

# MEARS ASHBY PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs L Ross, 2 Wilby Lane, Gt Doddington, Northants, NN29 7TP

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[www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com](http://www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com)

## NEWSLETTER – FEBRUARY 2011

At the Budget meeting of the Parish Council in January the precept for the year 1<sup>st</sup> April 2011 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2012 had to be set. This is the money we need in order to run the village street lighting, church floodlighting, annual audits and other expenses. Unfortunately and reluctantly we have had to increase the amount in spite of the recession. Over the last two years we have been using our reserve funds, as instructed by the external auditors, to finance our expenses, but these funds have now been used up and we are forced to precept an amount to cover our expenses for the forthcoming year. This will mean a small increase in Council Tax for every householder.

### Parish Council Elections

Have you thought of standing as a Parish Councillor? The elections are on May 5<sup>th</sup> 2011. To see what is needed, details are on our website or on [www.stand-and-deliver.com](http://www.stand-and-deliver.com)

### Parish Council Website

The website has had 1681 'hits' to date which proves it's being used. Do you have an event that you want to advertise if so please get in touch and we can add it to the website under notices on [www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com](http://www.mearsashbyparishcouncil.com)

### Litter Pick

A litter warden was appointed early last year with Sponsorship from the Campaign for the Protection of Rural England, Mears Ashby Society and the Parish Council, who has ensured that the village is cleared of litter regularly. A full village litter pick is to be carried out by the Mears Ashby Society on March 19<sup>th</sup> 2011. Volunteers will be needed so please contact Alison Bellamy at [Alison.bellamy@jtbellamy.com](mailto:Alison.bellamy@jtbellamy.com)

### Power Cuts

We have been advised by Eon that power cuts may be the result of circumstances beyond their control, and it is a good idea to be prepared. The recommendation is for every household to have the following items to hand to cover such an emergency:

- An analogue corded telephone (digital corded phones will not work in power cuts)
- A torch with batteries
- A wind up mobile telephone charger
- A battery operated radio
- A foil blanket (preferably one per person)
- A reusable hand warmer

### Emergency Planning

The Parish Council is still looking for volunteers who are prepared to help in the case of a major emergency. Anyone who is prepared to offer their skills as doctors, nurses etc, or owners of 4X4 vehicles, inflatable boats, canoes etc, please let us know. Also if any organisation is prepared to help, please let us have your details and /or information on equipment so that these can be kept on file.

### Annual Parish Meeting

The Annual Parish Meeting is on 7<sup>th</sup> March at 7.30pm and when there will be a presentation by Hannah Bayliss from the Fire Prevention Department in the Northampton Fire & Rescue Service as well as details of the activities of the Village Charities and the Parish Council over the last year. All are welcome. Reminder notices will be placed around the village nearer the time.

### Parish Council:

Chairman: Mrs Kate Payne - 01604-810653

Mr Tony Watts - 01604-810453

Mrs Julie Reid - 01604-811640

Mr Ernie Potter - 01604-810434

Clerk Mrs Linda Ross - 01933-440560

Vice Chairman: Mrs Marion Barker - 01604-810506

Mr Aubrey Payne - 01604-810090

Mrs Caroline Napier - 01604-812376

Borough Councillor: Cllr Jim Bass - 05600-762576, 01604-647594

County Councillor: Cllr John Bailey - 01933-680474