

# LONG ASHTON & LEIGH WOODS NEWSLETTER



**SPRING 2025**

[www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

# Mid-February 2025 to Mid-June 2025

This newsletter is published by your Parish Council to pass on news and the views of the people of Leigh Woods and Long Ashton.

It is non-political and the members of the Parish Council do not necessarily share those views.

The Editorial Group reserve the right to accept, reject or edit any material submitted for publication.

Editorial Group for this issue – Hannah Harwood, Faisal Chaudhuri and Ruth McAllister

**By submitting articles for publication  
you are also giving permission for them to appear  
on the Parish Council website and social media.**

Future copy should be clearly labelled 'NEWSLETTER', include your name and contact details and sent to

Long Ashton Parish Council, Long Ashton Community Centre,  
Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton, BS41 9DP

e-mailed to [community@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

or dropped into the office on a Tuesday or Thursday 10am - 2pm

**The CLOSING DATE for copy for the next edition covering the  
four months mid-June 2025 to mid-September 2025 is**

**10:00am 20 May 2025**

Front cover photo of swing view near Brakes Wood  
by Ruth McAllister  
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## CHAIRMAN'S INTRODUCTION

I find myself with a mix of news to share, some weighing heavier on my heart than others.

I must begin with bittersweet news concerning Marylin and Dave Addis. Our community lost Marylin, a beloved figure among our long-time residents and a highly respected former Clerk, late last year. I wanted to personally express how deeply her passing affected all of us on the Council. She and Dave have been pillars of our community. In brighter news, Dave has been honoured with the British Empire Medal for his community service – an accolade that anyone familiar with his tireless work for our village would agree is richly deserved.



Disappointing developments regarding the Epic planning application. Despite brilliant presentations from community members, Cllr Chris Davis and our Ward Councillors Ash Cartman and Stuart Mcquillan, North Somerset Council's Planning Committee approved the application. We've submitted a request for the Secretary of State to review this decision, and we're currently awaiting their response.

I want to extend heartfelt thanks to LULA (Light Up Long Ashton) for their impressive work with the Christmas lights on a limited budget, and to our local Scouts for their valuable assistance.

I urge all residents to share their thoughts on the Bristol Airport Masterplan, as its impact on surrounding areas will be significant. We're also considering renaming the Village Circular Walk as a memorial, and North Somerset Council want your feedback on proposed parking restrictions through the village, and their new local plan for new housing in our area – you'll find details in this newsletter.

Regarding local finances, there's been considerable discussion about North Somerset Council's proposed tax increases. Beyond just raising rates, they're planning to transfer certain services to parish councils. To be frank, this means we'll need to take on these responsibilities, which will affect your precept. While we're working to minimise the impact, we've had to build some contingency into our budget. We'll keep you updated as this develops.

I'd like to acknowledge our Village Ranger (who prefers to stay out of the spotlight). Her dedication keeps our village looking its best.

And I couldn't possibly end this note without thanking my fellow Councillors for their dedication – and reminding you that we're always happy to welcome new members to join us!

# Have your say...

## PROPOSALS TO TACKLE ACCESS ISSUES IN LONG ASHTON

Access issues in Long Ashton could be a thing of the past under new proposals to address obstructive parking along the main route through the village.

North Somerset Council is considering bringing in new parking restrictions for points along Long Ashton Road and Weston Road. Currently, bottlenecks pose access issues for general traffic, residents, bus services and other public service vehicles, such as emergency services and waste collections.

The locations being considered for new parking restrictions have been identified through feedback from local residents and community representatives, as well as bus operators.

At present, the Clevedon-to-Bristol X7, and Nailsea-to-Bristol X8 and X9 bus services all experience delays through Long Ashton due to obstructive parking.

**A public survey on the proposals is now open for six weeks until 5pm on Monday 24 March 2025. Visit <https://bit.ly/NSCParkingRestrictions> to view the proposals in detail and have your say.**

*Cllr Hannah Young, Executive Member for Highways and Transport at North Somerset Council, said: "Parking at certain points along the main road through Long Ashton is posing an ongoing problem for larger vehicles. It restricts access, and causes hold ups which impact everyone's journeys, including bus passengers.*

*"Making changes at certain locations would help resolve these issues – improving general traffic flow and allowing a clear route through for service vehicles to serve the community.*

*"These changes would also help to improve bus service performance, efficiency and cost-effectiveness, giving our communities the reliable services they want and need."*

The proposed Long Ashton parking restrictions are among a range of initiatives being put in place and considered under the UK Government-funded Bus Service Improvement Plan. Read more at: <https://n-somerset.gov.uk/bsip>



**PUBLIC SURVEY  
OPEN UNTIL  
24 MARCH**



Scan me

If you are unable to access the survey online, email [bsip.engagement@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:bsip.engagement@n-somerset.gov.uk) or call 01934 888 888 (and say 'Public Transport' when asked) to leave your details to receive a paper copy.



## LEIGH WOODS' RESIDENTS GROUP

The Christmas party was very well attended although held on an extremely horrible evening. There is always a magical atmosphere created when people gather to enjoy a happy community get together with canapés and drinks in the church. The church of course having been prepared for Christmas with a splendid tree decorated with lights and baubles. Thanks again to the committee and volunteers who worked hard to ensure a very enjoyable evening and to everyone who donated to the costs so generously. The committee met in January to discuss the events calendar for 2025 and together with the church have arranged the following dates to pencil into your diary.

On 28 February at St Mary's Church there is to be an evening of music and songs, poems and dramatised local history with actor and musician John Telfer and a wealth of other talents. All the action starts from 18:30pm, £10 entry with a glass of wine, cash bar and raffle. Email Michaelbothamley@hotmail.com to book tickets.

There'll be a ladies second-hand clothes sale in the church held over Saturday/Sunday at the end of March or first week in April. All proceeds will go towards the fence project and Shelter. Dates to confirmed.

The Summer party will be held on 5 June. This year will be BBQ, salads and wine.

There will be another Safari Supper on 21 August. Get in touch quickly with Lynne as there are limited places lynne.bothamley@btinternet.com.

The Christmas party will be on 4 December. A litter pick will be organised in March/April, date to follow.

St Mary's Church and grounds will again be used to host events and this great venue can be booked for private functions by contacting Elizabeth England on admin@theparishchurch.com.

We always want to hear from residents with any new ideas or suggestions, large or small, that would help to foster a happy community. Want to join the committee? Get in touch. **Contact details for the LWRG:** To receive local online information direct, send your email to alex@alexburgh.co.uk. For general information email info@leighwoods.org or Facebook Leigh Woods.

### **St Mary's Church**

Help is needed to keep the Churchyard gardens looking beautiful. Please check the church notice board for times and dates. All ages welcome. Support for the Bristol North West Food Bank is in greater demand so please leave your donations in the church porch. All information can be found on church notice board in the porch.

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

For emails from the police about current scam warnings and local crime, contact our Neighbourhood Coordinator for Leigh Woods - Anne Lowson ann@lowson.net.



## Parish News

**Bus lanes** - North Somerset Council (NSC) have indicated that they will not be moving ahead with either of the proposed bus lanes in Rownham Hill and Abbots Leigh Road. They are still exploring improvements at the Bridge Road/Ashton Court junction a key junction - a key location on the road network. Also upgrading traffic lights and installing larger bus shelters and improving pedestrian and cycling facilities at the junction, including the Ashton Court entrance. One hopes that resident consultation will take place if any changes to traffic flow is to be implemented.

### **Other items in progress with NSC -**

- Install a Vehicle Activated Sign (sign that warns drivers they are driving above the speed limit) at the top of the hill.
- Reinstate sign at entrance to St Mary's Road indicating no left turn at certain times from traffic heading towards Bristol.
- Following requests, NSC are looking at the feasibility of installing cameras at the entrance to North Road from Abbots Leigh Road. This would hopefully stop motorists using it in the ban time-slot.
- Paint white line at the junction of St Mary's Road and Church Road
- The missing village sign by the Beggars Bush lane junction replaced
- Accurate traffic accidents statistics for Rownham Hill obtained
- Flooding problems in North Road
- 20mph limit across all roads in the village to be investigated.

### **Abbots Leigh and Leigh Woods Community Cinema**

An exciting schedule of films has been arranged, presenting one per month. If you haven't been before do join us - just turn up with £6 in your pocket. A free glass of wine or juice awaits. Further details will be issued in the Link. Book via Angela Probyn [angelaprobyn@gmail.com](mailto:angelaprobyn@gmail.com) or if you prefer just come along on the night. We look forward to seeing you, feel free to bring friends and neighbours.

## **Community Speedwatch - North Road needs you!**

- A Community Speedwatch can be set up in any village, small town, or urban area, governed by either a 20, 30 or 40-mile per hour speed limit.
- A team of local residents who are willing to volunteer a small amount of time are trained and issued with speed detection equipment to monitor speeds.
- Vehicles observed speeding will be sent a warning letter along with advice to help change their driving behaviours.
- Further action will be taken by the police against persistent and high-end speed offenders as well as targeting individual locations.
- To request to set one up email [CommunitySpeedWatch@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:CommunitySpeedWatch@avonandsomerset.police.uk)



### **BURWALLS - Burgh Walls - Burnt Wall**

Many people have asked questions about the history of Burwalls being the first dwelling as you come over the Clifton Suspension Bridge. Over the years, stories have been told and articles read which have enabled the following information to be gathered which may be of interest. For over 1000 years maps and documents have recorded Burwalls as a place where people have gathered and met.

