

## ASH PARISH COUNCIL

### AMENITIES, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE REPORT 2020 - 21

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.

Cllr John Tonks became the chairman of A,A&F in September 2020 following the resignation of the former chairman.

This year we have progressed several projects including new security fencing surrounding the new storage container at Carrington Recreation Ground and the Shawfield Road allotments. An additional 200 low energy LED street light lanterns were fitted providing a better quality of light and lower running cost, the lower energy consumption will reduce the carbon footprint of Ash Parish.

A replacement bus shelter in Shawfield Road has been fitted following a traffic accident that resulted in the removal of the original shelter opposite Japonica Court. We have also opened a new public toilet in Ash Cemetery and completed a safety upgrade to all Ash Parish Council play areas by installing new Impact Absorbing Safety Surfaces at Ash Recreation Ground, Shawfield Recreation Ground, Harper's Road Recreation Ground, Carrington Road Recreation Ground and Blackwater Close.

We also held our first ever online competitions for the benefit of residents, "Rainbows over Ash" and "Ash Virtually in Bloom". Residents were invited to submit photos of their rainbow pictures and flowers in bloom for residents to then vote online for the best. The Kia Dover Garage Ash sponsored the Ash Virtually in bloom event which part funded prizes for the winners.

The Remembrance Day Service took place on Sunday 8th November 2020 however, the parade was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The congregation was led into the memorial grounds by the Chairman of Ash Parish Council, Cllr Nigel Manning and the Parish Clerk, Dennis Wheeler. They were accompanied by Michael Gove MP. Also in attendance were representatives from St John Ambulance, the Scout and Girl Guide Associations. Wreaths were laid before the service by those organisations unable to attend. The Service was conducted by Father Keith Bristow and the music provided by Friary Brass Band. Residents were invited to submit pictures of their poppies in the windows which were incorporated into the video. The event was also recorded by Cllr Ed Schofield and Cllr John Tonks and remains online for all to watch <https://www.ashpcsurrey.gov.uk/remembrance-sunday-service-2020/>.

Christmas Fantasia was unfortunately cancelled due to COVID-19 however, the Christmas Motifs and Tree were hung as usual and were greatly received by all. We are thankful to Bridges Ash Vale for illuminating the tree throughout Christmas, SCC Cllr. Marsha Mosley who funded the tree out of her Surrey County Council Member's Allocation and Kia Dover Garage for sponsoring the tree lights.

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 and most difficult year and to Cllr Nigel Manning who as Vice-Chairman of the Committee has supported me in my first appointment to this committee.

Cllr John Tonks

Deputy Chairman Ash Parish Council

Chairman of the Amenities, Finance and Administration Committee