



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on

Wednesday 8th October 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 10th September 2025 were approved by the council as a true record as signed by the chair.
4. **Open Forum:** nothing arising
5. **Clerk's Update:** Two of the defibs in the village need replacement batteries, so these have been ordered today. *The clerk responded to the latest beat report, asking if it could be more detailed than listing the number of incidents in the village, as it was when PC Redman provided our beat report. We were told that "unfortunately, we just do not have the time or resources to do this every month due to the workload". RN to follow this up with the police commissioner.
6. **Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:**
 - i. **AusFest 2026:** A new page has been added to the website for this event; watch out for new content coming soon. A flyer will be distributed soon with some more info and asking for some idea for this village event.
 - 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. The school has been approached about the children joining in to sing carols. It is intended that a small treat will be given out to children attending. LT to put the event on Facebook.
 - iii. **Church clock:** The repair work has begun on the clock and should take 4-6 weeks to complete, and the clock hands have been removed and stored to keep them safe during the process. Resuming an annual maintenance programme was discussed to preserve the works and keep the clock in good working order.
 - iv. **Funding:** APC are currently looking at funding options that we might be eligible for and discussed the current wish list for the village. These are: a replacement bus shelter for Warton Lane, drainage works to the playing fields and replacing the play area at the playing fields.
 - v. **Neighbourhood Plan:** The plan went to board this week, and we await the results of that. The next stage in the process is a Reg 16 Consultation. We've also received a complement on the quality of our NDP and the processes.
 - vi. **Village Maintenance & Playing Fields:** The bark has been delivered and spread on the play area. We've received a full report on the play area and the zip line needs replacing. TF to organise. *Comments have been received about the weeds outside the village shop. HS to follow up.
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 planning at NWBC as the council is concerned that the works do not match the application that was granted.

*APC discussed the proposed 110 home development in Warton. Although an application has not yet been lodged, members unanimously decided to write to local borough councillors and members of Polesworth & Warton PC and state our objections to this proposal, on the basis of increased traffic and pressure on local school and services.

8. Financial & insurance matters:

a: 6 payments made since the last meeting:

- Clerk's salary – October 2025
- HMRC PAYE – October 2025
- Lloyds Bank - service charges - £4.25
- Austrey Village Hall – room hire x 2 - £50
- Defib Warehouse -- 2 x defib batteries (crossroads & village hall) - £392.40
- CPA Horticulture Ltd - Bark for the playing field - £2169.00

b: Payments received since the last meeting:

- £9625 - NWBC – precept (second half)

9. Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: nothing arising

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 12th November 2025.

Meeting closed at 8.21pm

Signed _____ Date_____

Produced by Lynsey Treadwell October 2025