



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 14th December 2022 at 7.30pm

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

2 – Declarations of interest: nothing arising

3 - Minutes: the minutes of the last parish council (PC) meeting which took place on 9th November 2022, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.

4 – Clerk’s Update:

4.1: HH has given her written resignation to the Chair & the clerk due to other commitments & with immediate effect. She is still happy to help with planning matters if required. NWBC has been notified of the vacancy & we are awaiting instructions, given that:

4.2: Parish council elections are due to be held in May 2023. Clerk is to ask on behalf of members if co-option is a must, given that all members will need to stand in the forthcoming local elections in just a matter of months.

5 – Open Forum: Nothing arising

6 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

6.1: Bus Shelter: TF proposed that we budget for a new bus shelter on Warton Lane, given that we have underspent this financial year & that there are funds available. TT seconded this and all voted in agreement. LT to add this to the budget for 2023/24 (circa £11k) and HS will look for any appropriate funding available to help towards the balance.

6.2: Neighbourhood Plan: HS has sent the completed bid back to Kirkwells to be checked over before submission. LT to put a post on social media and the noticeboard requesting help with a steering committee.

6.3: Playing Fields: TF reported that the 2 new litter bins are now in place, & his job is to paint the play area (Which is now around 20 years old). He would like to look at replacing the equipment completely & will seek quotes and funding options available as this is not something that can be done within the PC’s means. To be added to the next agenda.

6.4: Precept 2023-24: Initial discussions were had & the PC is in favour of keeping the precept at its current level for the forthcoming financial year (£16560). There is currently no reason to raise it. TF proposed this, TT seconded, and all members voted in agreement. Clerk to advise NWBC.

6.5: Village Hall Grant: The PC has received a grant application from the Village Hall Committee, requesting £268 to buy freezers to be used at the hall. The original email was sent to councillors ahead of the meeting detailing the donation request. TT proposed that we agree this, given that we have underspent on donations this financial year, and that it is a good asset for the hall to attract users. HS seconded this and all voted in agreement to this amount.

6.6: Village Maintenance: TF has done some strimming around the village in recent weeks. It was reported that another 'Warton Lane' sign is needed as you enter the village from Warton; there isn't one there currently. TT to enquire about getting one erected.

7 – Planning: 3 planning applications as per the appendix.

*TT has emailed Steve Maxey about the application at Charity House re swimming lessons to ask why a Planning Enforcement Notice hasn't yet been applied. We await a response.

*PAP/2022/0562 – regarding the removal of hedgerows from land off Warton Lane – the PC has been advised that this application has been refused.

8 - Correspondence: as per the Appendix.

9 – Financial & insurance matters: 11 payments as per the appendix. TT wanted that pass on his thanks to Michael Swan for his invaluable help in getting the newsletter to print earlier this month.

10 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: The Chair reported on the success of this year's Christmas event. It was well attended, and he received lots of positive comments.

*HS asked about organising some more defib training for the coming year. TT to arrange.

11 – Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 11th January 2023.

Meeting closed at 8.10pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell January 2023