

# *The Ashlink*

**February March 2026**



## Editorial

Writing this in mid January with snow on the ground and a grey cloud laden sky scudding overhead it is difficult to remember what warm weather is like and yet, by the end of March the daylight hours will be lengthening and the equinoctial gales will be almost over and daffodils will be bobbing and waving happily in the breezes.

Of course nature is never totally dormant. We have had snowdrops in the garden since before Christmas and the hellebores look lovely. Looking round the garden there are splashes of colour everywhere. Meanwhile the deputations of birds visiting the garden, demanding that I fill the feeders has never ceased. From my mancave window I have an excellent view of our local sparrow tribe squabbling over the grain feeder and the tits darting in and out to grab pieces of suet or mealie worms. The robin of course boldly hops up to the patio door demanding his share while scruffy pigeons and plump collared doves argue over territory and possible mates. All winter a family of wrens has roosted in the nest box we put up a few years ago in a sheltered spot.

All of this to say how blessed I feel to live in such a wonderful part of Norfolk. And it is not just the wildlife but the people too. We used to live in North Essex and it was getting increasingly fraught and aggressive as people moved into areas that were once countryside but had been covered over with densely packed housing developments. Nature was very much on the run. The woods where my sons built dens were turned into an estate, the old shipyards on the riverside became flats. There was too much traffic and greedy developers were always on the lookout for another plot of land to build on.

We decided to move! I was born in Suffolk so we started looking there but everything seemed very expensive and was either too urban or too rural or had strange neighbours! Gradually our search widened to include Norfolk. Still seemed rather pricy but then we found West Norfolk and Ashill. My first view of our cottage was a poor photo in an estate agent's brochure. It didn't look promising but we were getting desperate so we took a look. The moment we entered the place we knew this was where we would live. The

garden was a bit child mangled and the workshop a bit inaccessible but they both had potential. We have been here eleven years now and have become very passionate about our little patch of Norfolk. We have a couple of archaeologists in the family and they both enthuse about the place too.

Essentially though it comes down to people. West Norfolk is a friendly place and Ashill is a very friendly place indeed. If you are happy to get involved with the community, the village and its people will become good friends. I will not name individuals but some of them write in the Ashlink and others are pivotal in the smooth running of the parish – some do both. So when people ask about where we live we may be a bit vague as this is a treasure we want to keep to ourselves.

How did you end up in Ashill? Are you a native of many generations standing or an incomer like myself? William Haviland wrote an interesting piece for us about his adventures before coming to Ashill, I would be interested to hear from some other villagers too. You can use email or write me letter and leave it at Mawkin Cottage on the Green. Myself or my deputy can format it to fit the magazine.

**Glen Franklin. Editor**  
**email. glen.ashlink@gmail.com**

*Spring flowers*



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### **A Big Thank You**

On behalf of the Community centre I would like to thank everyone who came to the Christmas Concert held on the 14th December it was a lovely event that put everyone in the mood for the Christmas festivities thanks to the amazing Ashill Harmony Choir and their conductor Richard Winch who gave a wonderful performance which included Christmas songs, poems and a beautiful solo medley of Christmas tunes played on the keyboard by a very talented musician, William Havalind  
Many thanks to all members  
Happy new year to all

**Dee**

# What's on at The Call In

**Where is The Call In?**  
**The Green, Hale**  
**Road IP25 7AT**  
**Next to the duck**  
**pond**



**Find out more: Contact**  
Chair person Dee Bolton  
01760 441 622  
07926917409  
AVA Contact, Ray  
Hucklesby 01760 441 514

AVA ARCHIVES GROUP Monday 10.00 - 12.00am

COFFEE MORNINGS TUESDAY and THURSDAY 9.30 - 11.30am

All Welcome Come along, for a Mardle (Chat) and meet New Friends

PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB Every other Wednesday 7.00-9.00pm, For Details

Contact Ray 07808 922171 Email: Raydee100@googlemail.com

MEMORY CAFE Every Wed of the month from 10.30 - 12.00 plus 12.30 - 2pm on second Wednesday of month Further information telephone 0754 862 6337.

BEETLE DRIVE every other Thursday 2.00 - 4.30pm

LUNCH CLUB Every Friday 12.00 - 1.30

For information regarding the Lunch Club, Contact Denise on 07808 551952

KNIT 'n' STITCH GROUP Friday 2.00 - 4.00pm

BREAKFAST CLUB (All Welcome, No Booking Required)

Saturdays 9.00 – 12.00am Last Orders 11.30am

small breakfast £6.50

Regular £8

Extra Large £10

## **Friday Luncheon club**

If you are on your own, need a cooked meal once a week and would like to socialise with people then contact the **organiser Denise Hucklesby on 01760 441514.**

If you normally attend but are unable to come please let Denise know by Wednesday afternoon.

