

### SAVE OUR BATH GROUNDS CAMPAIGN



At the beginning of September, Ashby Town Council considered the following motion;

*'to enter into a dialogue with Oakland's Hotels to acquire the freehold of the Bath grounds in its entirety, and to make it clear*

*to the land owner that the TC will not surrender the lease to the bath grounds either fully or partially now or in the future, and also on expiry of the current lease the TC will pursue a renewal of the lease for a similar length of time as the current lease provides.'*

**The motion was passed unanimously.**

A large number of Friends' supporters attended the meeting to witness the motion being passed

The Town Council have now acknowledged the strong feelings of the residents of Ashby and how important the Bath Grounds are to our town - which is a really positive step in our campaign!!!

The 'Save our Bath Grounds' petition, is now over 7400 signatures (including on-line). Thank you to all the volunteers who have helped to gather all these signatures over the summer, including many Ashby retailers who have kindly had petition forms in their shops.

We still await the submission of the planning application by the developer which they originally said would be submitted at the end of July. We will then move onto the next stages of the campaign to formally make objections to the District Council Planning department.



### HELLO HERITAGE EVENT

Thanks to everyone who came down to our heritage event on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> September at The Ashby Hastings Cricket Club on the Bath Grounds. The kids crafts were a big success with lots of rock painting done,

treasure hunting completed and many Dolly Shepherd dolls with balloons constructed !!

The idea was to raise awareness of the heritage of our beautiful bath grounds over the last 200 years and how important it is to the town

### IMPORTANT NEWS!!

### REFERENDUM ON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN ANNOUNCED

**THURSDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER**

We are very pleased to learn that, after much delay, there will be a local referendum on the Ashby Neighbourhood Plan on Thursday 22nd November. **We strongly**

**encourage everyone interested in protecting the Bath Grounds and other green spaces in the town to turn out and vote in favour of adopting the plan.** The Friends



have been heavily involved in seeking the strongest possible protection for the Bath Grounds in the Neighbourhood Plan and we believe that we have achieved this aim. If adopted, the plan will become part of the official Local Plan. It designates the Bath Grounds and Ashby's other parks as "Local Green Spaces", which protects these areas as if they were Green Belt. Specifically, the draft plan states that, "new development [on these sites] is ruled out other than in very special circumstances" and "the construction of new buildings on Local Green Spaces is inappropriate". The Neighbourhood Plan also describes the Bath Grounds as "Playing Fields" which should assist in renewal of the lease when the time comes.

### CASTLE VIEW WILDLIFE WALK



Roger Bayliss, our current Mayor, officially opened the Castle View Wildlife Walk - a project that has been ongoing for the last 3 years.

The Friends, working with the Town Council will continue to develop and maintain this area.

Thank you to our sponsors Hicks Lodge Trust, Ashfield, the District Council, Ashby Town Council Also to the Civic Society and a private sponsor.

### MAINTENANCE

The Friends have quarterly Maintenance meetings with the Town Council to discuss improvements, raise issues and progress any agreed actions.

The Friends are now also providing a report to the **Town Council Parks and Cemeteries Committee Meetings** to keep committee members informed of what is happening on and around the Bath Grounds. We feel this is important given that the Committee have responsibility for the management and wellbeing of Ashby's parks and cemetery.

### BENCH & BIN PAINTING

Once again this summer, Gary Irons Painting & Decorating services has kindly painted the benches and bins located around the south street entrance flowerbed



### TEAM WORK AND VOLUNTEERING

If you would like to get involved in volunteer work on the Bath Ground's, we do organise volunteer maintenance sessions to support the Town Council in ensuring that the Bath Grounds look their best all year round.



Please drop us an email with your contact details or telephone Vince our secretary.

### DI LORRIMAN SIGNED LIMITED EDITION PRINT – place your order now!



We are very excited to be offering an opportunity to pre order a fabulous bespoke small run of a signed Limited Edition Print of a watercolour painting of the Bath Grounds by Di Lorriman.

Di Lorriman is an elected Fellow of the Nottingham Society of Artists and a member of the Leicester Sketch club, her work has been shown nationally. The painting depicts the new Castle View Wildlife walk area of the Bath Grounds looking across towards Ashby Castle which is painted in the background. The foreground

captures the wonderful open fresh countryside feel of our Bath Grounds with lovely detail to the avenue of trees lining the footpath along with a variety of wild flowers. To the foreground, figures and a dog are enjoying a picnic and there is a sitting figure taking in the view from one of the benches. There are also a number of wild animals hiding within the painting. Will make a lovely Christmas gift!

There are 2 sizes available;

#### Large Print

680 mm x 270 mm (27 inch x 11 inch)

Price £85 (deposit £10)

#### Small Print

290 mm x 110 mm (11.5 inch x 4.5 inch)

Price £22 (deposit £5)



The prints will be on high quality watercolour paper and will be mounted and signed by Di Lorriman – please refer to pictures.

Please contact our Treasurer – Clare Birch on 07958 232291 or drop us an email, if you would like to place an order

#### Contact details:

**J. Birch: Chair - Tel: 07958 232281**

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