**Update report to: Ashbury Parish Council for meeting on 8th July 2019**

**From: Ashbury Parish A Team/Planters Group**

**Date: July 2019**

**Action required:** *To note, to action, and to inform decision making and next steps forward for APC owned or responsible Assets maintenance*

The Ashbury Parish A Team/Planters Group met again in June 2019 and agreed the following actions

1. **David Pain and Jonathon Loose to coordinate an approach in support of building on and engaging more of the community in a collective parish/village *‘lets together keep it looking in good order’***

This is a different approach to generating a more formal volunteer input

We hope the approach will combine the importance of any personal property looking and feel good factor with a similar one for a positive village appearance

This way of thinking and behaving is already the case for the very valuable, consistent and continuing maintenance to the village assets provided already – such as the grass cutting and care of the War Memorial Green, the Green outside the Pub, some clearing of Drew’s Hill and all those that mow the grass outside of their front gardens on the verges.

1. **Repair quotes** are being sought for the following identified as priority areas for Parish Council Assets from the assets review this March:
   * The bus shelter
   * Tree trunk pruning work

1. **Suggestions to reduce the Grass cutting bill**
   1. Jonathon Loose is in discussion with the CPC re the plan to make the ‘old churchyard’ into a more wild life friendly area. If agreed grass cutting will only be required to a ‘path area’ and the whole old church yard cut reduced to twice per year
2. **Update information on public waste bin emptying**
   1. Following a situation re the ‘bin’ on War Memorial Green, Pauline S has spoken to the Waste Team at VWH and the following applies
      1. Public waste bins are emptied by the Waste Team crew members under the following circumstances – VWH identified ‘relevant’ land, any adopted Highway

In Ashbury this includes the bin on War Memorial Green (Very historic action) and the 3 bins in the Wixes Piece Play Area

* The bins are emptied via a weekly review, blue bin bags are used and a *round bin* is required to be in place. The Waste Team do not supply bins where they were not the original installer

This Waste Team action is NOT funded via our Council Tax. As the waste team have to pay for the waste to be disposed of, they are reviewing their criteria for bin emptying.

Those bins more recently added to their workload may be stopped – in Ashbury this may mean the play area bins

Kate at the Waste Team 01235 422138 will keep us informed if there are to be changes to the public bin emptying in Ashbury

1. **Request to meet with our MP, Councillors to raise impact for APC on Public Liability Insurance re Highways delegated work to all Town and Parish Councils**

We recommend a meeting is organised between the above and APC and ourselves to raise unrecognised and unstated by anyone so far, issues as a result of Highways moving to delegate more tasks to local Town and Parish Councils.

(see survey sent recently by Highways and which I completed on behalf of APC)

**The Ashbury Parish A Team/Planters Group next meeting in July 17th 2019**

Pauline Smith

July 2019