



# **AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL**

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on  
Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2022 at 7.30pm

**1 – Present:** Tony Treadwell (TT), Tristan Fraser, vice-chair (TF), Sam Goldney (SG), Helen Simpson (HS), Jacqui Morton (JM) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Heather Hadley (HH) and Heather Swan (HSw). 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 12<sup>th</sup> October 2022, were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.

**4 – Clerk’s Update:**

**4.1:** The battery for the defib in phone box was signalling a low battery life, so a new one has been purchased, and installed by the chair this week. They have a shelf life of 2-4 years.

**4.2:** NALC have advised clerks & other staff of a national pay award for 2022-23 to be implemented from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022. This will be calculated from November’s pay, with the back-pay from April awarded at the next meeting.

**5 – Open Forum:** Nothing arising

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

**6.1: Christmas 2022:** A budget of £550 for Christmas trees was proposed by TT. This was seconded by TF and passed unanimously by the council. 1 large and 4 small trees will be ordered to place around the village. Delivery is due on 26<sup>th</sup> November. A small gift has been prepared for the children attending, and Atherstone Sleigh will be in attendance. The event will be advertised on posters around the village this year as not everyone uses social media. \*A Christmas Scarecrow event is being organised by the WI this year. More details are available on Facebook.

**6.2: Neighbourhood Plan:** The next stage of funding and consultation is currently being prepared, and this will take us up `til the end of March. HS has completed a grant application to cover the professional fees involved, and it was agreed that this would be submitted asap. A steering committee needs to be formed, so the clerk will compose requests for volunteers to be displayed via the usual channels.

**6.3: Playing Fields:** 2 new litter bins are due to be delivered this week to help ease littering at the playing fields. Also, the new welcome sign has been put in place.

**6.4: Village Maintenance:** TT has reported some issue to WCC: blocked culverts around the village, an overgrown hedge on Newton Lane and raised ironworks on Norton Lane. They are all being looked in to. Some planting is to be done on Appleby Hill where the recent reinforcements and groundworks have taken place. APC has been approached about opinions on the type of plants to be used.

**6.5: Welcome Packs:** These were introduced not long before COVID hit, so weren't really put to good use. The aim was to provide families new to the village with information on village events, amenities, clubs, societies etc. Now, a lot of the information is out of date or obsolete. The clerk is to review the information & contact the village clubs for updated information, with a view to introducing the packs again as soon as is feasible.

**7 – Planning:** no new applications reported to APC since the last meeting. However, TF came across PAP/2022/0562 whilst reviewing recent applications. PAP/2022/0562 is an application to remove hedgerows at Land 400 Metres South East of Lodge Farm, Warton Lane Austrey. APC plan to object to this and HH will send in a response asap. Clerk asked to share it on Austrey Updates/Facebook.

**8 - Correspondence:** as per the Appendix.

**9 – Financial & insurance matters:** 5 payments as per the Appendix.

**10 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda:** TF has asked for the matter of the bus shelter on Warton Lane to be put on the next agenda. \*SG gave her apologies for December's meeting.

**11 – Next meeting scheduled for** Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

**12 – Clerk's annual performance review:** Members are happy with the clerk's performance, stating that she has the best interest of the village at heart and ensures that APC operate with the required parameters.

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

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell November 2022