We are also always looking for volunteers!

All Parish Council minutes etc can be found online at <https://ashillparishcouncil.norfolkparishes.gov.uk/> as well as lots of extra community information  
The Ashlink is also published online at <https://www.ashlink.co.uk/>

**Ashill Archive Group  
Bringing the Past to Life**

If you are interested in researching and archiving the village history or if you have some photographs and documents related to Ashill over the years please do get in touch or come along as we always welcome new members, young or old. Two hours is all it takes and you get to find out interesting facts about our village.

For more information contact;

**Julie Long on 01760 622721 or Enid Turner on 01760 440419**

**We also have a facebook page @avaarchivegroup.**



**WHAT'S ON**  
**At The Call-In Centre**  
The Green, Hale Road, Ashill IP25 7AT (next to the duck pond)  
#What3Words for your Sat Nav: ///path.documents.qualified

**'MAKE TIME FOR A CUPPA & NATTER**  
**Ashill Memory Café**  
Concerned about your memory?

The memory cafe is open every Wednesday between 1030 -12pm  
A second session is run on the second Wednesday of the month  
from 12.30 to 2pm.

# St Nicholas Church



Incumbent - Revd Patrick Morrow 01760 330258.

Churchwardens – Wendy Peckham 01760 440952

Margaret Barker 01760 751771

## Services February March

**Sunday 1 February** 9.30 am Lay-led Service

**Sunday 8 February** 9.30 am Lay-led Service

**Sunday 15 February** 9.30 am Holy Communion (Revd Patrick Morrow)

This is an "Ashill Group" service, and we will be joined by the congregations of Merton, Ovington, and Saham Toney. The Communion will be shortened and simplified. We will go straight on (at about 10.10) to a special **Prayer Service**. This is to pray for discernment on the way ahead for us as a group of four parishes. People can pray aloud, or sit still and write down what comes to mind, about how we can better work together and what more we may offer in worship and service.

**Wednesday 18 February** 6 pm at **OVINGTON**: Holy Communion Service for Ash Wednesday. (Group Service)

**Sunday 22 February** 9.30 am First Sunday of Lent: Holy Communion (Revd Patrick Morrow)

**Sunday 1 March** 9.30 am Lay-led Service

**Sunday 8 March** 9.30 am Holy Communion (Revd Patrick Morrow)

**Sunday 15 March** 9.30 am Mothering Sunday: Lay-led Service

**Sunday 22 March** 9.30 am Passion Sunday: Holy Communion (Revd Patrick Morrow)

**Sunday 29 March** 9.30 am Palm Sunday: Holy Communion (Revd Patrick Morrow)

## A POLITE REQUEST

Please remove all Christmas holly Wreaths from Graves before the end of March. Any remaining will be removed ready for the grass cutting season. Thank you.

## **Baptism or Christening?**

The new year has firmly broken in. Christmas is long behind us – or maybe only just behind us: there is a school of thought that in Church the greater “Christmas season” does not end until after Candlemas, the Feast of the Presentation of the 40-day-old Jesus in the Temple. This is, for what it’s worth, my own view. The flowers associated with Candlemas are snowdrops. We will, I am sure, be looking for them. Hints of the new life that we call “Spring” are or will soon be around us.

New life is close to the heart of Christian faith. Where does it begin, for the Christian themselves? Well, with our own birth, obviously, and perhaps also when the faith comes alive, as we perceive personally something of the love of God. But these are not the only options. The Church of England has always allowed for – indeed encouraged - the baptism of infants, and understands that as a prominent way of entering into the new life of God in Christ. Parents and godparents speak on the infant’s behalf. That’s not for everyone, but parents do make decisions for their children in so many ways – including about the language they think and even dream in!

Baptism is often called a “christening”. That’s just another name; the meaning is identical. It speaks of the candidate – even if a baby – becoming a Christian, and being able to take their place in the Church of God, in the ways that are right for them. It is quite properly something to celebrate. The two great symbols - water and light - are dense with meaning, and can speak to people to are not Christian.

It is always a privilege to take a baptism service. That is my personal sense, but it is also the conviction of the Church. So one thing is always the case: there is no charge; there can be no charge. Much to unpack, I know. If anybody would like to know more, please do get in touch.

## Uranus, Neptune and Pluto Part one

The two outer planets are known as ice giants, in contrast with the gas giants Jupiter and Saturn.

Jupiter and Saturn are made up, mainly, of hydrogen and helium. In contrast, Uranus and Neptune are made of mainly compounds whose freezing points are above about -173 Centigrade.

