested parties. Meetings normally start at 7.30 p.m. On the first Monday of the month except Bank Holidays and August..

HAVE YOU EVER THOUGHT OF BECOMING A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

There are currently two vacant seats on the Parish Council. If you are interested in becoming a member of Ashingdon Parish Council please speak to our clerk, details below, or come along to one of our meetings which are held on the 1st Monday of each month (except August) at 7.30 p.m.

Contact the Clerk on 07950 947731