

**MINUTES** of Astley Village Parish Council meeting held Wednesday, 2 November 2016 at Astley Village Community Centre, Hallgate, Astley Village.

Present Cllrs A Bridge, R Fraser, D Hope, C Lennox, L Lennox (Chairman),  
M Lynch, J McAndrew, K Robinson. Cllr Nuttall joined at item 3.  
Clerk Mrs D Platt.

271.01 Apologies for Absence – Cllr I Handley

271.02 Declarations of Interest – none.

271.03 Public Participation

RESOLVED: Council agreed to suspend standing orders.

A resident submitted a letter of application for the casual vacancy.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to restore standing orders.

RESOLVED: Proposed Cllr Fraser, seconded Cllr Lynch to consider this application at this meeting despite it not arriving to go on the agenda.

RESOLVED: Mr John Nuttall was co-opted to the casual Councillor vacancy.

271.04 Minutes of Meeting

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Council meeting of 7 September 2016 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair with a minor alteration.

Cllr Fraser left

271.05 Clerks Report

Members received the report.

Council discussed the consultation meeting for Dutch Barn Close.

If a planning application arrives the Council is worried about:

- Concerns for the current Edgefield residents, as they bought their properties in a cul-de-sac.
- Safety and parking issues will reduce the width of the road, and so block traffic.
- Opening up this cul-de-sac will increase traffic through the village and the work traffic to the nursery will increase through the village.
- How will the gate/key code work in practice, be maintained? What is the alternative plan when it stops working? What about emergency vehicle accesses? How do visitors and delivery services access the houses?
- It goes against the original 'village design plan' and the plans to which the properties in Dutch Barn Close originally gained planning permission
- Alternatives enquired about, eg, Rookwood Avenue or Euxton Lane – were not responded to or explored.
- No evidence was available of Dutch Barn Close residents wanting this proposal, quite the contrary, a Dutch Barn Close resident spoke against it.
- No evidence was produced that this system may work, or has worked anywhere else.

271.06 Statutory Business

16/00874/FULHH 67 Deerfold – no objections.

16/00892/FULHH 40 Long Copse – no objections.

271.07 Financial Matters

i) Consider applications for payment made to the Council

RESOLVED: The following requests for payment/standing orders were approved.

£	24.00	Easy Websites	Monthly rental October
£	24.00	Easy Websites	Monthly rental November
£	206.40	CA Traffic	Repair of SPID
£	626.40	Furnitubes	New seat
£	323.50	Employee 1	Salary November 2016
£	79.63	Employee 2	Salary November 2016
£	606.67	Employee 3	Salary November 2016
£	80.80	HMRC	Tax & NI Nov 2016
£	323.50	Employee 1	Salary December 2016
£	79.63	Employee 2	Salary December 2016
£	606.67	Employee 3	Salary December 2016
£	80.80	HMRC	Tax & NI Dec 2016
£	24.76	Chorley Council	Room Hire
£	8.50	Chorley Council	Room Hire
£	120.00	BDO	External Audit

ii) Approve financial monitoring statements.

RESOLVED: Council approved the monitoring figures.

iii) Banking arrangements update

Clerk informed that there would be a trial of the Chorley invoices and employee salaries this month, then if all goes well, it should all be electronic at the next meeting.

RESOLVED: Once the trial has been successful, write to Unity to close the account and transfer all the monies back to the Barclays account, less the banking charges of between £12-18.

Grant application from the Scouts was considered. Members observed the accounts had not been sent with the application form.

RESOLVED: A grant for the group was approved for £250, subject to receipt of the accounts, before the grant is sent to the Scouts. Also, it was agreed to ask the Scouts to price for the delivery of the newsletter to the Scouts. This would be included in the response letter. It was further agreed to invite Scout groups to the carol singing event and ask if they wish to run a raffle.

271.08 Volunteer litter pick events

The volunteer litter pick date events had been circulated to Councillors, will be in the newsletter and are on the noticeboards.

The first litter pick in October was successful, when the Scouts joined in. 13 bags of rubbish were collected.

It was agreed to order 20 litter picking rings.

271.09 Christmas Event Planning updates

Council had chosen Thursday 15 December, 7pm with Wednesday 14 December as the alternative, if possible. KR will ask the Lay-Reader to attend. WI will be confirmed when the date is changed.

271.10 Proposals for village centre planting, from walkabout

Discussed the planters being re-sited so they are in more prominent places. The metal bench was discussed to be replaced.

RESOLVED: Council decided to re-site two planters across the road, on the paved area in front of the school, two to re-site nearer to the centre, one next to the noticeboard and one next to the bench.

271.11 Environment Reports

The underpass banking has had a cursory trim but the broken branch is still there and the tidy up is nowhere finished – chase Chorley.

Grass cut adjacent to the Community Centre but only once and the fence has not been dug out, as discussed and planned.

Footpaths from Foxcote to Chancery Road were discussed because of overgrown brambles and the hedges not being cut back.

Judeland pathway will be cut back by Chorley.

Parking on Long Croft Meadow from Derian House and blocking of Chancery Road – still causing problems and blockages and bus delays.

Pathway from The Farthings on to Southport Road to the bus stop, branches high and need to be cut back.

Path from Browns Hey to Clough Acre overgrown with branches, muddy puddles – report to Places for People.

271.12 Reports from Councillors who represent the Parish Council on Other Bodies

Three Tier Forum – no one attended.

Astley Park Advisory Committee – meeting next week.

Neighbourhood Working – no meeting.

Friends of Astley Park KR reported that they were to receive new trees to plant, wildflower seeds to plant, 30+ bat boxes have been put up. Meeting next week. Acorns project still ongoing, reed bed showing improvement and may be much better by Spring. The fountain project grant has been applied for but initial digging is required to locate items. Wildflower seeds were gathered at the weekend to re-seed next year.

271.13 Matters for information

The Chairman declared the public part of the meeting closed.

**2017 meeting dates: 7pm Wednesdays:**

**4 January, 1 March, 3 May, 5 July, 6 September, 1 November.**

8.50