Thus the definition of ice is wider than that we use in our own environments. The water on these two planets is present as a fluid at high temperature and pressure in the interior of the planets.

The ice giants have 20% of hydrogen and helium, compared with 90% in the gas giants.



### Uranus

Uranus has the third largest diameter and fourth largest mass among the planets of the Solar System. It completes an orbit of the Sun in 84 years, and its lowest temperature is -224 degrees centigrade. It orbits 19 times further out than the Earth.

Voyager visited in 1986.

it rotates once every 17hrs and 14 minutes and is tipped over to about 98 degrees. Thus it moves round its orbit with its equator nearly at right angles

thus the North pole points directly at the sun for ¼ of the orbit and the same for South pole.

It is thought that the tipping was caused by a collision with an Earth sized object a long time ago.

Uranus has 28 known moons and they are named after characters from the works of Shakespeare and Alexander Pope.

The inner moons are made of 50% ice and 50% rock. The outer ones composition are not known and are probably captured asteroids. The largest moons are Titania, Oberon, Umbriel, Ariel and Miranda.

Uranus has two sets of dark rings which are narrow and fairly opaque. They were first seen by Voyager with further properties found by occultation of background stars.

Both the moons and the rings orbit around the equator of Uranus, therefore nearly 90 degrees to the direction of orbit.



Miranda

Albert Day

Part two next issue.

# Brownies

1st Ashill Brownies

1st Ashill Brownies meet on a Monday evening, term time only, 6:30pm until 8:00pm at Ashill Community Centre, Hale Road, Ashill, IP25 7AX.

If your daughter is aged between 7 and 10 years and would like to join our organisation, why not register them on the Girlguiding website, <https://www.girlguiding.org.uk> and book an evening to meet the other brownies and see what they get up to!

Emily Miller, (Little Owl), is the Unit Leader of 1st Ashill Brownies will be in touch to arrange a convenient date.



# **PHOTOGRAPHIC CLUB**



**AT THE "CALL IN"**

**ASHILL**



*The Photographic Club, which has been very successful' Is now about to start its 3rd year.2026,*

**We hold our meetings at the CALL IN, on Wednesday Evenings every other week.**

*Over the past year we have covered many aspects of Photography with a different topic each meeting. Had several Guest Speakers covering a range of subjects. We have held Photographic competitions, Practical evenings and had trips out*

*If you are thinking of taking up photography or an Amateur photographer wanting to improve your Techniques. Using everything from Smartphones, DSLR or Mirrorless Cameras, then please come along. You will be very Welcome,*

*We aim to have more guest speakers this coming year. Covering a range of subjects on Photography.*

*To help us we have, Professional Wildlife Photographer, JOSH JAGGARD and MARK FASCOE an accomplished Local Photographer*

*If you are Interested in **Joining Come Along**, or would like more information. Please Contact*

*Ray Hucklesby 07808 922171*

*Email: [Raydee100@googlemail.com](mailto:Raydee100@googlemail.com)*

*Looking forward to hearing from you*



## Ashill Book Club

### Meet The Authors

Being part of **Ashill Book Club** means far more than sitting around chatting. Books and their authors connect us to every part of the world, every aspect of human life, and touch every emotion possible; so, little wonder that you will find us not only in Ashill but at events and locations all over East Anglia and beyond.

The Old Buckenham Bookshop is a case in point. Barbara and Jo went to hear **Sarah Perry** (famous for *The Essex Serpent*) talking about her latest book - a memoir about her father-in-law, entitled *Death of an Ordinary Man*. This had been short-listed for the Nero Book Non-Fiction Award, 2025. It was clear that her early life and family background had strongly shaped her writing. Accompanied by canapés and drinks, following a lively discussion, there was a book signing in a cosy intimate setting that allowed them to feel a personal connection with the author, as well as get her signature on brand new books.

As Barbara said: *'We had a lovely evening. This event made me appreciate Ashill Book Club even more for bringing us like minded, book obsessed, people together. Long may it continue!'*

Other events have included meeting the prolific author **Susan Lewis** in Swaffham, as well as a group outing to meet actor and author **Larry Lamb** (*Eastenders* and *Gavin and Stacey*) who made a point of getting to know each of us individually.

Getting out and about and connecting with the literary community worldwide will be a big part of the **Ashill Book Club** agenda in 2026. Which author would you most like to meet?

If you love reading and want to get new ideas for what to read, or tell others about books you have read, ask to join our online reading group – **Reading Something Terrific?**

**Contact Terry-Anne at [terryanneuk@gmail.com](mailto:terryanneuk@gmail.com)**

Or read along with us from the comfort of your own home. Our current book is **Spanish Steps: Travels with My Donkey** by **Tim Moore**

**Ashill Book Club Members  
Barbara (left) and Jo (right)**



## **A view from Green Farm**

I would like to start this month by wishing you all a happy and healthy new year, we've already had some snow at the time of printing so we can officially say winter has been and I'm ready for spring now!

