



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on

Wednesday 10th December 2025 at 7.30pm

1. **Present:** Neil Hayward, chair (NH), Tristan Fraser (TF), Heather Swan (HS), Sam Goldney (SG), Terry Webb (TW), Elaine Horton (EH), Richard Nield (RN) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). 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 November 2025 were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.
4. **Open Forum:** nothing arising
5. **Clerk's Update:** 2-Step Verification will be required on Gmail before July. LT to set this up before the end of the year so that it is in place ahead of the deadline. *The clerk is to undertake some training over the next 6 weeks: Sustainability & Climate Change, and Data Protection Foundations & Theory. This is to adhere to WALC's desire for continued professional development. *The council has been sent a number of 'Do not knock' stickers to help safeguard older and vulnerable people in our community. These will be distributed at coffee and lunch clubs and mentioned on Austrey Updates for those who would like one.
6. **Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**
 - i. **Christmas 2025:** Despite a very wet and windy evening, the event had a good turnout. Unfortunately, it was decided unsafe for the school choir and the brass band to be outside for any length of time, so these were cancelled on the day. It was a good team effort, and the chair thanked all parties involved.
 - ii. **Church clock:** There have been some teething problems with getting the repaired clock mechanics in place and connected to the mains, but it seems to now be working and chiming. EH is to look into funding for a commemorative stone, and it is hoped that there will be a placing ceremony in the spring.
 - iii. **Local Government Reorganisation (LGR):** Cllr Shaw talked about WCC's preference for a single unitary Warwickshire. EH has attended a couple of briefings about LGR and talked about NWBCs preference for a 2-tier Warwickshire. Submissions have now been made to the government, and it is thought that the changes will come into place in 2027. More details about LGR in Warwickshire can be found at:
<https://www.warwickshire.gov.uk-democracy/devolution-local-government-reorganisation> and <https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation-2/local-government-reorganisation/2>
 - iv. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The plan is still with NWBC awaiting the final stages. *NWBC is reviewing its local plan and is currently going through a public consultation, which ends on 16th January 2026. The review will consider major proposed housing developments in our area and so SG requested an extraordinary meeting to discuss APC's stance on the matter and formally submit its comments. A date of Tuesday 16th December was agreed, and the agenda is to be published tomorrow.

v. **Village Maintenance & Playing Fields:** TF would like to order some new road traffic mirrors

7. a: No new planning applications since the last meeting.
- b: Applications determined since the last meeting:
 - PAP/2024/0354 & PAP/2024/0355 - Nether End, 2 Warton Lane – both granted

*Re application PAP/2024/0142 on Norton Hill, TF is still trying to arrange a site visit with planning at NWBC as the council is concerned that the works do not match the application that was granted.

8. **Financial & insurance matters:**

a: 9 payments made since the last meeting:

- Clerk's salary – December 2025
- HMRC PAYE – December 2025
- Lloyds Bank - service charges - £4.25
- L. Treadwell – Canva annual subscription - £100
- NWBC – Grounds Maintenance fee - £1195.06
- Friezland Christmas Farm – Christmas trees - £612
- N. Hayward – batteries for Christmas lights - £20.45
- DG Business Machines Ltd – newsletter printing - £140
- S. Goldney – batteries for Christmas lights - £49.95

b: No payments received since the last meeting

9. **Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** Voting on a budget for a commemorative war memorial stone. SG asked the clerk to email Jill for her help with previous editions of the newsletter, as she steps away from the role.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 14th January 2026.

Meeting closed at 8.40pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell December 2025