



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th February 2023 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT), Tristan Fraser, vice-chair (TF), Sam Goldney (SG), Heather Swan (HSw), Jacqui Morton (JM) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Helen Simpson (HS). 1 member of the public was in attendance.

2 – Declarations of interest: nothing arising.

3 - Minutes: the minutes of the last Austrey Parish Council (APC) meeting which took place on 11th January 2023, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.

4 – Clerk’s Update:

4.1: LT attended a WALC briefing on planning for the upcoming elections in May and will keep residents up to date with procedures and the election timetable via social media & our website.

4.2: At a resident’s request, the clerk has put a post on the noticeboard & Facebook asking if residents would like to mark the King’s Coronation with a village celebration. There hasn’t been a massive response, but a street party does seem to be the favoured choice, along with the planting of a commemorative tree in the village. Volunteers to organise an event are welcomed. LT to request a road closure for Sunday 7th May as a provision, and some village competitions were discussed. To be added to next agenda.

4.3: LT has applied for a small grant with which to purchase commemorative items, such as mugs or pins, for children in the village. It was also mentioned that WCC are providing small grants for Coronation celebrations. HS to look into.

5 – Open Forum: HS reported that the Cost-of-Living Grant Fund is now open again. The PC decided that it wouldn’t be fair to claim any monies this time and that the money would be better spent on more needy communities.

*The clerk has received an email from a resident to complain about the hedgerows on Newton Lane being overgrown. The hedge & the adjoining footpath were adopted by WCC last year & the chair has tried 5 times to contact them since December about this matter.

6 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

6.1: Bus Shelter: The original quote of £11,000 has risen to £17,500, so this project is no longer viable and will be removed from the agenda.

6.2: Neighbourhood Plan: The latest grant application has been approved so we can move on with the next stages. The first meeting of the steering committee is being held on Thursday 23rd February.

6.3: Playing Fields: TF has now met with a design consultant & has 2 designs plus associated costs for a new play area. He will now look at available funding opportunities.

*The new litter bins have now been installed at the playing fields.

6.4: Village Maintenance: There is once again a lot of litter on the lanes outlying the village, so SG has planned a litter pick for 11th March. McDonalds will be sending staff to help on the day. Details to be put on social media & the noticeboard. LT to request the loan of the litter picking equipment from NWBC.

7 – Planning: 3 applications as per the appendix. The Parish Council plan to comment on or object to all of the current applications.

8 - Correspondence: as per the Appendix.

9 – Financial & insurance matters: 5 payments as per the appendix.

10 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: SG would like to produce another newsletter, to be published before Easter. Content is required by mid-March. *The raised ironworks on Norton Hill remain an issue and have now caused damage to vehicles using the road. Utility companies & councils approached all deny ownership.

*TF would like to put a new play area on the next agenda.

*Coronation celebrations and litter pick to be added to the next agenda.

11 – Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 8th March 2023.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell February 2023