



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 19th August 2020 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT) chair, Sam Goldney (SG), Tristan Fraser (TF), Mick Beeson (MB) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). No members of the public were in attendance. Apologies received from Heather Hadley (HH) and Anne Wilde (AW). One vacancy remains on the council.

2 – Declarations of interest: no declarations

3 – Minutes: the minutes of the last parish council meeting which took place on 15th July 2020 via Skype, were approved as a true record & signed by the chair.

4 – Open Forum: Nothing arising.

5 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

- **Church Clock:** Bygone Times attended again earlier this month as the clock isn't chiming. A new winder is being fit in 2 weeks but if problems continue, the PC will revert to plan B and replace the whole mechanism. TT will research heritage/lottery grants as this will be quite costly.
- **Great British Spring Clean:** As much as the PC would like to organise an event in September, there is a restriction on numbers (maximum of 6), so a community event is not an option at the present time. Therefore, the PC will look to organise one next spring if it is feasible. Small family groups can still pledge to litter pick in their local area, see our Facebook page for more details.
- **Playing Fields:** The play area has been weeded over the summer & TF has mended a small fault on the zip-line. It looks like the area has had a lot of use over the summer. The bark has still not been replaced due to the very wet weather earlier in the year, followed by COVID restrictions. The PC is looking to get quotes for laying recycled rubber on the play area, as an alternative to bark. Either way, the PC is looking to replace it this year. *The gates to the playing fields are being kept permanently locked at the present time following recent reports of travellers camping on the recreation grounds of a neighbouring village. *The CCTV system has been upgraded this month with a new hard drive and two new cameras. *Some of the ditches are very overgrown and need to be cleared. TF to get quotes for the work. *Tamworth FC's 5-year lease expires next month. MB is to meet with them to discuss renewal, maintenance issues and any changes which need to be made going forward.
- **Village Maintenance:** The Lengthsman (GF) has undertaken lots of work around the village including weeding, clearing footpaths and re-painting the phone box. The PC discussed further maintenance work needed and TF is liaising GF about a schedule of works. *We are awaiting delivery of new dog waste bins. Clerk is to chase for a due date as the estimate was 17th August.

6 – Planning: The PC has not received notification from NWBC about any new planning applications. However, a search showed 2 application since the last meeting which we have not been informed of:

PAP/2020/0388 - Arkadia, 35 Warton Lane CV9 3EJ - Rear extension, garage conversion and works to flat roof.

PAP/2020/0299 - Parish House, Bishops Meadow, The Green CV9 3FB - Works to trees protected by a Tree Preservation Order.

The PC will be objecting to the latter, as the application includes plans to fell several of the historic trees. When the houses were built at Bishop’s Meadow, part of the original planning application stated that the trees should not be removed. SG to write to NWBC to object. The clerk will now undertake regular checks on new planning applications in Austrey to ensure that none are missed in the future should NWBC fail to notify us again.

7 - Correspondence: as per the appendix

8 – Financial & insurance matters: 3 payments as per the appendix.

9 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: SG asked that the annual Christmas event be put on the next agenda.

*The future of the village newsletter was also discussed. The previous editor, Emma, did an amazing job but has now had to step down due to other commitments. It has not been published over lockdown due to lack of content, but the PC are now looking to resume its production and need a new editor. Clerk to gauge interest on the Austrey Updates Facebook page.

10 –Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 9th September 2020.

Meeting closed at 8.28pm

Signed _____ Date_____