



AUSTREY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at Austrey Village Hall on
Wednesday 8th December 2021 at 7.30pm

1 – Present: Tony Treadwell (TT) chair, Tristan Fraser (TF), Sam Goldney (SG), Helen Simpson (HS), Heather Swan (HSw), Jacqui Morton (JM) and parish clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT). Apologies received from Heather Hadley (HH). 4 members of the public were in attendance.

2 – Declarations of interest: HS declared an interest in a planning application listed in the appendix, namely The Limes, Main Road. The councillor lives next door to the property.

3 - Minutes: the minutes of the last parish council meeting which took place on 10th November 2021, were approved as a true record as signed by the chair.

4 – Open Forum: Concerns were raised about a private residence in the village using their property for a commercial operation. APC were advised that NWBC are aware and are investigating the matter.

5 - Discussions & updates on recent or regular items:

- **5.1 – Christmas 2021:** The Chair reported a great turnout & a lovely, festive, community event. He also thanked everyone involved in the organisation. There were some selection boxes left over, so it was decided that a village raffle would be held with Christmas chocolate hampers as prizes. Clerk to organise. Proceeds to be donated to a charity in memory of late resident Colin Masters.
- **5.2 - Neighbourhood Plan:** A date in January has been booked for members to meet with a consultant to discuss securing a funding bid to help with the costs involved in updating the plan.
- **5.3 - Playing Fields:** nothing to report
- **5.4 - Precept Discussions:** Discussions on the precept requirement for 2022/23 ahead of the official request in January led to council members opting for a 5% increase on last years precept (a total of £778.80). The amount paid to APC from council tax has fallen over the last 4 years meaning that this small increase is the first in 5 years. Final decision and vote to take place at January's meeting.
*As it is not viable to increase the precept enough to fund a new bus shelter, HS is going to place a bid for grant monies to fund it.
- **5.5 - Village Maintenance:** It was reported that the footpath alongside Cornfields was officially adopted by NWBC on 1st December. *The overgrown bushes on Newton Lane have now been cut back, improving conditions on the narrow lane considerably. *Ownership of the blocked ditch on Warton Lane has still not been resolved and it remains full/a flood risk for residents in the vicinity. The question was raised as to whether APC should clear it out in the meantime. To be added to January's agenda.

6 – Planning: 3 applications as per the appendix. The PC plan on objecting to the application from The Limes on Main Road.

7 - Correspondence: as per the appendix.

8 – Financial & insurance matters: 9 payments as per the appendix.

9 – Councillors matters & items for the next agenda: SG & HSW would like a place on the Rights of Way Training provided by WALC early next year. *The clerk has contacted numerous organisations to book some defib training sessions for early 2022, but the costs are very high & in some cases, she has not received a response. HSw is to try and book sessions using a contact she has. *Discussions began on a Platinum Jubilee street party in the village, and a tentative date of Thursday 2nd June has been pencilled in.

10 – Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 12th January 2021.

Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed _____ Date _____