**Circa 150 BC:** Camp occupied by Iron Age Man

**13th C:** Alexander de Alneto granted Burwalls to St Katherine's Hospital, Bedminster

**16th C:** Burwalls had various owners after the suppression of St Katherine's

**1605:** Bought by Sir Hugh Smyth of Ashton Manor

**1621:** Granted by Sir Hugh Smyth to Arthur, a yeoman, for 20 shillings per year

**1829:** Sir John Smyth sold 4½ acres for making an approach road to the Clifton Suspension Bridge

**1860:** Most of the Iron Age Camp destroyed

**1865:** Included in land acquired by Leigh Woods Land Company from Sir Greville Smyth. First place to be reached after crossing the Clifton Suspension Bridge which opened in December 1864.

**1872:** House built by Joseph Leech owner of the Bristol Times and Mirror

**1894:** House purchased by George Alfred Wills a Director of WD & HO Wills Tobacco Company

**1939:** Estate requisitioned by War Office

**1948:** House and 4.5 acres of surrounding land bought by University of Bristol; The National Trust bought Burwalls Wood; rest of the estate was sold for private dwellings; House and Stable block converted for use as an undergraduate hall

**1973:** The University's Short Course and Conference Centre was established at Burwalls which later became the University's Residential Centre for Continuing Education

**In the 20th Century,** Bristol University sold the site for housing development, the main house was converted into flats and existing and new housing for private dwellings. The university still own two houses, Hillside and Woodside, which are student residences.

**North Somerset Council** - for information the most effective way to report problems is on the North Somerset Council website under the heading of Report or Request Services. There are a whole range of issues that can be reported under several headings including Environmental Services and Roads and Pavement. If possible, try and include a photograph.



# PRECEPT AND BUDGET

## UPDATE FOR 2025-26

Long Ashton Parish Council is pleased to share important updates regarding the precept and budget for the financial year 2025-26.

**Background:** In the financial year 2024-25, our precept stood at **£230,188, or £82.15 per Band D property**. This enabled us to operate with a total budget of **£284,415, including a subsidisation of £39,000 from our general reserves**.

**2025-26 Precept and Budget:** At the January Full Council meeting, Long Ashton Parish Council approved a total budget of **£276,907** for 2025-26. The precept has been set at **£243,680**, equating to **£86.06 per Band D property**. This represents a **4.8% increase** in the precept compared to 2024-25.

This year's budget reflects consideration of a projected underspend of at least **£38,000** from the 2024-25 financial year. It also includes:

- The creation of an earmarked reserve of **£20,000** to prepare for devolved services.
- A subsidy of **£18,000** from general reserves to help manage the increase.

**Devolved Services:** Devolved services from North Somerset Council are now a reality. This year, we have created an earmarked reserve of **£20,000** to prepare for these additional responsibilities. Looking ahead, there is increased pressure to take on further services in 2026, which will require careful planning and resource management.

**Looking Ahead:** While subsidising the budget with general reserves has helped limit precept increases, this strategy may not be sustainable in the long term. To ensure financial stability, we are considering gradual precept increases over the next five years to balance community needs with fiscal responsibility.

### Understanding the increase:

The increase equates to an additional weekly charge of **8p per Band D property**. This decision ensures we can continue to deliver essential services and meet the future needs of our community. Key goals for 2025-26 include:

- Taking on devolved services from North Somerset Council to ensure continuity for our residents.
- Continued community grants to support local groups and initiatives.
- Continuing to improve staffing levels to address local needs.
- Continued support for the Community Centre.
- Developing a more biodiverse burial ground.
- Managing rising costs due to inflation and the current economic climate.



**Uncertainty and Prudent Planning:** As local councils face ongoing uncertainty, including the potential risks associated with devolution, we find it prudent to maintain general reserves within the recommended levels of 3 to 12 months' Net Revenue Expenditure (NRE). This cautious approach ensures that we are prepared to navigate any challenges that may arise.

## Understanding Key Terms

### General Reserves

Emergency savings held by the Parish Council for unforeseen expenses.

### Precept

The portion of council tax collected by the Parish Council to fund its services and activities.

### Devolution

The transfer of powers from central authorities to local councils or communities, such as in cases where a unitary authority declares financial distress.

### NRE (Net Revenue Expenditure)

NRE (Net Revenue Expenditure): The difference between a council's income and day-to-day running costs, excluding capital items.

# ANNUAL MEETING OF THE PARISH - RESIDENTS' MEETING

see what we've been doing  
meet the councillors  
have tea & biscuits  
ask questions

19 MAY 2025 | 6.30PM

LONG ASHTON COMMUNITY CENTRE  
- JUBILEE PAVILION

KEEP AN EYE OUT ON FACEBOOK FOR MORE DETAILS

# MORE HOUSING IN OUR AREA?

## NORTH SOMERSET COUNCIL'S LOCAL PLAN 2040



The plan sets out where development can take place in North Somerset. Several rounds of consultation on the plan have already taken place. But after the new government came to power last summer, all councils were given revised housing targets. Most – including North Somerset Council – were given increased housing targets and has to find development sites for 23,895 homes from now until 2040. That's 8,620 more than was proposed in the last Local Plan consultation.

**A new consultation has opened and North Somerset Council want your views on where these additional homes could be built.**

***Have your say on potential new housing developments in our area.***

Supporting infrastructure like roads, employment, schools, medical facilities and public transport will also be considered, though delivery on much of this depends on government funding which isn't certain.

Large parts of North Somerset are protected because of green belt, flood plain or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty considerations. Delivering the new homes that local people need will mean some hard choices.

**We need you to take part in this consultation and have your say. In particular, if there are alternative ideas or development sites that North Somerset Council can consider, they need to hear that now.**

## DROP-IN EVENT

*Come along, talk to North Somerset Council and find out more. There's no need to book in advance – just turn up!*

**WEDS 26 FEBRUARY 3PM-6PM**

*Jubilee Pavilion, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton BS41 9DP*

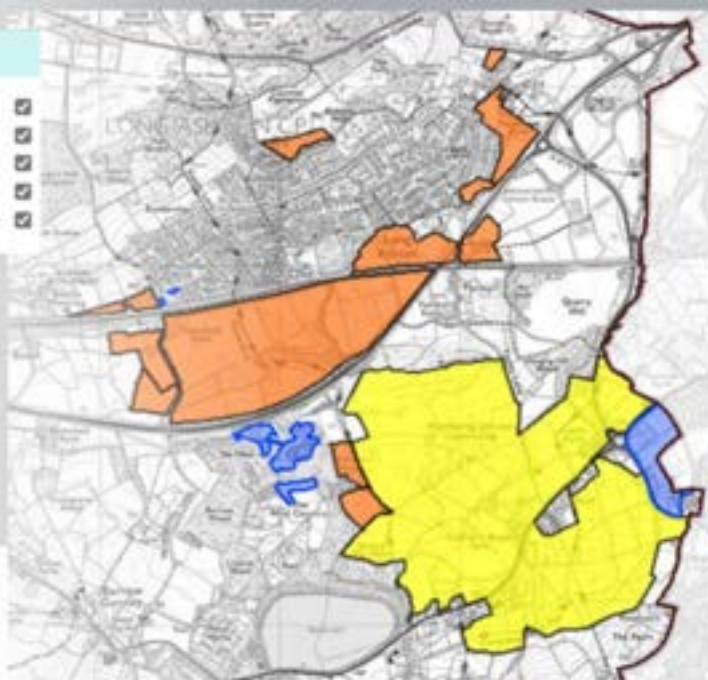
**You can find out more and take part in the online consultation at <https://bit.ly/NSCLocalPlanLA>**



The consultation closes on Friday 21 March.

## Map Legend

- LP2040 - Reg 19 - Proposed Residential Sites
- Most sustainable locations
- Most Suitable
- Other Potential
- Sites with recent Planning Consent (since July 2024)



## LOCAL PLAN REG 19: ADDITIONAL SITES CONSULTATION A SHORT GUIDE

- The government has significantly increased the amount of housing required in North Somerset.
- The government's new mandatory requirement is 23,895 over the 15-year plan period (2025 – 2040). This is an additional 8,620 dwellings above the proposed housing supply target in our Regulation 19 plan of 15,275 dwellings.
- Many more new sites will be required, including land in the Green Belt.
- The Council is consulting on the potential sites to be added to the emerging local plan.
- The use of brownfield sites and density assumptions will be reassessed, but the scale of the housing challenge means greenfield sites will be required.
- Sites at risk of flooding either now or in the future are excluded.
- It is proposed that most new development will take place at the three strategic growth locations of Weston-super-Mare, south west Bristol and Nailsea and Backwell.
- Sites within these areas which have the potential to be allocated are identified as the 'most suitable'.
- Elsewhere, preference is given to sites at the other towns and then larger villages.
- Comments are invited on the proposed approach including:
  - Any robust reason why the sites identified as 'most suitable' at the strategic locations should not be allocated.
  - What potential additional sites and locations should be considered at the towns and larger villages to address the shortfall.
  - Whether there are any convincing reasons why other sites in less sustainable locations should be considered.

While the emphasis is on housing sites, the local plan will also consider jobs, other uses and supporting infrastructure.

The consultation will take place between 7 February and 21 March 2025.

