

ASHINGDON PARISH COUNCIL



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Members of the Council are hereby summoned to attend the Parish Council Meeting at the Ashingdon Parish Office, The Cricket Pavilion, King George V Playing Field, Ashingdon Road, Ashingdon on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.00pm for the purpose of transacting the following business. Members of the press and public are welcome to attend.

Karen Hawkes

Karen Hawkes
Locum Clerk to Ashingdon Parish Council

2nd January 2024

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence.**
2. **Minutes**
Acceptance of minutes from the Parish Council Meeting dated 23rd December 2023 circulated prior to the meeting
3. **Progress Report from the Clerk.**
Update to be provided at the meeting
4. **To receive member's declaration of interests and dispensations in items on the agenda**
Requests for dispensations must be requested from the Clerk up to the day before the meeting.
5. **Public participation session with respect to items on the agenda and other matters that are of mutual interest.**
10 minutes shall be available for public question time.
6. **To receive a report from the District Councillor and/or to note communication from District and County Council relevant to the Parish**
7. **Planning –**
To consider and make comments on all planning applications available for comment on the Rochford District Council website to ensure that all applications are considered prior to the Christmas period:

[20 Golden Cross Road, Rochford, Essex, SS4 3DG](#)
Proposed single storey extension with roof lantern
Application reference: **23/01050/FUL** received on **19/12/2023**
[5 Mapleleaf Close, Hockley, Essex, SS5 5DZ](#)
Construct garden outbuilding, to serve as an annex to the main dwelling.
Application reference: **23/01008/FUL** received on **01/12/2023**
8. **Finance**
 - (a) To note payments made to 31st December 2023
 - (b) To approve future payments to be made, list to be circulated at the meeting
 - (c) To approve the December 2023 bank reconciliation figures
 - (d) Finance Working Group to provide update regarding the opening of the Cambridge Building Society and research made into opening an additional account to ensure that funds are protected over 85k.
 - (e) To decide whether to purchase a post box as discussed at the December meeting.
9. **Council Tax Base Issued**
Members to note that the Council Tax Base 2024 / 2025 has been confirmed as 1207.8 In order to maintain a precept of £117,291 a Band D Council Tax charge would need to be set at £97.11. This would be an increase of £0.37. If the precept were to remain the same then the precept received would be £116,842.57.

Members to note that whilst a precept demand was made for £117,291 the budget approved by Ashingdon Parish Council was £134,291 with the shortfall being funded from reserves.

10. Council Tax Referendum

Members to note that correspondence has been received from NALC stating that for 2024 / 2025 financial year Town and Parish Councils will not be capped.

11. Budget and Precept Proposals for 2024 / 2025

(a) Members to review the Earmarked Reserves as attached to the agenda and consider whether the funds no longer required could be used to fund the shortfall

(b) Members to consider the budget as attached to the agenda, the budget as circulated would be £143,730. Recommendation that the shortfall is part or solely funded from Earmarked reserves no longer required.

12. All Saints, South Fambridge

Members to note correspondence from All Saints and Church as attached to the agenda and agree how to proceed.

13. Murial

To receive an update from Cllr McCarthy, Cllr Catchpole to discuss possible community engagement options to obtain residents views.

14. Highways/PROW/Environment/Transport/Street Lighting

To receive a transport update from Cllr. G. Dryhurst;

15. Crime and Anti-Social Behaviour.

To discuss recent incidents and issues. Parish Clerk to provide verbal report

16. To receive a report from the representatives for the following outside committees/working groups:

- (a) Ashingdon and East Hawkwell Memorial Hall - Cllr. P. Hennessy;
- (b) Rochford Hundred Association of Local Councils - Cllr. D. Constable;
- (c) RSPB Local Liaison Group – Cllr. G. Dryhurst;
- (d) River Crouch Coastal Community Team - Cllr. G. Dryhurst;

17. Training and Events

To consider any requests from officers or members to attend training. A list of up to date courses can be found on the EALC website. <https://ealc.gov.uk/training-courses/>

18. Items from Councillors to be added to next agenda.

19. Next Parish Council Meeting to be held on Monday 5th February 2024