



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 11th October 2023 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT), Tristan Fraser, vice-chair (TF), Sam Goldney (SG), Heather Swan (HS), Neil Hayward (NH), Richard Nield (RN) & Terry Webb (TW). Apologies received from parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT) due to illness. No members of the public were in attendance.

2 – Declarations of interest: Nothing arising

3 – Minutes: the minutes of the last Austrey Parish Council (APC) meeting which took place on 13th September 2023, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.

4 – Clerk’s Update:

4.1: The bus shelter has been repainted by Richard M and it is looking much better. The PC has received an invoice for the labour, plus receipts for paint & brushes.

4.2: The defib pads have gone missing from the defibrillator in the phone box. The Circuit have been advised that it is currently out of action. Replacements have arrived today, so it will be in use again from tomorrow.

4.3: Despite the deposit having just been paid, works to the church clock have been postponed by Smith of Derby until at least April due to the coming wintery weather (not the best conditions to refurb a clock face!)

4.4: Following the recent HS2 update that the high-speed rail link between Birmingham and Manchester will be scrapped, the village website has been updated to reflect the PM’s announcement.

5: Open Forum: Nothing arising.

6: Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

6.1: Christmas Event 2023: Plans are underway for the annual Christmas event, with the primary school, Atherstone Sleigh and Amington Band all having been contacted with the time and date of the event. A date is to be arranged for the trees to be chosen. Residents at Hollybank Estate have asked for a small tree to be placed there this year, which was agreed. It was also decided that chocolates will be ordered again this year, to distribute to children attending the event.

6.2: Neighbourhood Plan (NDP): The steering committee is still busy working behind the scenes and meeting monthly to progress the updated NDP. TW has asked for a copy of the design code.

6.3: Playing Fields: TF reported that the benches and barriers have all been repainted and that the field is looking in good condition. There are still a few potholes on the hardstanding following the recent heavy rainfall which need attention.

6.4: Village Maintenance: NH reported that he has not received an update following last month's accessibility survey. It is 'due to be done' but we are low priority.

Regarding Speed Awareness in the village, NH has spoken to the Road Safety Unit about LED speed signs on Main Road. An application has to be made and can only be done every 12 months. NH to progress the application.

7 – Planning: 1 application since the last meeting, as per the appendix

8 – Correspondence: as per the Appendix.

9 – Financial & insurance matters: 12 payments as per the appendix.

Councillors discussed the cost of fitting alarms to the defib boxes following the recent disappearance of some defibrillator pads, which led to newer councillors asking why the access code is available on the outside of the boxes. 18 months ago, a resident could not access the box at a time of need, so the decision was made by the Parish Council members at the time to leave the code on the boxes. This will be reviewed again in 2 months time; LT to add to the agenda.

10 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: New councillors would like confirmation on what the Parish Council can spend money on. LT to forward Income & Expenditure year to date to clarify.
RN gave his apologies for November's meeting.

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

Meeting closed at 8.12pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell October 2023