[www.n-somerset.gov.uk/LP2040additionalssites](http://www.n-somerset.gov.uk/LP2040additionalssites)

# CLEAR THE WAY! ROS V VEGETATION!

AS THE DAYS GROW WARMER AND LONGER, OUR VILLAGES' GREENERY BECOMES LUSH AND VIBRANT. BUT FOR SOME MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY, IT CAN POSE SIGNIFICANT CHALLENGES.

MEET ROS, ONE OF OUR BLIND NEIGHBOURS, WHO FACES DAILY STRUGGLES WITH OVERHANGING VEGETATION IN THE SPRING AND SUMMER.

RUTH, ROS, AND TARA WERE WALKING AND CHATTING ALONG LONG ASHTON ROAD WHEN ROS SUDDENLY STOPPED. SOMETHING HANGING DOWN FROM THE WALL HAD GRAZED HER FACE. LUCKILY, IT WAS JUST A PLANT STEM, BUT ROS EXPLAINED: "IF IT WAS A BRAMBLE, I'D BE SLIGHTLY MORTIFIED, BECAUSE A BRAMBLE COULD GO IN MY EYELID, WHICH IT HAS DONE BEFORE."

ROS'S IDEAL PAVEMENT? "CLEAR OF OVERHANGING BUSHES OR HEDGES! AND NO PARKED CARS OR VANS ON PAVEMENTS."



LONG ASHTON  
village  
market

First Saturday of every month

DOORS OPEN: 09.30-13.00

LOCAL  
MAKERS &  
GROWERS



longashtonvillagemarket

Long Ashton Community Centre, Long Ashton, North Somerset, BS41 1DP (near Long Ashton railway station)

## LA Bereavement Support Group

Feeling overwhelmed?  
We're here to support you wholeheartedly

A warm, welcoming, safe space to be with others  
who understand ❤️

First Sunday of each month at 2pm  
The Green Room  
Long Ashton Community Centre

Any questions or want to help?  
Email [donna.wholeheartedly@gmail.com](mailto:donna.wholeheartedly@gmail.com)





CLEAR PAVEMENTS MEAN ROS WOULDN'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BRAMBLES OR HEDGES HITTING HER IN THE FACE, AND VEHICLES PARKED ON PAVEMENTS WOULDN'T BLOCK HER PATH. "I DO ALL RIGHT WITH MY WHITE STICK, ESPECIALLY BASHING VEHICLES THAT ARE PARKED ON PAVEMENTS," ROS SAYS WITH A SMILE.

CLEAR PAVEMENTS ARE ESSENTIAL NOT JUST FOR THOSE WITH VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS BUT FOR MANY OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY. PARENTS PUSHING PRAMS, ELDERLY RESIDENTS USING WALKERS, AND CHILDREN RIDING THEIR BIKES ALL BENEFIT FROM OBSTACLE-FREE WALKWAYS. WHEELCHAIR USERS AND INDIVIDUALS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY RELY ON CLEAR PATHS FOR SAFE AND EASY NAVIGATION.

OUR VILLAGE RANGER REGULARLY ASKS HOMEOWNERS TO CUT BACK VEGETATION. BUT IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO ENSURE OUR OWN VEGETATION ISN'T ENCRDACHING ON PUBLIC PATHS. BY TRIMMING BACK OVERHANGING BRANCHES AND BRAMBLES, WE CAN CREATE SAFER, MORE ACCESSIBLE PAVEMENTS FOR EVERYONE.

**YOUR EFFORTS WILL MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF NEIGHBOURS LIKE ROS. LET'S MAKE OUR PAVEMENTS CLEAR AND SAFE FOR ALL.**

## 1st Long Ashton Brownies Prepare for Outdoor Adventures

# UNDER CANVAS, OVER THE MOON



1st Long Ashton Brownies are thrilled with our winter sale purchases using our recent grant from Long Ashton Parish Council. We've secured larger 5m bell tents instead of the planned 4m ones, ensuring ALL our girls can experience camping in 2025. The setup includes separate tents for leaders and a dedicated space for First Aid and indoor activities, plus tarps to provide some weather protection.

Our new camp kitchen equipment features a sturdy stove with multiple cooking options, perfect for feeding 20-30 hungry adventurers. We're planning a trial 'camp adventure day' soon to test everything out.

Some of our Brownies will be putting the equipment to good use at 'Norjam', the International Jamboree in Norfolk in 2025. We're also adding a printed waterproof gazebo with removable sides and new branded banners to showcase Girlguiding at community events.

This will be the first-ever Girlguiding camping experience for all our current Brownies, and their excitement is building as we practice campfire skills this term!



# CLLR ASH CARTMAN

Comments on...

## EPIC, resignation and new housing

EPIC decision

Wednesday, 15th January, marked a pivotal moment for our village. On that day, the North Somerset Council planning committee deliberated on Epic Systems' application to construct a sprawling campus on the green belt adjacent to Long Ashton. As detailed elsewhere in this newsletter, the committee ultimately approved the application.

In response, I made the difficult decision to resign from the Liberal Democrat political group on North Somerset Council. I will now continue to serve as an independent opposition councillor, representing your interests. This decision was not made lightly, but I felt it was necessary to send a clear and unequivocal message – both to you, the residents, and to the council – about my profound dissatisfaction with the handling of the Epic planning application.

I am deeply concerned about several aspects of this process. Local voices were, in my view, sidelined or outright ignored. I also fear that North Somerset Council may have been unduly influenced by the financial commitments outlined in a formal planning agreement, which appear to disproportionately benefit Weston-super-Mare rather than addressing the concerns of our community. Compounding this, the planning committee's failure to engage in meaningful debate on the application left many critical issues unresolved. In short, the entire process was, to me, a deeply troubling debacle.

As a country, we need a planning system that is transparent, efficient, and genuinely inclusive—one that ensures all voices are heard and given due consideration. This experience has only reinforced my belief that significant change is urgently needed.

I remain committed to standing up for our community and will continue to advocate for you as an Independent Councillor.

It never rains; it pours. Following closely behind North Somerset Council's decision in January to approve a sprawling campus adjacent to Long Ashton, I am expecting a public consultation to be launched on proposals to build thousands of houses on the green belt next to the village.

After the government changed in July last year, new and higher housing targets were introduced. North Somerset Council is now tasked with developing a local plan to build over 23,000 new homes over a 15-year period. This development is substantial, representing more than a 20% increase, equivalent to building another Clevedon.

So, what does this mean for us? A report recently published by North Somerset Council discussed 4,200 homes at 'South-West Bristol' (a site down Yanley Lane by the Woodspring Golf Course) and another 1,000 homes next to our village. There are presently about 2,500 households in Long Ashton.

As a community, we will need to decide how to respond to this. While I and many others accept that more homes are needed both locally and nationally, I am concerned that the Government and North Somerset Council might push through decisions with little regard for legitimate local concerns, transforming our village into a suburb of Bristol.

In my opinion, even if some green belt development is reluctantly accepted, it is crucial that we do not compromise our community identity or the unique character that makes Long Ashton such an exceptional place to live. As one of your Councillors, that is what I will be fighting for.

Moving Forward as  
an Independent

Major housing plan  
for Long Ashton

# LONG ASHTON VILLAGE CIRCULAR WALK

New name?



We'd like your input on renaming the Long Ashton Village Circular walk (also known as the Long Ashton Round walking route) to honour Harry Williams, a pivotal figure in the walk's creation and a cherished member of the Long Ashton community, who sadly died in 2024.

Who was Harry Williams?

Harry Williams was a community leader and walking enthusiast who played a crucial role in establishing the village circular walk. His dedication to local paths, community engagement and outdoor activities made him a beloved figure in Long Ashton. Harry was instrumental in bringing the circular walk to fruition and officially opened it in 2006 (pictured above), organised regular Sunday footpath walks starting from The Little Tipple and promoted local walking and community connectivity.

Which name would you prefer?

- 1 Harry Williams Circular Walk**
  - Directly honours Harry Williams
  - Provides a clear, personal tribute to his memory
- 2 Harry Williams Circular Village Walk**
  - Combines a personal tribute with a geographical descriptor
  - Maintains a connection to the village's identity
- 3 Long Ashton Village Circular Walk**
  - A more generic option that focuses on the walk's community nature
  - Removes the personal tribute while maintaining the walk's local character

please tick

Return by post to  
Long Ashton  
Community Centre  
Keedwell Hill  
Long Ashton

Or complete online  
at [bit.ly/3RLTezo](https://bit.ly/3RLTezo)



Message from...

