



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 12th March 2025 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Neil Hayward, chair (TT), Sam Goldney (SG), Heather Swan (HS), Elaine Horton (EH), Terry Webb (TW), and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Tristan Fraser (TF), and Richard Nield (RN). 1 member of the public attended.
2. **Declarations of interest relating to items on the agenda:** nothing arising
3. **Minutes:** the minutes of the last Austrey Parish Council (APC) meeting which took place on 12th February 2025, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.
4. **Open Forum:** Nothing arising
5. **Clerk's Update:**
 - i. The clerk attended a WALC briefing on devolution in Warwickshire. The aim is that Warwickshire will have a new unitary tier of local government by 2028, but that PCs will not be affected structurally by the changes.
 - ii. The end of grant report for the £500 funding received for the Community Orchard project has now been completed.
6. **Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**
 - i. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The closing date for responding to the public consultation is 24th March, so there's still time to have your say. The PC would be happy to hear about other ways to publicise the NDP and the consultation to get as many views as possible. *The clerk has completed the end of grant report for the funding received from Groundwork UK for the last round of NDP funding. It was all spent this financial year, so there is no payment to be returned.
 - ii. **Expansion of Mercia Park:** The PC discussed objecting to this application on the basis of increased traffic through the village, pollution, congestion around the M42 island and the fact that the existing site is big enough already, amongst other things. TW to object to the application on behalf of the PC.
 - iii. **Upcoming Events:** The PC is holding a Spring Clean/litter pick on 29th March. A resident's group is holding a VE Day Street Party on 4th May. Check social media for more details. The PC discussed applying for a grant to fund some of the activities and competitions from the NWBC VE Day grant application scheme.
 - iv. **Village maintenance:** no new developments to report.
7. **a: New applications:** No new applications since the last meeting.
B: Determined: Blythes Barn – PAP/2025/0025 – application to vary conditions granted.

8. Financial & insurance matters:

a: 6 payments made since the last meeting:

Clerk's salary - March 2025

HMRC PAYE – March 2025

WALC – New councillor training (EH) - £42

N. Hayward – NDP banners - £67.56

Kirkwell's Ltd - NDP consultation fees - £1944

L Treadwell – NDP event refreshments - £32.31

b: payments received:

HMRC – VAT refund - £1633.39

- 9. Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** SG is currently in the process of producing a newsletter, to be distributed towards the end of March. TF has reported that some of the CCTV equipment at the pavilion/playing fields needs replacing due to wear, and damage caused by rodents.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 9th April 2025, to include the Annual Parish Assembly.

Meeting closed at 8.33pm

Signed _____ Date_____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell March 2025