



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 12th November 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). No 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 8th October 2025 were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.
4. **Open Forum:** nothing arising
5. **Clerk's Update:** Unfortunately, due to an error at the printers, the autumn edition of the newsletter wasn't printed in a timely manner and so the information contained become out-of-date. It is available to view on the website however, and it is hoped that a new edition will be ready in December.
6. **Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**
 - i. **AusFest 2026:** A flyer will be distributed soon with some more info and asking for some ideas for this village event. A new page has been added to the website for this event; watch out for new content coming soon.
 - ii. **Christmas 2025:** Amington Band & Atherstone Sleigh have been booked for the event, to be held on 5th December. LT has lodged a road closure application, and the trees are being chosen next week. Letters to residents to go out this week advising of the road closure. Appeal to be made on social media for mince pie donations.
 - iii. **Church clock:** The repaired clock mechanics are due to be put back in place on 1st December, with the carpenter fitting a cabinet shortly afterward to house the mechanics and help preserve them. The chair also discussed erecting a plaque outside the church with a re-dedication of the war memorial.
 - iv. **Email & domain name discussions:** This was previously discussed 6 months ago and was to be revisited at this time. As APC has just paid the annual fee for our website, the council opted to look at it again in May. LT has diarised this.
 - v. **Neighbourhood Plan:** It is hoped that the independent examiner's report will be completed soon, and that the plan won't have to go to referendum.
 - vi. **Village Maintenance & Playing Fields:** The Youth Club has emailed asking if they can re-paint the bus shelter for their Duke of Edinburgh Award. The council has agreed to this and will buy the paint for them.
 - *There is a large tree opposite the pub which is dead, and the council and residents are concerned about it falling down and causing injury. However, neither borough or county are taking ownership of the land and the removal. NH is pursuing the matter.
 - *Some of the hedges usually trimmed by the council need cutting (Cornfields and Appleby Hill). TF to provide a reminder that these need attending to.
 - *A couple of young residents are working towards their Duke of Edinburgh Awards, so will be helping out around the village with cleaning road signs, delivering leaflets and so on.

7. a: No new planning applications since the last meeting.
b: No applications determined since the last meeting.

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

*APC has also been chasing planning about a potential change of use of some land on Appleby Hill. They have said that they will be doing a site visit in the next few weeks.

8. Financial & insurance matters:

a: payments made since the last meeting:

- Clerk's salary – November 2025
- HMRC PAYE – November 2025
- Lloyds Bank - service charges - £4.25
- WALC – planning training EH - £42
- L Treadwell – expenses: £103.49 - Christmas sweets; £367.20 - Wix subscription
- DG Business Machines Ltd – newsletter printing - £157

b: Payments received since the last meeting:

- £1160.58 – HMRC - VAT claim refund
- £50 – HMAA - grounds rent

9. **Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** EH has recently attended a briefing on Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) and devolution and has emailed an outline of the plans for Warwickshire to councillors. This is to be added as an agenda item at the next meeting.

10. **Next meeting scheduled for** Wednesday 10th December 2025 and the clerk left the meeting.

11. **Clerk's Annual Performance Review:** SG briefly summarised the clerk's key areas of responsibility. It was unanimously agreed that the clerk either met or exceeded expectations in all of these key areas. The council expressed its thanks to the clerk for all of her hard work and the attention to detail that has been demonstrated to the Parish Council once again this year.

Meeting closed at 8.23pm

Signed _____ Date _____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell November 2025