

West Ashby Parish Council News

January 2025

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Happy New Year

From all of us at the West Ashby Parish Council we wish you the best for 2025. We hope everyone enjoyed Christmas, I think we all agree that the village looked great with the Christmas Tree and all the lights.

West Ashby Orchard



Tsar Nicholas II on the left here has it right we need your help, the trees for our orchard are arriving in West Ashby on Friday 31st January and we need to get the trees planted as soon as possible.

There are 22 trees needing planting in total (2 are so big the county are coming to plant them personally), so could we have as many volunteers as humanly possible on **Saturday 1 February**, meet at the cemetery at **10:30am**.

Don't worry if you only have a bit of time to spare, or cannot dig, any help will be gratefully received. Everything provided but spades and gloves. A great opportunity to take up a flask of something warming, thinking of using up the last of the mulled wine personally. Bring mince pies?

PLEASE COME HELP – SEE YOU THERE!

Village Centre Improvement

Our engagement with the County has paid off over the last few years and a scheme has been proposed to address concerns over the dangerous nature of the Church Lane / Main Road junction.

We do not have final details yet, but we are advised that the "Keep Clear" area will be formally incorporated as pavement. We as the Parish will provide a planter to go on this new area and plant it up to look as pretty as our other planters.

The build out will provide three main advantages, firstly it ensures vehicles cannot park there and block the view for traffic turning out of Church Lane. Secondly, the change will reduce the perception of the width of the highway which discourages speed. Thirdly, it will make crossing the road at this point easier as it will be narrower. All those advantages and it will provide a nice focal point. Great news.

Highways have limited resources for the entire County, and we are by no means the most affected

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wed 19 March in the Village Hall at 7:30pm, anyone may come and present in the first 15 minutes or ask any questions of the Council, following that 21 May.

Councillors: J Bunster (Chair), C Graves (Vice Chair), G Edwards, R Atkin-House, A Radcliffe, N Moore

Clerk: K Elliott clerk.westashby@gmail.com 01507 522 437

County Councillor: P Bradwell cllrp.bradwell@lincolnshire.gov.uk

District Councillor: D Simoson daniel.simpson@e-lindsey.gov.uk 07 769 243 623

by speeding drivers, so we are really thrilled to have secured this offer.

We will advise of more concrete proposals when we have them, and of course we will continue to do what we can to make our village safer.

Summer Event

Save the Date – **Saturday 26 July.**

Details to follow but we thought it would be nice to have a get together in the summer so that villagers, old and new can meet and have some fun and possibly raise a bit of cash to replenish the rainy-day fund. Please put the date in your diaries and we will provide further details in the next newsletter. Any ideas or volunteers are welcome.

Budget

The Parish Council met and have agreed upon a budget for next year, as you can appreciate, things such as grass cutting cost ever increasing amounts and we have done some great work in making the village look better and providing things such as planters.

We have raised the precept for parishioners to ensure that we can cover the basics, but we will also have to undertake some fundraising for the extras.

We continue to fund the defibrillator and will be renewing the community speed watch when the weather improves.

Cllr Sara Summerlin-Benton

Sadly, green-fingered Sara has given her resignation to the Parish Council. Sara has served twice now on the PC between July 2007 – March 2012 and then September 2018 until now. So she must have enjoyed it.

Sara has been a great councillor and will be missed for her humour and wicked sense of fun. Sara has

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promised to continue to assist with our planters and various gardening efforts.



Anyway, this leaves us with a vacancy on the PC, please do let one of us know if you are interested in joining or just want further details.

Speedy Gonzales

The rouge's gallery of speeders, sadly none of whom sport the surname Gonzales:-

- Joss White of Oaktree Meadow, Horncastle – 63mph - £768 & 6 points.
- Alice Murray, Alford - 78mph - £376 & disqualified
- Keith Wieland, Horncastle – 63mph - £718 & disqualified
- Michael Pedersen, Woodhall Spa – 65mph - £1,077 & disqualified

The highest recorded speed between min-Nov to mid-Jan was 90mph. if caught, 600 people would have lost their licences for the speeds they were doing, 50% of drivers would have copped a fine and points. Not good enough.

February Church Quiz

Is on 9th and will be hosted by The Buzzards in the West Ashby Arms, teams of 5, £3 per person, proceeds to the Church. Be seated by 6:30pm. March's is also on the 9th and will be hosted by Ally's Pally's.