



# **AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on  
Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2024 at 7.30pm

## **Annual Meeting for the Parish Council**

- 1. To elect a Chair for the coming year:** SG proposed TT as Chair for the coming year. This was seconded by TF and voted upon unanimously by the council. The post was accepted by TT.
- 2. Present and apologies:** Tony Treadwell (TT), Sam Goldney (SG), Tristan Fraser (TF), Neil Hayward (NH), Terry Webb (TW), Richard Nield (RN) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Heather Swan (HS). No members of the public were in attendance.
- 3. Written requests for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests** - all records held by the clerk.
- 4. To receive the Chair's Declaration of Acceptance of Office:** completed and signed by TT.
- 5. To elect a Vice-Chair for the coming year:** TF was nominated as vice-chair for the coming year. This was proposed by SG, seconded by NH and voted on unanimously by the council.
- 6. To receive a report on the capital assets and liabilities vested in the council:** The clerk emailed a report on the council's capital assets ahead of the meeting, and these can be viewed on the website. APC does not have any liabilities.
- 7. To approve the Annual Governance Statement 2023/24:** The Clerk advised that the annual accounts for 2023/24 had been completed and checked by the internal auditor. The accounts were agreed, and the Annual Governance Statement was signed and dated by the Chair.
- 8. To approve the Accounting Statements 2023/24:** The Clerk advised that the accounting statements for 2023/24 had been completed and checked by the internal auditor. The accounts were agreed, and the Accounting Statements were signed and dated by the Chair.
- 9. To agree to review the Council's Standing Orders & Financial Regulations:** The clerk reviewed, updated, and shared the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations ahead of the meeting. The council agreed to adopt them for another year.

## **Ordinary meeting of Austrey Parish Council (APC)**

- 1. Present:** as above
- 2. Declarations of interest:** nothing arising.
- 3. Minutes:** the minutes of the last APC meeting, which took place on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2024, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.
- 4. Clerk's Update:** Nothing arising

## **5. Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**

**5.1: Christmas tree lights/electricity supply:** The clerk has been advised that we need a 'Certificate of Unmetered Supply' which includes an MPAP number, before work can commence. This is so that we can be billed for any electricity used. The lights will also need an UNSUG code so the supplier can see how much electricity the lights consume. TT to contact National Grid to obtain a certificate.

**5.2: Neighbourhood Plan:** The first draft of the design codes document has been submitted for review & amendment. LT/SG to check if the next round of funding is open for applications. The community orchard now has a Facebook page. The Big Dig is to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> May, and residents are invited to attend and help.

**5.3: Playing fields:** TF has been monitoring and maintaining the playing fields. The area is getting drier and is starting to get used more regularly again.

**5.4: Telephone box:** A budget of £250 was proposed by TF for paint and labour to repaint the phone box. This was seconded by SG and agreed unanimously by the council. LT to order the paint & TT to instruct the painter to start work asap.

**5.5: Village maintenance:** The mud/earth slip on Appleby Hill has still not been cleared. TT continues to pursue the matter. Work on the church clock face is due to start later this month.

**5.6: Village orchard:** SG has requested a budget of £250 to help with plants and the official open day. NH seconded this, and it was voted upon unanimously by the council. Additionally, it was reported that the lunch club will be holding a raffle with the proceeds going toward the orchard.

## **6. Planning:**

**a: PAP/2024/0168** - Manor Croft: APC agreed that the tree works do need to be undertaken.

**PAP/2024/0152** - Oak Tree House, 49 Main Road, Austrey CV9 3EH: APC have contacted NWBC to seek clarification on why this application isn't retrospective as the carport has already been built. NWBC to advise the applicant to change the type of application. Members agreed that the erection is not very attractive and that some climbing plants may eventually soften the look. It was also noted that the carport blocks the village view of the Coronation Oak Tree although overall, it is understood why the resident wants it there.

**b:** No planning applications determined since the last meeting.

## **7. Financial & insurance matters**

**a:** Payments made, or cheques raised since the last meeting:

- R. Machin - litter picking - £70
- Clerk's salary - May
- HMRC PAYE - May

**b:** Payments received:

- NWBC - precept first half - £8750
- HMAA - grounds rent - £50
- Discover Outdoors - grounds rent - £50

**8. Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** nothing arising at this time.

**9. Next meeting scheduled for** Wednesday 12<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Meeting closed at 8.08pm

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

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell May 2024