## NAILSEA & VILLAGES

### NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICING TEAM

#### Securing your premises

The evenings are still relatively dark quite early so please be aware of people lurking around your property. Ensure doors and windows are locked and all outbuildings are secure. If you keep high-value items like lawnmowers or motor bikes in outbuildings, ensure they are secured with a very heavy chain, bolted to the floor. One of the most common mistakes people make is to not purchase good quality locks and chains

#### E-scooters/e-motorbikes

We are aware of issues with predominantly young people riding illegal electric and motorised vehicles in an anti-social manner in the area. We have already received a number of complaints as well CCTV evidence of this activity. We have also been given a number of names and addresses linked to these individuals and will be making contact with these people in due course. We would encourage anyone seeing these vehicles being driven to report them to us via 101 or using our online reporting link at: <http://bit.ly/1lgxNxx>



You can find out more information about the legislation around the use of these vehicles at: <https://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/news/2021/11/e-scooters-your-questions-answered>



Nick Gough (8283)

Police Community Support Officer

07889 656832

[nicholas.gough@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:nicholas.gough@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

## GETTING IN TOUCH WITH...

### our Neighbourhood Policing Team

Contact Nailsea & Villages Neighbourhood Policing Team (Avon and Somerset Police) at Nailsea Police Station, Pound Lane, Nailsea, North Somerset BS48 2NN

Long Ashton and Leigh Woods is in the Redwood area (AN005 - #RedwoodNPT)  
[www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/redwood](http://www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/your-area/redwood)

**Email: [SomNorthNPTNailsea@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:SomNorthNPTNailsea@avonandsomerset.police.uk)**

(Not monitored 24/7. Report crime and non-urgent information online <http://bit.ly/1lgxNxx> or ring 999 in an emergency or if a crime is in progress)



# LOVE SAVES 2025

24TH - 25TH MAY

ASHTON COURT BRISTOL

**BUILD & BREAK DATES: THURS 8 MAY - MON 2 JUNE**  
**SHOW DAYS: SAT 24 & SUN 25 MAY**

As a Director at Team Love production company, Tom Paine oversees the production of Love Saves the Day Festival which will be returning to Ashton Court this May for another two-day event. In this report, Tom outlines the plans and preparations for this year's event.

An online feedback survey was distributed at the end of last year, and we received valuable responses from you. We appreciate everyone who took the time to complete the form.

Traffic management and bus services were the most frequently cited concerns in your feedback, highlighting the need for clearer communication of our 2025 plans. While extensive year-round planning goes into ensuring the event runs safely and smoothly, we acknowledge there's room for improvement in our community engagement.

Our event planning involves close collaboration with North Somerset and Bristol City Councils through a Safety Advisory Group (SAG), which includes emergency services, Highways, and Environmental Health representatives. We also work with Tracsis traffic management, local police, First Bus, and WECA to coordinate travel plans.

Based on your feedback, we understand the need for greater transparency regarding bus services and timing. While road closures are essential for public safety and must be maintained as directed by Councils, Police, and Highways teams, we apologise for any inconvenience caused by the diversions.

[enquiries@lovesavestheday.org](mailto:enquiries@lovesavestheday.org)

Office Number 0117 9411611

On Site Contact Number 0330 120 1651 (Operational  
Monday 12th May - Tuesday 27th May 9am - 6pm,  
8am - Midnight on live event days)

## The following key roads will be closed:

**A370** - closed between 9pm and 1am on Saturday 24th. It then reopens as normal until 9pm on Sunday 25th then will be closed until 1am.

**A369** - closed between 9pm and midnight on Saturday 24th. It then reopens as normal until 9pm on Sunday 25th then will be closed until 1am.

**B3128** - closed between 10am and midnight on Saturday 24th. It then reopens as normal until 9pm on Sunday 25th then will be closed until midnight.

**We'll ensure that advance notice of bus route changes are clearly displayed at all affected stops. Signage will be placed in the local area to help passengers plan accordingly.**

**We understand concerns about litter at Ashton Court. Our specialist waste management team conducts regular clean-ups throughout the weekend and responds to all residential reports of festival-related litter. Please contact us during the event if you notice any areas needing attention.**

# REMEMBERING OUR COMMUNITY

## THE BOOK OF REMEMBRANCE AT ALL SAINTS CHURCH

In a corner of All Saints Church in Long Ashton, a cherished tradition of memory and community continues to honour those who have been part of the village's rich tapestry of life. Our Remembrance Books are sacred historical archives that preserve the memories and legacies of community members who have passed away. These carefully maintained volumes serve as a permanent memorial, creating a lasting tribute to individuals within our parish.

### Quiet witnesses

There are two books, spanning six months each. Entries are systematically organised into two-week periods, allowing for a chronological commemoration of lives and a carefully curated space to record and remember those who have passed during that specific timeframe. Entries are written in meticulous handwritten calligraphic script, recording the names, dates, and sometimes brief biographical details of loved ones.

### Craftsmanship

The Remembrance Books are a work of art - bound in rich red leather with a gold-embossed tree emblem, their pages are thick and edged in gleaming gold. Inside, the books reveal intricate calligraphy in black and red ink, adorned with delicate flora and fauna illustrations. Some small regimental emblems punctuate the pages, adding depth and historical significance to each carefully inscribed memorial.

### Tradition of Care

Church Wardens, including Angela Neale, diligently turned the pages every month, ensuring that each memory was given its moment of reverence. The cabinet housing the book was kept locked, with only Church Wardens having the responsibility of its careful maintenance.



Written and laid out by Angela Neale

## A Gift of Remembrance

The Remembrance Books tell a story beyond the names it commemorates – they are a memorial of local artisanship. Bill Barritt donated the books in memory of his first wife Doris, entrusting them with a companion piece that speaks volumes about community connections: a meticulously crafted wooden cabinet. The cabinet, lined with rich black velvet, was created by Alan Ross who became a designer craftsman after retiring from teaching. Ross resided on Providence Lane, and later Lampton Road, and passed away in 2012. He now rests in the churchyard alongside his wife.

Look carefully at the cabinet and you'll find Alan Ross' furniture making mark.



## A Story of Connections

After Doris's passing, Bill married Rosalind Stobart, the long-time choir mistress at All Saints Church. Both Bill (who passed in February 2015) and Ros (who died just short of her 101st birthday) were integral parts of our community's fabric.

## A Personal Legacy

Bill Barritt, also known as Don, was a prominent figure in Long Ashton. A cardiologist at Bristol Royal Infirmary before retirement, he was deeply involved in community life. He served as a Parish Councillor for many years, including time as chairman, and was active with the Liberal Democrats.

This Book  
is presented  
by her family  
in memory of  
**DORIS BARRITT**  
8-10-1919 - 6-1-1990



## A Tradition Awaiting Revival

No new entries have been added to the Remembrance Books in nearly seven years. Following a poignant mention during a recent Remembrance Service by Reverend James Harris in November 2024, there's renewed interest in this meaningful tradition.

## An Invitation to Remember

The Parish Council warmly invites residents to consider commemorating loved ones in these special books. Each entry is a celebration of a life, a moment of connection between past and present, and a way to ensure that those who have shaped our community are not forgotten.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

INTERESTED INDIVIDUALS CAN CONTACT THE PARISH COUNCIL TO LEARN MORE ABOUT ADDING A NAME TO THE REMEMBRANCE BOOK



# Could you do something and make your garden count?

A while ago, Long Ashton Parish Council declared a Biodiversity Emergency in our community.

We developed an initiative called **Biodiversity: Every Garden Counts**. Making gardens wildlife-friendly isn't a new concept but has gathered more momentum in recent years. Some people in Long Ashton already have wildlife-friendly gardens or have turned their whole front gardens into a wild patch; others are nurturing patches of ox-eye daisies in verges. Even the smallest changes to green spaces can add up, over time, to significant positive impacts.



*Bee orchid found growing in the No Mow May area adjacent to the office block on Pear Tree Avenue, Long Ashton*

Here are some top tips that you may not have thought of before and might share with neighbours:

Add water – if not a pond, then an old washing up bowl will do but make sure creatures can get in and out of the container easily. Without this, bees can drown

Avoid using pesticides, herbicides, slug pellets and peat

Create a mini-meadow by leaving a section of grass un-mown. And maybe seed it with some 'wildflower bombs'

Leave a wild/ untidy/ unweeded corner for nettles and other vigorous wild plants

Build a beetle bucket, beetle bank or dead hedge in your garden. And register it on the "Wild About Gardens" website's interactive map to show how the parish is doing



Provide homes for wildlife – eg bird boxes, bug hotels or a log/stick pile



# LA Community Centre

## TIMETABLE

Activity	Venue	Day & Time	Contact
Adventure Babies	Village Hall	Friday 09.00 - 14.30	Gemma Townsend gemma@adventurebabies.co.uk
Art Classes	Jubilee Pavilion	Wednesday 10.30 - 13.00	Caroline James caro1051@gmail.com
Art Club	Jubilee Pavilion	Thursday 09.30 - 12.00	Angela King allyking@btinternet.com
Badminton	Sports Hall	Thursday 20.00 - 22.00	Ruth Gilchrist ruth.gilchrist@gmail.com
Baby and Mum Group LAMBS (Free)	Village Hall	Wednesday 11.00 - 13.00	No need to book
Baby and Toddler Music Rhymetime (Free)	Village Hall	Tuesday (alternate) 14.00 - 14.30	No need to book
Barre - Strengthening	Jubilee Pavilion	Monday 07.00 - 8.00 19.00 - 20.00	Ela Blazewicz gb8477@my.bristolac.uk
Bereavement Meetings	Green Room	Sunday (1st of month) 14.00 - 15.30	Donna Marie marlynnminogue@gmail.com
Blood Donor Donations	Village Hall	Fridays March, July & October	NHS www.blood.co.uk
Bowling	Jubilee Pavilion	Various	Karen Gough karen.gough.jasmin@gmail.com
Cardio Fit	Jubilee Pavilion	Tuesday 18.00 - 19.00	Katherine Piper katherinesaerobics@hotmail.co.uk
Cinema	Village Hall	Saturday (3rd of month)	longashtocommunitycinema@gmail.com
Coffee Morning	Club Room	Friday 10.00 - 12.00	Long Ashton Community Centre enquiries@info.com
Chair Exercises	Jubilee Pavilion	Tuesday 10.30 - 11.30	Sarah Wilde hellosarahwilde@hotmail.com