Christmas has also come and gone and I'm fresh from consuming the amount of cheese that would sustain a small country, accompanied by some Quality Street and a hot chocolate, after all it's Christmas so that is fine for breakfast.

The problem with over indulging at Christmas, is that all my clothes seem to shrink and I have to loosen the belt buckle by a notch or two, and it was this that got me thinking of ways to lose some weight. Eating healthier is part of the solution, but also keeping more active. My ears were instantly pricked up when I heard someone mention 'couch to 5k' now I'm a sucker for a bargain and with the cost of living as it is I thought if it's that easy to make that sort of money from my couch I'd be an idiot to pass up the opportunity! I was hit with crushing disappointment as I became aware that it is in fact an app that supposedly gets you from your couch to being able to jog or run 5k within a matter of weeks, never the less I have downloaded it and I will be tackling what seems like the mammoth task starting this month, mostly outside but I have blown the dust off the treadmill to keep it in reserve in case of another beast from the east hitting.

You will have noticed I haven't mentioned much farming as yet, and that's because on the land it's been pretty quiet so nothing much to report until spring does indeed come around and we can get back to the greatest office view in the world. Livestock numbers have grown as one of Fabian's cattle have popped out some offspring, so we do have some new life and I like to use that as a reminder of why we do what we do. The next article will include hopefully a bit more farming and a bit less lifestyle choices, but I do hope to be a bit slimmer and a bit fitter! I also had some really nice feedback on my last piece regarding the future of farming and the youngsters in it, so I might try and fit some more of that in as well.

Right, I'm off to see if my trainers still fit in case they've shrunk like all my other clothes

**Ashley Howell**  
**Green Farm**

## Pickleball

Pickleball originated in 1965 in the US. Joel Pritchard, Bill Bell and Barney McCallum were on Bainbridge Island, Washington with their families and they wanted a game the whole family could play. Using a lowered badminton net on a badminton court they used ping pong bats (paddles) with a plastic ball.

It is believed the name Pickleball came about from Joan Pritchard who thought the mish mash of sports resembled a 'Pickle Boat' in rowing. A popular story is the sport was named after the Pritchard's dog Pickles, but is now believed the dog was actually named later.

In 1967 the Pritchards built a permanent court in their back yard, 44ft long and 20ft wide, including a non-volley zone (the kitchen) 7ft either side of the net.

Pickleball can be played as singles, but more commonly doubles. It can be played by all ages, but is an ideal way of keeping fit for older adults.

It is estimated there are around 35,000 players in England and nearly 600 venues.

In Ashill we started playing in the Community Centre in 2024 using the badminton court. With only one court we take it in turns to play as only 4 can play at one time.

In the summer we play outside at Castle Acre, where they have 2 Pickleball courts. We use a different ball outside, a plastic ball with 40 holes to cut through the wind, but are harder and heavier to cope with the hard surfaces.

We are hoping in the future that the Parish Council will arrange for a couple of courts to be marked out on the MUGA.

We meet up every Thursday 5pm - 6pm at Ashill Community Centre. If you are interested in joining us and learning the rules of Pickleball please ring Elaine Pegley 07734 111380 or Sandra Voyce 07954 823486



## **About Treatments by Anna**

From my peaceful countryside treatment room in Ashill, set within my garden, I offer a range of beauty treatments with a strong specialism in skin health.

I studied Beauty Therapy at Great Yarmouth College over 30 years ago. Since qualifying, my career has taken me from working locally to Australia, as well as an exciting role as an In-Flight Beauty Therapist for Virgin Atlantic.

After returning to Norfolk to raise our children, I opened my first business as a mobile therapist before going on to run a treatment room at Broom Hall, which was a wonderful time. However, throughout my career I struggled to find a skincare range that genuinely worked and achieved results.

That search led me to discover Corneotherapy — a completely different and science-based approach to skin treatment — and the skincare brand Dermaividuals, which aligns perfectly with these principles. I began using the products on myself and then on my clients, achieving excellent results and feedback. I finally knew I had found what I'd been searching for all those years.

When Covid arrived, I took the opportunity to relocate my treatment room to my home, allowing me more space and time to deepen my learning. This period enabled me to fully train in Corneotherapy and advanced skin health. Five years on, I am still learning, evolving, and expanding my knowledge.

### **What Is Corneotherapy?**

Corneotherapy is a way of treating the skin without damaging it, allowing it to function and heal as it naturally should.

