

# West Ashby Parish Council News

February 2026

Facebook – West Ashby Residents Chatterbox

## Happy New Year

Wishing you all a wonderful 2026 from your Parish Council, we wish you all the very best.

If you have any concerns, issues or ideas then please do come to any of our meetings where the public may speak for the first 15 minutes or so, we don't clock watch particularly, or chat to one of your councillors (listed below).

Hopefully this will be the year we get our village tavern open with new landlords so that we can all meet again, as we once did, by the warmth of a log fire, with a nice cold drink in our hands. If anyone has any old pictures of memorabilia of the village, I know the new landlords would be keen to see it.

## Budget

With less controversy that Rachel from Accounts managed we have set the Parish budget for the forthcoming financial year.

With inflation running at near 4% prices have risen and we shall have to raise the precept in line with the district and county councils to ensure we have enough to cover what we spend.

We have estimated income for 2026/7 to be £4,291.91, with £4,096 of that being the precept.

Expenditure we estimate to be £4,240 with our biggest expense being grass-cutting now at £1,000 and our clerks' salary. This leaves us with a

The next Parish Council Meeting is on Wed 18<sup>th</sup> 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 20<sup>th</sup> May.

Councillors: C Graves (Chair), R Atkin-House (Vice), G Edwards, A Radcliffe, N Moore, T Thomas, L Hebden

Clerk: K Elliott [clerk.westashby@gmail.com](mailto:clerk.westashby@gmail.com) 01507 522 437

County Councillor: N Oliver [cllrn.oliver@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:cllrn.oliver@lincolnshire.gov.uk)

District Councillor: D Simpson [daniel.simpson@e-lindsey.gov.uk](mailto:daniel.simpson@e-lindsey.gov.uk) 07 769 243 623

small amount of headroom. We will keep an eye out for grants and are keen for any fund-raising ideas or events anyone may have, let us know.

We are happy to go through the budget with any parishioner interested.

Our last contractor did a wonderful job at the cemetery and orchard however, we did tender the work, and we have awarded the contract for this year to Andy Bonnett who provided the most competitive quote. We will keep a close eye on things to ensure that the excellent work that has been done to date continues.

In our orchard you will see the addition of six cherry trees, part of the Sakura Project, commissioned by the Government of Japan which we successfully applied for. Yours truly (with one helper) was up there in the rain and gales of December to ensure they went into the ground in time. The cherries together with the new hedging installed by some other hardy volunteers with our fruit trees should make for a wonderful spot in a few years.



If you wish to purchase a plot for burial in our cemetery, please do speak to one of the Councillors who will be delighted to assist.

## District & County

Councillor Simpson attended the last PC meeting and confirmed that we are not affected by the cancelling of any local elections, ours are not due until 2027.

By that point, the proposals for amalgamating the district with either the whole county, or into the southern half of the county to create a new council will be known and we should be in a 12-month transitional period.

Food waste bins will be rolled out nearer the end of the year. The new Local Plan (for planning) won't be progressed as the Council will be no more soon enough. We will find ourselves waiting a very long time for any replacement plan.

There was no news from our County Councillor who also attended, but she was made aware of our list of issues with highways in particular and promised to follow these up.

## Church Lane Planters

We have ordered the stone troughs for outside the Church steps and will be planting these up asap to brighten up the centre of the village ... hopefully in time for when the pub reopens .... Nice.

With any luck highways will have sorted out the drain they marooned in the middle ..... it's almost like they are in cahoots with Anglian Water.

Thanks to our Chairman Carl for clearing up an incredible amount of debris from the church lay-by. We shall organise a litter pick soon for the village and verges.

## Pavements

We received a letter from a resident regarding the lack of dropped kerbs in the village and reported this back to our County Councillor (as the County are mandated with highways). We entirely agree

that pedestrian and cycle provision is appalling in the village and have made our Councillor aware of this.

On that subject – please DO NOT park on pavements, no matter how little or how temporarily, they are not for vehicles, park on the road ... it brings down traffic speeds, so it is a win-win.

## Water

We have continued to complain, and made our complaints known to our Councillors at District and County level but still the situation does not improve. Please all continue to report any issue via [Fixmystreet.com](http://Fixmystreet.com).

## Church Quiz

The Church Quiz will be held at the Village Hall on Sunday 8th February. It's a 6:30pm start, teams of 5-ish, £3 each, hosted by Team Buzzards.

Bring your own drinks and nibbles.

## Other happenings

### Odd Jobs

If anyone has any odd jobs you need a helping hand with suitable for a 13-year-old then contact Jesse on 07 442 389 205.

### Logs

Village syndicate for log buying – if interested then please ask Rob (Chapel View 07 384 555 207).

### Defibrillator Machine

New pads and a battery are being ordered (£300) and fitted so this facility remains in peak condition.

### Recycling

The Church can recycle printer cartridges, blister packs, stamps, milk bottle lids – all in the porch.

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