Activity	Venue	Day & Time	Contact
Coding Club 	Club Room	Friday 17.30 - 19.00	John Bradford john.bradford@digilocal.org.uk
344 Dance Ballet, Tap and Jazz	Jubilee Pavilion Village Hall Keeds Hall	Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday Various times	Kathy Plaster admin@dancestation.org.uk
Dance Beats Dance	Village Hall	Tuesday 16.00-18.00 Thursday 16.00 - 19.15	Hayley Grant beatsdance10@gmail.com
Dance and Drama Workshop	Village Hall	School Holidays April, July, August and December	Hayley Grant beatsdance10@gmail.com
Drama Workshops for children	Village Hall	School Holidays All Day	Hannah-Rose hello@dramawithhannah-rose
Fitness (outside) Real Good Fitness	Outside Basket Ball Court	Monday 0800-09.00 Tuesday 07.30-08.30 Wednesday 18.00-19.00 Thursday 08.00-11.00	Connor Golding realgoodfitness@gmail.com
Fitness (outside) Wild Country Women	Peel Park	Thursday 06.30-07.00 Friday 09.30-10.30	Lesley Waldron lesley@wildcountrywomen.com
Football Long Ashton Jun Football Club Girls and Boys 	Peel Park Recreation Ground	Saturday 09.00 - 13.00	Dan Strophair lajfc.chairman@gmail.com
Gym BWPT	BWPT Gym	Monday - Saturday Various Times	Ben Winter ben@bwptstudios.com
Health Walks	Around the Village	Monday 10.25 meet at the Community Centre to depart on 10.30	Ruth Chapman 07814 671396
Karate Bristol Karate	Sports Hall	Tuesday 18.30 - 20.00	Tim Griffiths hello@bristolkarateacademy.com
Library (mobile)	Car Park	Tuesday 14.30 - 16.30 Friday 09.30 - 11.30	mobile.library@n-somerset.gov.uk

Activity	Venue	Day & Time	Contact
Massage and Reiki Treatments	Green Room	Appointments available on Friday	Gilly Brown gilly.karm@hotmail.co.uk
Local History Society	Jubilee Pavilion	1st Thursday of the Month between October and April 19.30 – 22.00	Bridget Collett bridget_collett@btinternet.com
Meditation	Jubilee Pavilion	Thursday 19.00 – 20.00	Gilly Brown gilly.karm@hotmail.co.uk
Jolly Music Melodies Music for Babies and Toddlers	Village Hall	Tuesday 09.30 – 11.30	Clarissa Griffiths clarissagriffiths100@gmail.com
Memory Cafe	Jubilee Pavilion	4th Thursday of the month 14.30 – 16.30	Liz Anderson lamemorycafe@gmail.com
RC Racers	Village Hall	Friday 18.00 – 22.00	Dan Osbourne bristolrcracer@gmail.com
Montessori School	Club Room	Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 09.30 – 15.30	Beth Deverson oaktreemontessoribristol@gmail.com
Pilates	Village Hall	Tuesday 18.15 – 21.15 Wednesday 09.30 – 10.30 20.00 – 21.00	Sarah Dineen sarah@fit2drop.com
Probus	Jubilee Pavilion	1st and 3rd Monday of the Month 10.30 – 12.00	Dave Addis dave@addis.me.uk
Reflexology	Green Room	Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday	Sarah Britton britton_sarah@yahoo.co.uk
Spinners and Weavers	Jubilee Pavilion	2nd Saturday of the month 10.30 – 15.30	Paulette Bjerfelt paulettebjerfelt@gmail.com
Taekwondo	Village Hall	Monday and Wednesday 17.00 – 20.00	Neil Warburton neil@saintmartialarts.co.uk
Tennis	Tennis Courts	Daily 8am - 10pm	Book courts via the Long Ashton Community Centre website: lacc.info/page/tennis
Toddler Group	Sports Hall	Friday 10.00 – 12.00	Long Ashton Community Centre enquiries@info.com
Trampolining	Sports Hall	Wednesday 17.00 – 19.00	Charlotte Kimber hi.altitudetc@gmail.com

Activity	Venue	Day & Time	Contact
Tiny Wonders - Nature Play	Village Hall	Thursdays 10-11am	tinywondersbristol@gmail.com
Village Market	Village Hall and Club Room	1st Saturday of the month	Jenny Green longashtonvillagemarket@hotmail.com
Women's Insite	Jubilee Pavilion	1st Wednesday of the month April - October 19.00 - 21.30 November - March 14.00 - 16.30	Sally Sterland sallyjmsterland@gmail.com
Yoga - Gait	Jubilee Pavilion Village Hall	Tuesday 19.00 - 21.00 Thursday 19.30 - 20.30	Gait Chulanapa Collins yogawithgait@gmail.com
Yoga - Gary	Jubilee Pavilion	Friday 10.30 - 11.30	Gary Osborn-Clarke gary@yogabristol.co.uk
Yoga - Andrea	Village Hall	Monday 10.00 - 12.00	Andrea Newman yogaandroliving@gmail.com
Youth Club	Club Room and Sports Hall	Monday and Thursday 18.15 - 20.15 Wednesday 16.30 - 18.00	Kathy Jackson kathy.epicyouth@gmail.com
Zumba	Village Hall	Monday 20.15 - 21.15	Danielle Miles daniellemilesuk@gmail.com

## TICKETS ON SALE NOW!

Saturday 1st March - LA Adventure Film Festival  
Saturday 22nd March - St Patrick's Party

Buy your tickets at <https://lacc.info/page/tickets>



## SAVE THE DATE

Saturday 26th July - Doreen Doreen  
Saturday 6th September - Flower Show  
Saturday 27th September - Beer Festival  
Saturday 1st November - Pulp Fiction - live music night  
Sunday 30th November - Christmas Light Switch On

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# LA Community Centre

## Community Updates

Hello Long Ashton! We've got plenty of cheerful news and exciting events to share with you this season. Let's dive right in!

**New High Tech Screen & Projector** We're thrilled to announce that the new 4.8m screen & 4k, 7000 lumen projector in the Community Centre is up and running! We celebrated its first use with a fantastic cinema screening of 'Thelma' by LA Cinema in January.

It's wired into the sound system that was installed a year ago. It's just the beginning of what we hope will be many shared moments of entertainment and memories. We've been doing a bit of research and believe that we have some of the best equipment outside of the larger halls in Bristol.

**Warm Lounge & Playgroup** Looking for a way to spend your Friday mornings? Our Warm Lounge and Playgroup run side by side at the Community Centre every Friday during term time from 10 am to 12 pm. Whether you're a parent looking for a friendly playgroup or just someone wanting a chat and a cuppa, we've got you covered. Don't worry if you don't know anyone, we will happily introduce you to people.

**Playpark Update** We're continuing to work hard to improve the playpark for families in Long Ashton. Updates are in the pipeline, and we'll keep you posted on progress. Thank you for your patience and support. If you would like to get involved in helping to fundraise, please email [enquiries@lacc.info](mailto:enquiries@lacc.info)



**Thank You, Timo** We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Timo, one of our former trustees, for all his hard work and dedication to LACA. Your efforts have left a lasting impact on our community, and we wish you all the best in your future endeavours. Thank you for everything, Timo!

## Congratulations to Long Ashton Football Club

Congratulations to Long Ashton Football Club A huge well done to Long Ashton Football Club for winning their first cup and climbing to the top of their current league. It's great to see so many young players joining the mens team and to see how well they are doing. Here's to many more victories ahead!



Thanks for reading we hope to see you at one of our events soon. Let's make 2025 a fantastic year for our community.

## Upcoming events

**London Mountain Film Festival Saturday 1 March** The Village Hall is transformed into a mini film festival. We're proud to be hosting the 'London Mountain Film Festival' for the second year. It is a lovely selection of short films about ordinary people completing extreme adventures. Very inspiring, well worth a watch.

**St Patricks March 22** Back by popular demand, a night of Guinness and craic. An Irish themed night with the band 'Easy Sundays' playing amazing classic anthems and dancefloor fillers for an unforgettable night. G'wan and buy your tickets now, don't miss out.

**Tickets for all our events are currently on sale at [www.lacc.info/page/tickets](http://www.lacc.info/page/tickets)**

**We recently had a letter from a resident looking for help with the flower bed under the clubroom windows**

Many people (myself included) have noticed that the long flower bed outside the clubroom is in need of some TLC. I noticed a lady there working on her own, trying to tackle this huge job. Jenny agreed to draft this plea, in the hope of some responses.

Three specific things are needed.

- 1) volunteer to help with weeding & clearing up ASAP
- 2) 3/4 bags of topsoil - could anyone source these?
- 3) Homegrown plants or a cash injection for plants - could anyone donate?

If you can help email us on [enquiries@lacc.info](mailto:enquiries@lacc.info)

Contact us!

Tel: 01275 393 570

Email: [enquiries@lacc.info](mailto:enquiries@lacc.info)

Facebook:

[LongAshtonCommunityCentre](#)

Insta:

[@longashtoncommunitycentre](#)

Web:

[www.lacc.info](http://www.lacc.info)

## ATTENTION DOG PARENTS

Let's keep our community tail-waggingly wonderful by picking up after our four-legged friends. Nobody wants to play "hopscotch" around doggy deposits. Remember: Failing to scoop that poop could land you in a rather stinky situation - namely, a £100 fine.