I often compare the skin barrier to the roof of a house. If the roof tiles are intact, everything underneath remains protected. If tiles are removed or damaged, moisture and unwanted elements get in and cause problems. The same applies to your skin.

This is why you will never find me performing dermaplaning ,chemical

peels, microdermabrasion or any other skin treatment that effects the skins roof.

The skin is the largest organ of the body, and it knows exactly what it's doing. There are no quick fixes despite what social media may suggest.

Your skin has its own microbiome, a vital ecosystem that protects and regulates it. Unfortunately, most skincare products contain preservatives, perfumes, emulsifiers, and other ingredients that disrupt this delicate balance. Over time, the skin can no longer cope, which is why products you've used for years can suddenly start causing problems.

Hormones, medication, illness, environment, and lifestyle all play a role in skin health, which is why a one-size-fits-all approach simply doesn't work.

### **Why Dermaviduals?**

Dermaviduals, developed by Dr Hans Lautenschläger, contains only skin-identical, barrier-friendly ingredients. No unnecessary or harmful ingredients. Just ingredients that work in harmony with your skin.

This approach allows successful treatment of many skin concerns including ageing skin, rosacea, acne and congestion and sensitive skin.

### **Your Treatment Experience**

Every skincare treatment begins with a thorough consultation and skin assessment. This allows me to understand why your skin is behaving the way it is, not just treat the symptoms.

Your treatment is completely bespoke, tailored to your skin's needs on that day. Each time you visit, your skin is reassessed and treatments are adjusted accordingly — because your skin is constantly changing.

My aim is simple, repair, replenish and regenerate your skin.

**Anna Yeomans**

*(Anna's story is just the sort of thing I'm looking for. Editor.)*

## Useful contacts

**Parish Clerk, Jean Sangster : 01760 440383 (only between 9:00am – 5:00pm Mon-Fri)**

**Chairman Alan Ketteringham: Mobile: 07733 420588**

### **Parish Council Minutes for November 2025 and January 2026**

**Parish Council Meeting held on 25 November 2025 at 7pm.** Seven Councillors, Chair and Clerk were in attendance along with County/District Councillor, Mr F Eagle and 7 Members of Public. One apology was received. No declaration of Interest was received. Previous minutes held on 26.10.25 were agreed by all and signed and the meeting was opened up to the public. Concerns raised re; state of pavement following the digging of the road by AW. This will be reported to Mr Denney. Also need for leaves to be swept away. Concerns raised regarding the dredging of pond and RL as Chair of Trustees stated this was all in hand and were aware of Natural England Grant.

REPORT FROM DISTRICT/ COUNTY COUNCILLOR – FE - A copy of this is held on file but important facts are as follows: The planning application for Ashill Fruit Farm will now be discussed by Committee on 16th Dec which he will attend with Chairman. He requested that public participate in the Breckland Car Parking consultation. There are Rural Grants, Business Grants and grants for High Street traders available at the moment and Boost Scheme to help 16-30 year olds. NCC proposes new strategy to put Norfolk at the forefront of UK Economy. Highways maintenance team are preparing for winter campaign using new technology. He also advised that he will support our application to the Partnership Scheme for the new kerb installation.

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways - Received advice from LD regarding estimated costs for lowering the kerb so that she can make the application for the Partnership Scheme. A vote was taken on whether this should be applied for as could mean the PC would pay 50% Approx £10,000 and this resulted in 6 votes for, and 2 abstentions. The Clerk will complete application. KK still to provide video for Church Street to support request for HGV restriction. Complaint received regarding the closure of Watton Road when NO work was carried out. Notice received that Ch. St. is to be closed off again from 3 to 5 Dec. Pothole in Ch. St. opposite The Laurels to be reported. State of pavement from Cress. Rd to Glebe to be reported, and Woodlands bank. Agreed

to ask to meet LD in Spring. RL suggested that Council look into employing a person to do odd jobs and this will be discussed at a later date.

Play Equipment – Checked. Minor repairs will be carried out and a new spring is to be fitted to gate. The Clerk still searching for quote for under old swings. Work around tennis court, spraying on car park and new stakes on side of playing field to be looked at in the spring.

Community Centre - AB reported that next year's Fete had been discussed at recent meeting and changes proposed. Craft Fair in Nov. Bingo Dec. and Choir Dec. Money raised from events is proposed to be spent on new Stage curtains, new sliding doors and it is hoped to obtain grant towards new central heating system.

Footpaths - Crossing to be checked to see if adequate.

Police – AK and Clerk had attended recent SNAP meeting and put forward complaints re contacting 101. Survey being carried out by Commissioner at the moment and it was requested that residents complete this on-line. Next SNAP meeting is 12th January 2026.

Speedwatch – GS advised that he has the Stickers for bins and has requested people to place these. Also will put out Slow Down Sign.

