

ASH PARISH COUNCIL

AMENITIES, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2019 - 2020

This 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. It also has a new Employment subcommittee formed in the Autumn of 2019 to consider all matters relating to HR.

This year we have progressed several projects including a new storage container for Carrington Recreation Ground, a replacement bus shelter in Shawfield Road following a traffic accident that resulted in the removal of the original shelter opposite Japonica Court, installing composting bins at Shawfield allotments, we have reviewed and agreed upgrades and major refurbishment of play equipment across the parish and we have agreed installation of new sliding front doors at the Ash Centre to aid access for less able bodied visitors. We have also delivered a new DDA compliant WC at the Ash Cemetery. We have also continued our roll out of street light replacement and upgrading CCTV.

We also held regular events for the benefit of residents including the well-attended Village Fete in the summer of 2019 attended by the Mayor of Guildford, Cllr Richard Billington.

The Remembrance Day Parade and Service took place on Sunday 10 November 2019. 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 in February 2019 sponsored by the Ash and Blackwater Rotary Club raised over £1,200 for charity.

Christmas Fantasia was as popular as ever 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 were as supportive as ever.

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 Nigel Manning who as Vice-Chairman of the Committee has chaired those meetings I have been unable to attend due to my other commitments.

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