Your dog may be the cutest thing ever, but their leftovers? Not so much! 🐾



# WE NEED VOLUNTEERS



**Can you offer your time – anything from one hour upwards a few times a year?**

We are seeking community-minded people to get involved at our events including quizzes, band nights and summer and Christmas events. Roles include setting up, simple catering, ticketing on the door, serving at the bar and clearing down.

We would also be interested in hearing from anyone who would like to be involved with the trustee committee, toddler group, gardening or occasional decorating.

The Community Centre is a vibrant hub for the village and we want it to remain this way long into the future.

For more information or to sign up, please email: [enquiries@longashtoncommunitycentre.org](mailto:enquiries@longashtoncommunitycentre.org) or call 01275 393570. We look forward to hearing from you!

# OUR VILLAGE RANGER

## Legend in action



### SMALL THINGS THAT MATTER

During major events like Volksfest or Ashton Court festivities, Tara works extra hard to ensure our village puts its best foot forward. She's also the green thumb behind those lovely planters you see around the village, keeping them watered and blooming throughout the seasons.

But it's not just about maintenance - Tara is our community's eyes and ears on the ground. She works closely with North Somerset Council to report fly-tipping, collaborates with the Community Payback Project to maintain some stretches of our public rights of way, and even liaises with social housing providers to ensure they're keeping up their end of the bargain with vegetation management.

Some of her more unusual tasks have included hornet nest removal at the Burial Ground, rat control, and restoring vintage metal public footpath signs - preserving pieces of our village's heritage for future generations. She's even planted a memorial sapling in the Burial Ground meadow to commemorate our previous Council Clerk.

### DAWN TO DUSK CARE

Have you ever wondered who keeps our community looking its best? Meet Tara, our dedicated Village Ranger, who works tirelessly behind the scenes to enhance our beautiful area.

From the crack of dawn, Tara can be found tackling a diverse range of tasks that make our daily lives more pleasant. Whether she's ensuring our parks are safe for children to play, keeping All Saints Church Burial Ground spick and span, or keeping our streets clean and tidy, no two days are quite the same in this vital role.

"It's all about the details," could be Tara's motto, as she manages everything from replenishing dog poo bags to deep cleaning play equipment. She's the person making sure you can read that road sign by trimming back overgrown vegetation, and the one keeping our Parish Council-owned bus shelters clean.



# OUR LINE OF ACTION SOLVES SURGERY PARKING HEADACHE

Great result! After a resident raised concerns about parking outside the surgery, we took action and successfully worked with North Somerset Council to get new double yellow lines installed. The lines are now in place outside Long Ashton Surgery to help manage traffic flow and keep the area safer. Important note for Blue Badge holders - you CAN park on these lines for up to 3 hours as long as you clearly display your badge and clock.

This should help make access easier for everyone while ensuring our disabled community members can still park close to the surgery when needed.

Note that the car parked here had its Blue Badge on display.



## MAKING A DAILY DIFFERENCE

When those unexpected challenges arise - like fallen trees on Yanley Lane or blocked drain gullies - Tara is there to handle them. She's become an essential part of our community's infrastructure, working 22.5 hours each week to keep Long Ashton and Leigh Woods looking their best.



Next time you're walking down a litter-free road, sitting on a clean bench, getting grit for your icy road, or grabbing a dog poo bag from a bin, remember - there's a good chance Tara has helped make that possible. Our Village Ranger might work quietly behind the scenes, but her impact on our community is felt every single day.



# Long Ashton Youth Club

## THE YOUTH CLUB NEEDS YOUR SUPPORT

Many of you may not be aware that the youth club is now funded in the community rather than receiving funding from North Somerset Council through the Youth Service which stopped in 2012. Since that time the Parish Council has contributed significantly to our running costs, in the region of two thirds. With demands on local funding, the Parish Council this year significantly reduced its funding this financial year. The youth club provides a key role in the community in providing youth provision through professional and experienced youth workers. The youth club which operates as a charity is reaching out further this year to seek and obtain grants so that the youth club can continue to operate. The youth club has been successful in obtaining grants for the Wednesday drop-in session from the Society of Merchant Venturers and the Police and Crime Commissioner. Thanks to the Somerset Masons who have provided a grant to help us provide the youth club for the community.

Please visit our website for more information; where we have lots of information including a Teen Talk section. You can help to support our work in the community by joining our 500 Club, please contact us on [kathy.epicvouth@gmail.com](mailto:kathy.epicvouth@gmail.com) for more information, or making a donation on the website to support the activities of the youth club. If you are interested supporting the youth club and becoming a trustee of the youth club having financial, fundraising or social media experience please contact us on [louthclub@hotmail.com](mailto:louthclub@hotmail.com).

Facebook / longashtonyouthclub  
Website / Long Ashton Youth Club  
Youth Club Management Committee

## Long Ashton Youth Club OPEN YOUTH SESSION

SCHOOL YEARS 7 & 8  
COOKING, SPORTS, STREET DANCE (COMING SOON), CRAFTS  
WEDNESDAYS DURING TERM TIME  
6.15PM-8.15PM  
£4 PER SESSION



## Long Ashton Youth Club SENIOR YOUTH CLUB

- SCHOOL YEARS 7+
- MULTI-SPORTS, COOKING, CHILL & CHAT
- MONDAYS DURING TERM TIME
- 6.15PM-8.15PM
- £3 PER SESSION

## Long Ashton Youth Club JUNIOR YOUTH CLUB

SESSION FOR PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN AGED 8-11  
ARTS & CRAFTS, SPORTS, COOKING, STREET DANCE  
THURSDAYS DURING TERM TIME  
6.15PM-8.15PM  
£4 PER SESSION



The youth club operates a 500 club and has many long term supporters. You can help support the youth club by joining the 500 club for £15 a year which also gives you entry to a monthly prize draw. We would be pleased to hear from local businesses that may be interested in supporting the youth club.

Our club sessions are on Mondays for the seniors (school years 7+) on Mondays and Thursdays for the juniors (age 8 - 11 still at junior school) and open to all young people to learn new skills and try our new activities. We offer street dance for the juniors on Thursday evenings, and young people can join in multi-sports on both evenings. From September we are also running a seniors session (school years 7 & 8) for those young people in the early years of secondary school; multi-sports is available together with cooking and street dance is coming soon. We ask that young people book into the Monday, Wednesday and Thursday club sessions through the website as we are extremely busy and do not want to turn anyone away.

The drop-in session is available to young people every Wednesday in the Community Centre Club Room. We'll be open term time from 4.30 to 5.45pm. Our experienced youth workers will be available to engage with individuals or groups of young people. The youth workers will also be available to discuss any issues including mental health issues with young people on a 1 - 1 basis. So come in and have a chat with the youth workers and enjoy some snacks. The pool table and foosball table will be available for those that want to chill out after a hard day at school. The drop-in session is free to young people and is made possible by grants as above together with donations from Coop and Asda. The session provides young people with a safe and fun space to socialize after school and speak to youth workers in confidence if necessary.

Alongside our youth work, we actively support young volunteers, and can provide volunteering opportunities for those doing their Duke of Edinburgh awards or simply those who would like to learn new skills. For example, you could help run our coffee bar, work with our experienced sports coaches or help young people develop their creative skills with arts and crafts. We also support adult volunteers who come along and share their knowledge and experiences with young people.



**VE DAY**

80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

8 M A Y 2 0 2 5

## A SHARED MOMENT OF CELEBRATION

Following on from the enormous success of D-Day 80 - 6th June 2024, in which we all commemorated the 80th Anniversary of the D-Day landings in Normandy, France, through the lighting of over 1000 beacons and 500 lamp lights of peace throughout the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK overseas territories that night, we are now focusing all our efforts on the celebration of the 80th Anniversary of VE Day which marked the end of the war in Europe and WWII as a whole on 8th May 1945, in a similar way.

On Thurs 8 May 2025 we are encouraging the lighting of Beacons and Lamp Lights of Peace at 9.30pm, the raising of a unique VE Day flag at 9am and, where possible, holding parties of celebration throughout the day in the streets, gardens at home, churches, villages, town halls, pubs, clubs, hotels and all manner of locations throughout the UK.

**If we are to hold ant Commemorations in Long Ashton, PEOPLE NEED TO START GETTING INVOLVED NOW. Contact Dave Addis - Secretary to Long Ashton Royal British Legion. [david@addis.me.uk](mailto:david@addis.me.uk) 07801816612**



# Programme 2025

Membership is £15 for the year covering seven meetings from October to April and several Newsletters. Visitors pay £5 per meeting. See our Website [www.lalhs.org.uk](http://www.lalhs.org.uk) for general information. Meetings commence at 7.30 pm on the first Thursday of each month at the Jubilee Pavilion. **PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE and VENUE FOR APRIL MEETING TO TUESDAY 8th APRIL AT THE VILLAGE HALL**

**Thursday 6 March** – Bev Knott, historian, telling some of 'The Mysteries of Roman Gatcombe and the Road to Banwell and Winthill.

**TUESDAY 8 April at THE VILLAGE HALL** – 'BRISTOL 650 YEARS IN 65 MINUTES' – Film Maker, David Parker's personal account of stories, events and personalities which have shaped the History of Bristol.