Allotments – All rents paid and plots now ready to let.

High Grove Solar Farm – AK attended CPRE meeting at Dereham Memorial Hall both local MPs are pushing forward objections. Mark Aitken had a successful meeting with Government. Members wished to record the sad passing of Trevor Elliott who had done so much for the solar farm campaign.

LGR-Devolution Consultation – It was agreed that Parish Council would prefer the 3 Tier system and this will be sent in.

Local Plan – Call for Sites – AK, AT and Clerk to attend drop-in session at Dereham on 3rd Dec.

.gov.uk email addresses – KK requested that this be set up by 1st January 2026 and he will make arrangements for each person. AT proposed and KK seconded that Assertion 10 be adopted and this was agreed and signed. This includes an IT Policy.

Wayland Partnership – AK and AS attended the Launch Event on 31st October and

KK met with David Dent to offer support to this project.

Seat for Bus Shelter – It was agreed that Clerk order bench not a bar.

Community Transport – Clerk still to contact Kick Start.

Marl Pit - AT had been advised that this site is Grade II listed and this is to be investigated and site will be inspected before it is re-let.

## CORRESPONDENCE

NorfolkALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.

Headway Suffolk – Information that this Charity that Supports Lives of People affected by brain injury is now covering Norfolk as well.

NCC – Advise that Budget Consultation closes 15th December.

PLANNING – Returned between meetings with no objections. PL/2025/1632/VAR

– Green Gate Farm Cress. Rd. Variation on layout of dwellings and access road.

FINANCE - Current & Business A/Cs circulated and confirmed as correct.

Budget –Following the Budget presented to members last month it was agreed that the Precept be increased by 1% to £30785 for 2026/2027.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – No further questions.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS – None. Meeting CLOSE at 8.35pm

**Parish Council Meeting held on 6 January 2026 at 7pm** In attendance: Chair, Clerk, all Councillors, 2 Members of Public. Apologies for absence were received from Mr Fabian Eagle. Declaration of Interests – AH Declared an Interest in Item on Local Plan. The Minutes of the Meeting held on 25.11.25 had been circulated and were passed as a correct record, agreed by all and signed.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Request for Parish Council to complain to AW regarding the closure of roads without notice. Also issues with potholes. Chair thanked resident for his continued Litter Pick throughout the village.

Matters arising from last meeting

Highways – Clerk has received very little response to all matters reported in November and agreed that these must be raised at a meeting with LD as soon as possible. New pothole in Hale Road although not in our Parish to be reported. Application for lowering of kerb opposite Community Centre entrance has been submitted. RL expressed concerns regarding the straw carting through the village being uncovered and causing drains to become blocked. No action being taken by Council

Play Equipment –Checked by AB & AS. Nothing major to report and all repairs will be investigated when working party arranged.

Playing Field / Football Club – Date for installation of fencing will be arranged once weather improves. Request from Comm. Centre Committee for the ‘Keep Clear’ markings in front of field gate be renewed. Work to be carried out by Working Party and also removal of old goal posts.

Reported that people are once again flouting the rule for ‘NO Dogs’ on playing field and notice to be placed on website and Facebook.

Community Centre – AB reported that all recent Fund Raising had gone well. The New Year’s Eve Disco was cancelled due to lack of support. Concerns expressed regarding the timing of the Christmas Music event being 5.00pm and this will be reported back to Committee.

The Chair of Committee had requested that PC support their request for Defibrillator training and it was agreed that if this is something that C.C. wish to do then they should arrange time to suit them.

Footpaths – Crossings still to be checked to see if adequate.

Police – Next SNAP meeting is to be held on Monday 12th January 2026 at Beachamwell Village Hall at 7.00pm.

Speedwatch – GS had reported that he had no takers for wheelie bin stickers.

High Grove Solar Farm – RWE has contacted Council with a request to meet just the Members to provide further information gleaned from consultation. Some Members not happy that this is not being opened to Public and Clerk to ask why this has been stipulated and arrange a date.

LGR-Devolution Consultation – Further information has been distributed by Breckland across the District as to their preferred option and request that Public support the Consultation.

Local Plan – Call for Sites – AK, AT and Clerk had attended the Public Engagement Evening which they felt had been most helpful.

.gov.uk email addresses - Some Members had managed to get this set up but further assistance is required.

Seat for Bus Shelter – Order in Hand.

Community Transport – Clerk still to contact Kick Start.

Marl Pit – This has now been checked and is a Listed Site.

Clerk has received notice from Breckland Council that they are to carry out an Audit of areas of land in Parishes held by Breckland with a view to offering them to the Parishes.

