



# AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on  
Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> July 2021 at 7.30pm

**1 – Present:** Tony Treadwell (TT) chair, Tristan Fraser (TF), Sam Goldney (SG), Helen Simpson (HS), Heather Swan (HSw), Jacqui Moton (JM) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Heather Hadley (HH). No members of the public were in attendance.

**2 – Declarations of interest:** HS declared an interest in the 2 planning applications relating to The Limes as she lives in the neighbouring property.

**3 - Minutes:** the minutes of the last parish council meeting, including the Annual Parish Meeting & the Annual Meeting for the Parish Council, which took place on 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021, were approved as a true record as signed by the chair.

**4 – Open Forum:** Nothing arising

**5 – Clerk’s Update:** A defibrillator has been purchased using the very generous donation received from PI-KEM last month. This is to be located at the village hall. The success of the recent GoFundMe appeal means that another defibrillator can be purchased, and the council has chosen to locate this one at the crossroads, meaning that most of the village can access a machine in minutes should the need arise.

\*On renewal of our insurance we have been informed that the bonfire event can not be insured by the PC’s policy as we are not the sole organisers. The bonfire committee has been advised that they need to seek their own stand-alone policy. However, councillors suggested that the PC could donate a sum towards the cost.

## **6 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**

**6.1 - Playing Fields:** New guttering has been fitted at the pavilion to replace the damaged elements. The exterior of the building is due to be painted in the coming weeks. \*Following the latest play area inspection report, TF proposed a spend of £520 for a new spring bike and related fittings. HSw seconded this and all voted in favour. TF to order and arrange fitting of the bike.

**6.2 - Review of meeting dates and venue:** The PC has been asked if they can change their regular meeting day to accommodate another potential booking at the village hall. The options discussed by councillors were changing to a Thursday night, or sticking with Wednesdays and using the Baptist Hall. TT to discuss further with the village hall committee.

**6.3 - Village Maintenance:** It was reported that several footpaths need strimming in and around the village as they are overgrown. TF is to approach the Lengthsman to see if he still wants the role. If so, this will be a priority. HSw also volunteered to trim the footpaths if required. \*Dog waste not correctly disposed of continues to be a problem around the village, despite regular reminders on social media and spray-painted warnings on pavements. \*Some damaged signs around the village are due to be replaced this summer. Others remain damaged; TT to chase.

**6.4 – Website and Newsletter:** The new-look website is finally complete and updated regularly. It was hoped that the newsletter would be up and running again by now, but despite several pleas for content and adverts, none has been forthcoming. Obviously, there can be no newsletter without news! LT to email village organisations and groups.

**7 – Planning:** 4 applications as per the appendix. Regarding The Homestead, there is still no update from NWBC, and no works have been carried out recently.

**8 - Correspondence:** as per the appendix

**9 – Financial & insurance matters:** 10 payments as per the appendix.

**10 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** Cllr Goldney’s daughter is undertaking her bronze Duke of Edinburgh award and would like to do some voluntary work around the village. TF to co-ordinate this. It was suggested that the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations be reviewed so that TF can spend up to £200 on playing field expenses without having to put it on the agenda each time, thus delaying repairs and maintenance. LT to explore this option. \*The new vicar, Joanne Dyer, is now in situ. Clerk to publicise the details. \*Three quotes have now been achieved as required by The War Memorial Trust to consider a grant for repairs to the church clock. These have been forwarded on by the clerk and we are now awaiting a decision. \*The clerk would like to discuss the Arts Festival bank account which has been dormant for around 5 years, at the next meeting.

**11 – Next meeting scheduled for** Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date\_\_\_\_\_