**The current season commenced** on 3rd October with the AGM at which Mary Magro resigned as Chairman, the position she had held since 2016 when she replaced Roy Pullin, a founder member of the Society in 1988. PETER CLARK was unanimously voted in as the new Chairman and the Committee was otherwise unchanged. Following the business meeting, Mary James, MBE, was warmly welcomed as guest speaker. She showed a unique collection of photographs of farms and farming families in the Barrow Gurney area, recalling her own reminiscences as a farmer herself in the area.

**In November Mike Hooper**, a well-known Bristol historian who has visited us on a number of occasions (also for Probus), showed photographs of Bristol in the 1930s and 1940s, including much of the devastation of the Blitz.

**So to December and our special guest**, Les Davies, MBE, chief warden of the Mendip Hills. He spoke comprehensively of the geology, history and wildlife of the hills throughout the millennia before joining us for mulled wine and mince pies.

**The New Year meeting on 9th January proved to be a 'watershed moment'** for the Society. Our speaker was Alan Gray whose leisure time activity of caving in the Mendips led to a growing interest in the minerals to be found in those hills, prompting him to write a book of his discoveries. Having read the book 'Earth Colours', committee member Steve Taylor and Chairman Peter Clark explored the Providence area of Long Ashton known as The Iron Plantation. This resulted in an audience of 56, including visitors from a wide area, being treated to a supplementary talk by Steve about the iron industry which flourished in Ashton Hill during the Victorian era. Membership of the Society has since swollen to well over 70.

**As a result of a greater recognition of our Local History Society, possibly owing to the recent use of Facebook**, it has been decided to re-schedule the last meeting of this season to show 'Bristol 650 Years in 65 Minutes' on **Tues 8 April in the Village Hall**. This is a compilation of exceptional events in the long and prestigious history of the City put together by David Parker, a local film-maker. The Community Centre is proud of its new projector and screen, which would undoubtedly enhance this unusual film. Bridget (Treasurer) has witnessed it and suggests it will attract a number of visitors apart from our own membership.

**Plans are now ongoing for next season's meetings**, that is from October 2024 to April 2025 and we are actively seeking speakers. A new Chairman and a new season will surely prompt new ideas. Suggestions and ideas for subject and/or speakers are always welcome. We hope to hear from you.

Mary Magro ([mcmagro@btinternet.com](mailto:mcmagro@btinternet.com)) 01275 392643



# Monthly Club Rides



All rides start from Lovelinch Gardens near Bikesmiths. Rides are usually an average of 14 mph (23 kmph) and include a cafe stop. They are very social rides and we try not to drop anyone. Bikes should have drop handlebars and everyone should wear a helmet. Riders should be respectful to other road users and always obey the rules of the road. For any queries, contact Timo at [kindredtk@hotmail.com](mailto:kindredtk@hotmail.com).

## Next rides

Sunday 9th March - Monthly Club Ride

Sunday 6th April - Audax 100km Barry's Bristol Bash and post-ride drinks at The Bird in Hand

Sunday 13th April - Monthly Club Ride (Short)

Sunday 8th June - Monthly Club Ride (Pier to Pier)

## Routes

I am aiming to have routes for rides up in early 2025 so that riders know what the route is well in advance, are able to download the route and plan to attend if they wish.

## LONG ASHTON WESTLEAZE

We are a small but friendly group who meet every month in the Jubilee Pavilion on the first Wednesday of the month at 2.30pm in the winter and 7.30pm in the summer. We are looking for new members to widen our interests and provide new opportunities for friendship.

We enjoy a sociable couple of hours often with a speaker, but sometimes having a go at something new or different. We aim to cover a broad range of subjects and interests over the year, interspersed with coffee mornings at local cafes or other venues. Lunches out for those interested are arranged several times a year. Some members are part of a book club and a few meet up for regular walks. Each year we have interesting talks, sometimes inspiring, and often amusing.

Here is an example of what is coming up this year:

March	a talk about Concord by local resident and Concord authority John Britton
April	birthday meeting featuring Chris Yeo from Clevedon Salerooms for an "antiques roadshow"
May	a talk about Bristol Animal Rescue Centre
June	summer lunch or afternoon tea
September	colour analysis with Keri Johnson

theWI

INSPIRING WOMEN

Contact Sally Sterland on  
01275 393591



## LONG ASHTON JFC GIRLS FOOTBALL

It's nearly 3 years since things really started for 'female only' football provision in Long Ashton. Before that we had the odd girl playing in 'boys' teams, or some year groups being fortunate to have a few girls, to allow a 'mixed' team, yet still in a 'boys' league. Now Long Ashton Girls Teams are fully integrated and as equals within LAJFC. The Girls grow in confidence and ability with each training session and match; we also have female coaches and girls learning to be referees.

If any young girls from the village wish to be part of our Club, or parents and carers who would like to volunteer to help in any way, please contact us.

Thank you to our sponsors for providing our girls with proper female-sized kits in the proud LAJFC green. Your early support in helping us compete across Somerset and Bristol is deeply appreciated.

*Dynisma, Applian Technologies, Co-Operative, Out of Hand, Cloud 9 Portable Mini Golf, Coles Electrical, The Old Library, Long Ashton Together, Long Ashton Barbering Co, TNFC*

## SPONSORS OF LA JFC U10S TEAM

LA Junior Football Club U10s would like to thank our sponsors for providing new match day kits and training tops. The sponsorship means the team now has properly fitting gear that should last 2-3 years. Don't grow any more U10s!!!

The sponsors are *Keedwell Group, Kingscote Accountancy, Hunter Stables and Tailfin.*

Some of the U10s Team with Coaches Jon and Timo.



## SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

The equipment for match days and training often lasts 2-3 years with a team, and is reused again where possible – it's really appreciated by all, the players, parents and coaches. The good news is there's always an opportunity for local businesses to support the Junior football team. Contact us to discuss how you can help!

# LONG ASHTON GROWERS

Interested? Contact [longashtongrowers@gmail.com](mailto:longashtongrowers@gmail.com)

As we prepare up for another promising year, we're hoping for a warmer and drier spring to give our plants an excellent start. Throughout the winter, we've been diligently turning our compost and are excited to experiment with recycled green waste compost as an alternative to animal manure.

Our community group consists of approximately 36 residents from Long Ashton who cultivate and share produce together. We donate any surplus to local food banks, including the Nailsea Food Bank and Heart of BS13, which addresses food poverty in Bristol. We welcome people of all ages and abilities, prioritising organic principles and no-dig gardening techniques.

We occasionally offer small individual allotments for those wanting more personal gardening space - these are incredibly popular and get claimed quickly. Our community enjoys low-key social gatherings, like our peaceful November 5th fire pit evening and our New Year's celebration featuring a breakfast cookout around the fire pit, deliberately avoiding noisy fireworks. We invite you to visit our community garden or watch for the Bristol Good Food Get Growing Trail in June.



## LONG ASHTON *Orchestra* news

If you are an instrumentalist, and love music, fun and friendship, come and try us out at Long Ashton Orchestra on a Tuesday evening 7.30-9.30 at Keedwell Church. Brass players, double bass, and other string players are always welcome. To give you a flavour, we recently played Beethoven's 5th Symphony and are about to perform his magnificent 3rd symphony at St Peter's Church in Henleaze, Bristol at 7.30 on February 15th. For more details contact:

[val.williams.longashton@gmail.com](mailto:val.williams.longashton@gmail.com) or  
[kinandsarah.leong@blueyonder.co.uk](mailto:kinandsarah.leong@blueyonder.co.uk)

By the time you read this, you either enjoyed our February concert (including a fabulous mix of cello concerto with Sarah Leong, and a flute concerto that is out of this world), or you missed it! But no worries, we have another concert coming up soon on May 17th on home territory at All Saints, Long Ashton. The programme will include Elgar's Sea Pictures, with a vocal soloist, and other British pieces focusing on nature and the sea.

Just come along - doors open at 7.00 - no need to have a ticket, but remember to bring cash or card for a charity collection at the end. We are proud to have collected thousands of pounds each year recently for a wide range of charities, including St Peter's Hospice, Refugee Rights, dementia charities, and Christians Against Poverty.

A smaller ensemble from the orchestra enjoyed playing at the Portishead Senior Citizens' Club in a Christmas concert on December 18th.



**A community of believers following Jesus together within our community of Long Ashton**  
Services at 10.30am every Sunday. Everyone welcome!

**I'm Angela Moseley and I have just taken up the role of Church**

**Leader at Hebron Church** on Providence Lane. Previously I've worked as a research scientist, taught secondary school science and grown an SME from start up. I have been married for 35 years, brought up three children and recently I was leading in another church in Bristol.

In mainly voluntary roles, I have worked over the years in different types of churches. I've often been involved with enabling others realise their vision and goals. It has brought me experience in many areas: leading services and speaking, running children's clubs and groups, prayer events, healing and wholeness, pastoral care, large-scale catering, organising courses and conferences, and a lot of administration!

As I step into this new role, I am sensing the excitement of partnering with a God who is always calling out the best in us and who can do things which we might not even ask or imagine. In our challenging and precarious world, nothing takes God by surprise. He really is with us. He leads, teaches and encourages us in all sorts of ways. Perhaps you have sensed a leading from God even today.

Sharing support and encouragement is one of God's gifts for the journey. Churches like Hebron and All Saints are places to be real, ask questions, connect, and get hold of something eternal. If that appeals to you, do come along one Sunday, 10.30am at Hebron Church. I'm new too, and I've found an easy welcome, with cake every week!

To be in touch or meet for coffee, email [angela@hebron-church.co.uk](mailto:angela@hebron-church.co.uk). I'd love to hear from you.