Meeting with Terry Jermy MP – Request to one or two Members to attend meeting or on-line at Thetford on 16th January 2026 (no time given). AK will try to attend and JL will get on-line.

## CORRESPONDENCE

Norfolk ALC and Healthwatch Norfolk - Newsletters circulated.  
Breckland Inspiring Communities Newsletter circulated.  
George Freeman MP had circulated his Annual Report and Clerk had highlighted some of his items which included Car Parking charges.

PLANNING - PL/2025/1632/VAR – Green Gate Farm Cress. Rd. Variation on layout granted with Conditions. PL/2025/0911/FMIN – Ashill Fruit Farm. AK and FE had attended the Planning Committee meeting to put forward their views on this proposal which has now been granted. PL/2025/1901/HOU – Application for rear extension to 9 The Mere was discussed and to be returned with no objections. An Appeal for Lower Homestead Farm for erection of 2 self-build dwellings has been lodged but no further comments to be made by Parish. An Appeal (retrospective) for variations at Cutbush Barns Common Road has been lodged but as this is not in our Parish no further comments to be made.

FINANCE (a) Accounts - Barclays Bank has notified that they are proposing to charge for our Business Current Account from beginning of February. Clerk not happy with this and this is to be checked with other Parish Councils. Discussion re consulting with Financial Advisors over Investments followed. Agreed to set up a Working Party (AS and AT) to make enquiries. Concerns raised as to cost involved.

OPEN TO PUBLIC – Resident asked how Breckland stand over Solar installations on Farm land. Advised that this goes direct to Government for decision.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS - JL asked if any further action is being taken over the failure to comply with Conditions on Hale Road development site. The Enforcement has been confirmed to be in hand.

JL also requested that Council contact Konect Buses due to their change in service to Sat. Timetable over Christmas and New Year causing many difficulties to local residents. Clerk to raise complaints.

JL also reported her concerns over her experience regarding the Ashlink reports. She has been advised that the reports submitted by PC were being edited before printing in magazine. This will be taken up with the Editor before next reports submitted.

NEXT MEETING IS TO BE HELD ON 27TH JANUARY 2026 IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE AT 7.00PM

Meeting Closed at 9.04pm

### The Firewood Poem

Beechwood fires are bright and clear  
If the logs are kept a year,  
Chestnut's only good they say,  
If for logs 'tis laid away.  
Make a fire of Elder tree,  
Death within your house will be;  
But ash new or ash old,  
Is fit for a queen with crown of gold

Birch and fir logs burn too fast  
Blaze up bright and do not last,  
it is by the Irish said  
Hawthorn bakes the sweetest bread.  
Elm wood burns like churchyard mould,  
E'en the very flames are cold  
But ash green or ash brown  
Is fit for a queen with golden crown

Poplar gives a bitter smoke,  
Fills your eyes and makes you choke,  
Apple wood will scent your room  
Pear wood smells like flowers in bloom  
Oaken logs, if dry and old  
keep away the winter's cold  
But ash wet or ash dry  
a king shall warm his slippers by.

Written by Lady Celia Congreve.

It is believed to be first published in THE TIMES newspaper on March 2nd 1930.



**Next Deadline for the Ashlink is 10th March**  
**Send content to [glen.ashlink@gmail.com](mailto:glen.ashlink@gmail.com)**

## SUNDAYS

Coffee & Chat, 9:30am.

Church Service, 10am. Kids and Youth provision.

All welcome to come and worship with us.

Sunday Evenings:

First Sunday of the month, CLOSER, 6pm, an uninterrupted hour of worship with FOL worship bands.

Second Sunday of the month, HIGHER, 6pm, an hour dedicated to praying for our world, nation, & community.

Fourth Sunday of the month, DEEPER, 4pm, a discussion around tables with video and talk.

## TUESDAYS

Open Home Group (Bible Study), 1:30pm.

## THURSDAYS

Noah's Ark Baby & Toddler Group, 10am. All welcome, just turn up. (Closed during school holidays)

## FIRST SATURDAY OF THE MONTH

Kidz Klub, 10am – 12 noon, For junior school age children.

## SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

Good Companions, 2:30pm, Afternoon tea & entertainment for our more senior citizens.



