



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 10th July 2019 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT) chair, Debbie Jenkins (DJ) vice chair, Mick Beeson (MB), Sam Goldney (SG), Tristan Fraser (TF), Anne Wilde (AW) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT) plus 7 members of the public.

2 – Declarations of interest: nothing declared.

3 – Minutes: the minutes of last parish council meeting which took place on 8th May 2019 were approved as a true record & signed by the chair.

4 – HS2 update with HS2 engagement advisers: 11 changes were announced on 6th June, the most significant to us being a route realignment at M42 Junction 10, and a permanent maintenance facility at Austrey. Austrey was chosen out of a possible 4 sites. The PC asked why Austrey was chosen from these 4 sites & apparently each was scored based on certain factors (environmental, flooding, economic, heritage etc). One member of the public asked why Toton was disregarded as the chosen location. HS2 reps said that this was never officially or publicly in the running. The PC then asked why the temporary site at Middleton couldn't be used as a permanent location for the maintenance facility. HS2 has committed to responding to this question in full by 9th August, giving residents a chance to tailor consultation responses accordingly. Consultation closes on 6th September and all documents are available to view online.

5 – Nominations & voting on co-opting a new member of the council: Heather Hadley approached the council with a view to joining, having previously expressed an interest. SG nominated Heather, DJ seconded, and all current members voted in favour of her joining. The chair welcomed Heather to the parish council.

6 – Open Forum: This year's bonfire will be held on Saturday 2nd November – further details nearer the time

*A VE Day anniversary street party to be held on Friday 8th May 2020 is in the early stages of the planning process. It's hoped that celebrations will include a band and singers, and the organisation committee asked the PC for a donation towards the cost. The PC is happy to consider this but

would need a request in writing specifying an amount.

7 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

- **HS2 meeting & questionnaires:** The PC has had approx.120 responses to the questionnaire which was recently distributed. The clerk is to put a reminder on Facebook as the closing date for responses is 16th July. Extra copies are available from the shop or by email request. The PC is to leaflet residents again about 3 planned drop-in sessions where help in completing the consultation forms will be available. The dates are expected to be 17th August, 22nd August & 3rd September.
- **Morris Homes correspondence:** The PC has arranged to meet with Morris Homes later this month to give their input on plans within the village as part of their development which is due to begin soon. DJ to report back at the next meeting.

- **Playing Fields:** The PC are seeking quotations for replacement bark at the playing fields play area. Additionally, replacement parts have been ordered for some equipment following the recent play area inspection report. TF to oversee.
- **Village Hall donation request:** No one from the committee was in attendance to provide details, so this item was disregarded.
- **Village Maintenance:** WCC has done a site visit to Church Lane and is happy with the gravel now forming the uppermost layer of the footpath. This is despite numerous complaints from residents & the PC, and the difficulty experienced by those with pushchairs or disabilities in using the footpath.
 - *The bus shelter has been repainted and the phone box is under way. Both are looking much better as a result. Thanks to those involved.
 - *The 'green space' between Orchard Close & Newborough Close is currently looking very overgrown and unkempt. NWBC are to be contacted. The PC can't understand why there was a village consultation on designing a nice green space, which was then planted up, only for it to be unmaintained. On a positive note, the dog waste bin which was recently placed in this area is being well utilised.

8 – Planning: 3 planning applications as per the appendix

9 - Correspondence: as per the appendix

10 – Financial & insurance matters: 10 payments as per the appendix

11 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: MB would like some discussion about where best to place the recently acquired 'No littering' signs in and around the village. Additionally, he is co-ordinating a free site visit from a company who provide ANPR cameras & will update the PC afterwards.

12 – Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 11th September 2019.

Meeting closed at 9.05pm

Signed _____ Date_____