## Kidz Club

A club for school years 3-7

Craft, games, Bible story and tuck shop

**Second Sunday evening each month**

**5:30 - 7:00 pm. FREE.**

## Saturdads

Free entry, coffee and bacon butties!

A space for dads and children to meet, play and make friends on a Saturday morning.

**Third Saturday of each month 10am-12pm.**

**See website for details.**

Come and see...

Toddler group

Every Thursday in term time

10:00-11:30

Keedwell Church, Keedwell Hill

all age

SERVICES

See website for dates



# LONG ASHTON BOWLING CLUB

## Ready to Roll!

At Long Ashton Bowling Club, members are already anticipating another busy season, renewing old friendships, and friendly rivalries. Thanks to our team of volunteers with the expert support of our green keeper, the club's green and surroundings are looking in fine form for the forthcoming season. The club diary is already filled with competitive fixtures for both men's and ladies' teams, friendly matches, fun events, and club competitions.

The club continues to thrive, but we always have room for new members. No previous experience is required, just a willingness to try something new, make friends and enjoy participation in a fascinating game. We want you on our team!

With the club's focus firmly on growth this year, we were delighted to have received support in the form of a grant from the Parish Council. This has already been put to good use, allowing us to increase the number of qualified coaches within the club. We shall now be in a far stronger position to support new players and develop our existing team members. So, a huge thank you from us.



This season sees the appointment of our new Ladies' President. Following in the footsteps of Anne Lewis, who has done so much for the club, and to whom we owe a huge vote of thanks, we are delighted that former Club Captain, Sheila Hall (pictured), has agreed to take over the reins. We know we are in good hands!

*"I have been a member of Long Ashton Bowls Club since 2008 and was honoured to be asked to become Ladies' President this year. Our ladies have been successful over the years and for the past two years have been top of the North Somerset Triples League. My aim is to support and encourage further success in all our ventures," says Sheila.*



So, if the idea of bowling at Long Ashton is something you would like to try, get in touch and we will make sure you are kept up to date, before the start of the new season. Email: [longashtonbc@gmail.com](mailto:longashtonbc@gmail.com) or Tel: 01275 852243

Check out our website: [www.longashtonbowlingclub.org.uk](http://www.longashtonbowlingclub.org.uk)  
or follow us on Facebook.

# Long Ashton Horticultural Society Update



**11th March**, talk. Filming Jaguars in the South American Pantanal

**10th April**, workshop. Create your own succulent garden

**17th May**, annual plant sale. Seedlings and plants sold at very reasonable prices outside the Co-op

This is the time of year when we start to look forward to seeing our gardens spring into life. Bulbs popping out of the ground and new leaves appearing on sleeping plants. In particular I always look forward to my Camellia bushes bursting into flower.

In 2024 we arranged several enjoyable and interesting talks, a visit to a vineyard and visits to open gardens. Following our AGM we were pleased to host an event given by The Bristol Beer Factory who introduced us to their charity, Brewed to Give programme. We were able to sample several of their beers and as a result of our purchases they were able to donate £300 to the Children's Hospice Southwest.

Our pre-Christmas event this year was an instructive and interesting day-long Flax workshop. Simon from Flaxland nr. Stroud started by giving us the background on its uses having been used by the Egyptians and Romans. He went on to explain how it is used now and in the future. We were shown how to prepare the flax for spinning, wrapping around a conical shaped distaff, then pulling threads and spinning into twine. Later we went a big step further and rather roughly made a rope which stretched across the width of the village hall. A very good day was enjoyed by all.

For all future events and membership details go to [www.lahortsoc.co.uk](http://www.lahortsoc.co.uk)



Spinning using the distaff and making the rope across the village hall

**APPLY FOR  
MEMBERSHIP  
ONLINE – VISIT  
NDCT.CO.UK**



**CALL  
01275 855552  
EMAIL OFFICE@  
NDCT.CO.UK**

## **NEED HELP GETTING OUT AND ABOUT?**

Many Long Ashton residents who find it tricky to use public transport rely on Nailsea & District Community Transport (NDCT) to get out and about. Our fully wheelchair-accessible services pick people up straight from their homes and take them to shop, socialise, and more.

Membership costing £20 per year is available to Long Ashton residents who need a little bit of extra support to travel. We offer weekly shopping trip into Nailsea, social outings and can also help get people to medical appointments, community activities and lunch clubs.

Recently we have been able to help a Long Ashton member get to a weekly group (run by Age UK) in Nailsea on a Friday morning and there are a few spaces available for other people who may be attending but wondering how to get there.

Our drivers are friendly, helpful, and really understand the needs of people who face challenges with mobility or other issues that make travel difficult. They'll help with things like loading and unloading wheelchairs and shopping, and you'll usually have the same driver each week – adding a personal touch to the service.

NDCT has added three new electric minibuses to the fleet. They're not only comfortable and efficient but are also helping to cut down emissions on our roads.

Thank you to Long Ashton Parish Council for supporting our service with a grant.



**BARK IN THE PARK**

**SAVE THE DATE!**

**Sunday 6 July 2025 • 12-5pm**

**Peel Park, Kings Croft, Long Ashton BS41 9ED**

# BECOME A COUNCILLOR!

We are looking for all sorts of people, bringing all kinds of skills. We want to involve anyone interested in improving local lives. We are particularly keen to increase diversity on the Council and to embrace a range of different knowledge and experience.

## COULD THIS BE YOU?

Do you have concerns about any local matters?

Would you like to have your say?

Keen to create change that matters to local people?

Meetings are generally held on Monday evenings. Everyone attends Full Council, but you can decide just how much you want to get involved in the three sub-committees covering Finance, Planning Applications in the villages, and Environmental concerns.

## SOME OF THE HANDS-ON WORK TAKES PLACE IN WORKING GROUPS

(at various times of day) and you can choose, for example: Community Engagement, Village Enhancement, Biodiversity, Burial Ground & protecting the Green Belt

**MAKE A  
CHANGE**  
BECOME A  
COUNCILLOR



# AM I ELIGIBLE TO BECOME A PARISH COUNCILLOR?

You need to be 18 or over

Be a British citizen, an eligible Commonwealth citizen or a citizen of any member state of the European Union.

And meet **at least one** of the following four qualifications:

You are, and will continue to be, registered as a local government elector for the parish/community in which you wish to stand from the day of your nomination onwards.

You have lived in the parish/community area or within 3 miles of it during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.

Your main or only place of work during the 12 months prior to the day of your nomination and the day of election has been in the parish/community area.

You have occupied as owner or tenant any land or other premises in the parish/community area during the whole of the 12 months before the day of your nomination and the day of election.

Find out more



*Scan me*

You can choose to have a 'Buddy' - an experienced Councillor to help you ease into, and understand, the intricacies of Council life

**Contact the Parish Clerk, today!**  
**We look forward to hearing from you**

# LA COMMUNITY CINEMA

BRINGING THE BEST IN FILM TO LONG ASHTON

## SPRING SEASON 2025



**15 FEB**

### WELCOME TO YOUR COMMUNITY CINEMA!

Long Ashton Community Cinema is a non-profit group run by local volunteers. Our aim is to offer a wide variety of good quality films at affordable prices on your doorstep. Our aim is to offer a local cinema which is a social place where our audience can have a drink and a chat before and after the screening.



**15 MAR**

### BRINGING PEOPLE TOGETHER

Going to the cinema is fab but not everyone has the same taste in film. So, if you're coming on your own feel free to get in touch and we'll make sure there's a friendly welcome when you arrive!



**19 APR**

### ON THE NIGHT...

Doors and our Brews Brothers bar open at 19.00 so come down early to grab a drink and a seat before the film starts at 19.45.

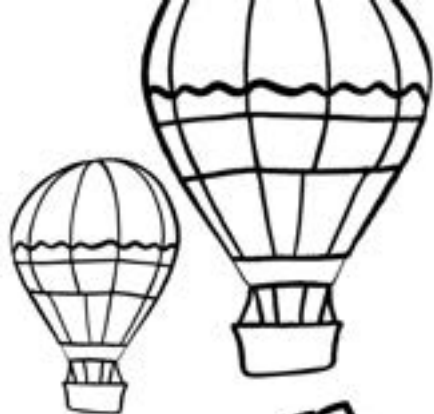
**BOOK**



**NOW!**

 **LONGASHTONCINEMA**

**SIGN UP TO OUR NEWSLETTER FOR THE LATEST NEWS FROM LA-CINEMA.UK**



Long Ashton  
& Leigh Woods



Kids colouring in for front cover of  
next edition!

By \_\_\_\_\_

Carer contact

# LONG ASHTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Contact us

The Parish Council office is in the Jubilee Pavilion of the Community Centre complex, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton, BS41 9DP and is open to the public:

Tuesday and Thursday 10am - 2pm  
(by appointment at other times)

**Call us on 01275 393551**

**Hannah Harwood - Clerk and Responsible Finance Officer**

[clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Ruth McAllister - Admin & Committee Clerk  
(Environment, Planning and Burials)**

[office@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:office@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)  
working days - Mon, Tue, Thurs & Fri

**Village Ranger**

Tara Broad - [ranger@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:ranger@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**Communications**

Ruth McAllister - [community@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:community@longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

**If your matter is urgent please contact the Clerk**

Find us on 



or visit our website  
[www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://www.longashtonparishcouncil.gov.uk)