***If you spot anything that needs updating in the Ashlink such as email addresses, phone numbers, times can you please email the editor with the necessary changes.***

**Next Deadline for the Ashlink is 10th March  
Send content to  
[glen.ashlink@gmail.com](mailto:glen.ashlink@gmail.com)**

## Ashill Community Centre Committee

Chair	Keith Collins	01760 441196
Vice Chair	Roger Bolton	07739358180
Treasurer	Cath Ready	075495 393619
Secretary	Megan Colley	07724 849225
Lettings Officer	Anne Beckett	07768 350968
Parish Representative	Andrea Binns	07597631821.
Pre Xmas Fair organiser	Dee Bolton	07926 917409

### **Village Services**

Breckland Dog Training	07795 466007
Breckland Gundog training	07795 466007
Abbey Boilers	Chris Field 01760 440364, 07469 762435
Ashill food and Wine	Village store on Hale Road, open 7am to 8pm 01760 440932 ashillshop@gmail.com
White Hart	Excellent hostelry, <a href="https://ashillwhitehart.co.uk/">https://ashillwhitehart.co.uk/</a> email whitehartashill@hotmail.com 01760 622190
Angela O Sullivan	Spruced up Stuff; Upcycling 07808 857763
Anna Yeomans	Beauty treatments 07824 882 049 <a href="http://www.treatmentsbyanna.co.uk">www.treatmentsbyanna.co.uk</a>
Ashill Fruit Farm	Fruit in season, apple juices, farm produce 01760 440 050 Open Tuesday to Friday 9am to 4pm Saturday 10am to 2pm Closed Sunday Monday
John Leggett	Garden Services 01760 440733
Norfolk Arborist	Tree Surgery 01760 724270, 07917 207781
J Dack Electrics	Electrician - 07739514060
Fitness Pilates	Thursday mornings 10:30 - 11:30am Ashill Community Centre Linda on - 07759 886777
Elizabeth Grace Jewellery.	Sterling silver jewellery . Online store <a href="http://www.elizabethgracejewellery.store">www.elizabethgracejewellery.store</a> <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Elizabethgracejewellery">www.facebook.com Elizabethgracejewellery</a>
Leanne Holmes –	LH Equine Services 07920011628 <a href="mailto:Leanne@lheguineservices.co.uk">Leanne@lheguineservices.co.uk</a>
Infinite Aesthetics	non-surgical aesthetic procedures to make you the best version of you! 0774 1270359 <a href="mailto:infiniteaesthetics@icloud.com">infiniteaesthetics@icloud.com</a>
Peddars View Turkeys and Lamb.	Whole or halves supplied to order . Prepared ready for the freezer. Fresh from the farm in Ashill. A Ketteringham. Telephone 01953 885603. Mobile 0773 3420588
Farleigh Electrical Services.	Fully qualified electrician based in Ashill. Fully insured and NICEIC registered. Contact Brian Dorton on 07944 161725.
Tanks Uk Limited	01953 889231 Supplier of water tanks , oil tanks, fuel tanks, bunded tanks. Water bowsers
HG Services Grounds Maintenance	0749 3716801 <a href="mailto:henry.hgservices@gmail.com">henry.hgservices@gmail.com</a>
J.Walker Electrical Services	01760 441541 07928016562

## Ashill Community Centre

### Weekly Activities

Badminton Club	Every Monday 4.30 - 5.30pm
1st Ashill Brownies	Every Monday (term time only) 6.30 - 8.00pm
St. John Ambulance	Every Monday & Tuesday
Badgers	(contact Pat Grout Unit Manager 01362 692241
Cadets	Denise Eaves Nursing Officer 01760 440186,
Adults	Jean Rockett-Woods Youth Leader 07749 870485 or
	Jeanette Callaghan Unit Coordinator 01760
721420)	5.30 -9.30pm
Badminton Club	Every Tuesday (contact Gloria Canham 01760
	440370) 1.00 - 3.00pm
Ashill Parish Council	
Committee Meetings -	Every 4th Tuesday of the month
	contact Jean Sangster Parish Clerk 01760 440383 7.00 -
	9.30pm
Zumba	Every Tuesday (contact Lou Dixon 07866
534087)	11.30 - 12.30pm
1st Ashill Beavers	Every Wednesday (term time only) contact Carol Butters
	01760 440995 or 07956
387308	5.00 - 6.00pm
1st Ashill Cubs	Every Wednesday (term time only) contact Carol Butters
	6.30 - 8.00pm
Golden Link Club	Thursdays, fortnightly Please contact Dee Bolton 01760
	441622 or Sue Cloud 01760 441110
Ashill Harmony	Every Thursday Contact Sue Cloud 07880 508930
Choir	Suecloud42@hotmail.com
Pilates Class	Every Thursday (contact Linda Mellor 07759 886777)
	10.30 - 11.30am
Pickleball.	Thursday Contact Elaine Pegley 07734 111380 or
	Sandra Voyce 07954 823486
Coffee Mornings	Second Friday every month ie. Dec' 13th , Jan
10th	10.00 - 12 noon
Mussel Bay	Every Friday Adults only 7.30 - 10.30pm
Racing	(contact Paul Edmunds 01485 540967
Slot Cars-	or James Cliff 07867 515063)