



# **AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on  
Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 7.30pm

**1: Present:** Tony Treadwell, chair (TT), Tristan Fraser (TF), Neil Hayward (NH), Terry Webb (TW), Richard Nield (RN) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Heather Swan (HS) Sam Goldney (SG). 2 members 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 10<sup>th</sup> July 2024, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.

**4: Open Forum:** Nothing arising.

## **5: Clerk's Update**

5.1: The annual accounts have been concluded by the external auditors and published on the website by the clerk.

5.2: PCSO Mollie Thompson forwarded the latest beat report for Austrey as unfortunately, none of the team was available to attend the meeting. They asked that if anything is discussed that they need to be made aware of, we should let them know.

## **6: Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**

- i. **Christmas 2024:** This year's event is due to take place on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. The clerk has submitted a road closure application to NWBC. \*We are still awaiting SSE to give us an NPNA number before the electricity supply can become live and we can plug the lights in. APC will invite Amington Band and Atherstone Sleigh again.
- ii. **Church Clock:** The church clock has stopped working, and an inspection by Smith of Derby showed that repairs to the counter minute wheel and the hour pipe are required to get it back to working order. The cost for this has been quoted as £5,538.00 plus VAT, which unfortunately APC cannot fund at the present time. NH has been looking into funding options to cover the cost of these works and presented some of his findings, which will be pursued.
- iii. **Expansion of Mercia Park:** SG asked for this item to be put on the agenda, but she isn't present tonight. As the planning application hasn't been submitted yet, this item will be carried forward to the next meeting.
- iv. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The draft plan has been submitted to NWBC and we are awaiting their comments ahead of our consultation period. The design codes have been signed off by AECOM. \*We have received a WCC councillors grant award for £500 which is to be used on resources for the Community Orchard.

- v. **Playing fields:** APC have received a playground inspection report in the last month. There are some minor issues with the play equipment which need attention. Additionally, TF reported that the bark needs to be replaced; it has been 4 since it was last done. he will look at quotes ahead of our next meeting.
- vi. **Upcoming events:** The village has been busy raising funds for Remembrance Day commemorations and making memorabilia to display. \*SG is hoping to hold a village litter pick this autumn, and we aim to produce an edition of the village newsletter by the end of month.
- vii. **Village maintenance:** The land slip on Appleby Hill has been cleared by highways and at the clerk's request, road sweepers have been out to clear the aftermath. \*TT has reported some large potholes on Norton Hill. \*The telephone box has been repainted. It is thought to have a leak, so TT will investigate. After a lengthy stint of planting and tending to the village planters, the small group of volunteers involved have decided to retire from the job. APC passed on its thanks for their service to the village, and the clerk will ask for volunteers on Social Media in the spring.

### **7a: New Planning Applications:**

- **PAP/2024/0227 - Still Meadow, Newton Lane** – no issue with this application.
- **PAP/2024/0367 - Reeves 2000, Orchard House, Appleby Hill, Austrey.** APC had written an objection to the application but were told that it's currently just for prior approval so they weren't taking objections or comments at this time.
- **PAP/2024/0152 - Oak Tree House, 49 Main Road, Austrey, CV9 3EH** – no objections to this application.
- Fillongley Parish Council have written to other PCs in Warwickshire, including APC asking for donations and support for an appeal against a solar farm in their parish. We are not in a position to provide financial support to this, and councillors feel that they don't know enough or have strong enough opinions to get drawn into commenting.

### **7b: Determined since the last meeting:**

- **PAP/2023/0010** - Doug Stables, Orton Hill: permission granted on amended plans.
- **PAP/2024/0227** - Still Meadow, Newton Lane, Austrey: permission granted

### **8: Financial & insurance matters:**

#### **a: Payments made since the last meeting:**

- Elaine Horton - Maps for the NDP - £24.50
- Clerk's salary - August & September 2024
- HMRC PAYE – August & September 2024
- Neil Hayward - Community Orchard Expenses - £61.50
- Richard Machin - litter picking - £70
- Smith of Derby - repair to the church clock - £210
- Moore - External accountant fees - £252
- J Hodgkinson – materials for village planters - £37.49
- J Deeming – repainting of red phone box - £300

#### **b: Payments received:**

- Groundwork UK - NDP Grant - £7230
- WCC Councillors Grant Fund – Austrey Community Orchard - £500

**9: Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** Replacement bark for the play area.

**10: Next meeting scheduled for** Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2024.

Meeting closed at 8.28pm

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

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell September 2024