

## **ASH PARISH COUNCIL**

### **AMENITIES, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2018 - 2019**

At the Annual Meeting of the Council on 14 May 2018 it was agreed to continue with the merged Amenities and Finance & Administration Committees.

The merged committee considers all administration matters including Council policies, financial accounts, assessment of charges, budget control and staffing matters, as well as allotments, cemetery matters, recreation grounds and play areas.

The Ash Parish Council Village Fete took place on Saturday 14 July 2018 kindly sponsored by the Dover Garage. It was an exceedingly hot day but was still fairly well attended. There was a wide range of stalls and displays representing many charities and local organisations and the return of the much enjoyed Frimley Park Hospital Radio. The main event last year was a dog show organised by Chimney Farm International Dog Rescue Centre which sadly had to be kept brief due to the very hot conditions.

The annual Ash in Bloom competition again sponsored by Dover Garage showcased many amazing floral entries. The Parish has been kept looking beautiful by our green fingered residents. A celebration evening was held on 5 September 2018 to present all the winners with their certificates and prizes kindly sponsored by Squires Garden Centre.

The Remembrance Day Parade and Service took place on Sunday 11 November 2018, Armistice Day itself. The Parade was led by the Chairman of the Council, Cllr Nigel Manning and Mr Michael Gove MP. The Colour Party of St John Ambulance personnel was led by the moving lone piper. Once again attendance at this Parade was very well supported by the North East Hants Youth Band, the local clergy and a vast number of local residents.

A return of the ever popular Friary Guildford Brass Band on 17 November 2018 sponsored by the Ash and Blackwater Rotary Club raised £1,000 for Step by Step a local youth homelessness charity.

Christmas Fantasia was extremely popular with many visitors attending the Christmas Fair in the Ash Centre before strolling down to the Wharf to join in with the Carol singing and to see Father Christmas switching on the Christmas Tree lights. The Ash and Blackwater Rotary Club had their Christmas float at the entrance to the Ash Centre raising funds for local worthwhile causes.

During a busy year the Committee have agreed, among many other matters, to the purchase of new street lights as part of a rolling programme of replacements, new pieces of play equipment at Ash Hill Rec and Carrington Rec, additional CCTV cameras and a new WC facility at Ash Cemetery.

As Chairman of the Amenities, Finance and Administration Committee I would like to thank all the Members of Ash Parish Council and the Parish staff for their commitment and support during this last year and in particular Cllr Laurence Armes who as Vice-Chairman of the Committee has chaired those meetings I have been unable to attend due to my other commitments as Leader of Guildford Borough Council.

Councillor Paul Spooner  
Chairman of the Amenities, Finance and Administration Committee