

AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of Ailsworth Parish Council held on Monday 19th May 2025 at 7.40pm
at the Cedar Centre

DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING

1. ATTENDANCE

- a. **Present:** Anne Perkins (Chairman), Joan Pickett (Vice Chairman), Martin Stalley, Richard Moon, Megan Ellershaw, Anne Raven, Michelle Dickens – Clerk and one member of the public.
- b. **Apologies:** Sean Langston-Jones.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS

- a. To receive Declarations of Interest from Councillors on items in the agenda: *None*.
- b. To receive written requests for Dispensations for Disclosable Pecuniary Interests: *None*.
- c. To grant any requests for Dispensation as appropriate: *None*.

3. OPEN FORUM

- a. John Hodder attended.

(1) John informed Councillors that he has been approached by PCC to comment on the Draft Local Plan on behalf of the Castor & Ailsworth Neighbourhood Plan Review Forum.

Clerk will let John know if APC hear anything further from PCC and vice versa.

4. PREVIOUS MINUTES

- a. To confirm Meeting Minutes of 24th April 2024 held at the Cedar Centre; *Confirmed and signed by the Chairman.*

5. PLANNING

- a. **New or revised applications and current APC action:** One tree new application –
 - (1) 25/00580/CTR – 12 Maffit Road, Ailsworth – Silver Birch – fell. *APC has no objection.*
 - (2) 24/01440/FUL – land to the South of Old Peterborough Road, Sutton – change of use of land to cemetery – *PCC confirmed receipt of APC comments.*
- b. **Planning decisions since the April meeting of APC.**
 - (1) 15 Main Street, Ailsworth – tree application permitted.
- c. **Draft Local Plan.** *APC will be submitting their response which has been written by Cllr. Moon and approved by Councillors. Cllr. Moon will be submitting the response by the 29th May which is the closing date for comments.*
- d. **Additional queries.** *None.*

- e. **Neighbourhood Plan.** *Email received from Maria who deals with the Neighbourhood Plan at PCC confirming the following –*

I am emailing to let you know about the current updates of the modification of the Ailsworth Neighbourhood Plan. I am progressing with the democratic side of things, and we will hopefully be able to get the new and reviewed version of the ANP on the PCC website once we have the relevant officer approval. This should hopefully not take longer than a couple of weeks.

6. **COMMUNITY MATTERS**

- a. Village Litter pick. *Cllr. Raven informed APC that she has spoken to Harry Machin who is happy to provide all of the equipment for the next litter pick and is happy to assist. Saturday 18th October has been suggested. More details to follow closer to the date and the date will be proposed at the next JPLG on 12th June.*
- b. VE Day celebrations. *The celebrations were a success and enjoyed by the Parish.*
- c. CIL spending ideas list. *Cllr. Stalley and Cllr. Raven have actively investigated a few ideas. The main ideas at the moment are the following –*

(1) *Recreation ground gate. The current gate is insecure with little security. Cllr. Stalley is looking into a new gate, posts and lock. APC agreed a wooden gate would be best rather than metal. The installation of a bollard was also mentioned as an additional security measure. Costings were discussed. £1,500 approx for everything including fitting was agreed.*

Action: Cllr. Stalley is going to get a few quotes and proceed.

(2) *New wooden bench/wheelchair accessible picnic table. APC discussed the location of a new bench and agreed it would be best positioned near the play area. There is access through the small gate there and a ramp and disabled access is in place already. Cllr. Stalley and Cllr. Raven have found a suitable bench which was approved.*

Clerk to speak to Highways at PCC regarding the dropped kerb for access into the rec via the gate mentioned in Minute 6c(2) and whether they could install the bollard as it's a public right of way.

Cllr. Pickett is also going to speak to Jayne Jarvis at PCC to explain our idea and ensure the bench is going to be positioned in the correct place before proceeding.

- d. New Close land contract.

Action: Cllr. Ellershaw to make required changes to the contract. Buckles confirmed that once the contract is amended APC are free to sign and use it. PECT will need to register the lease with HM Land Registry to give it legal effect. Cllr. Ellershaw to send final version to PECT who will arrange the necessary signatures.

- e. Improved/new signage for all parish land. *Cllr. Perkins and Cllr. Stalley looking into, CIL money could cover this.*

- f. Bus shelter. *Moving towards not having a list containing the names of servicemen and women who died from war related causes and having a plaque stating what the*

building is. The plaque will match the other signs in the village and will be outside of the building.

Action: Cllr. Perkins to come up with some wording for the plaque.

g. Books in the bus shelter. *Cllr. Raven has offered to tidy the books this month.*

h. Wooden village sign refurbishment. *It hasn't been done yet.*

Action: Clerk to chase up.

i. The field behind Maffit Road. *Farmer confirmed that the public footpath going across the field will be reinstated once the crop grows.*

j. Path over the other side of A47 (crosses over) is very overgrown.

Action: Clerk to email Lee Moore to ask if he could check the footpaths.

k. Strip of land opposite 44 Main Street. *Resident has kindly sown some seeds along this stretch of land near the donkey paddock. Clerk asked PCC previously not to mow this section. Cllr. Stalley confirmed that City Fibre has re-instated the grass verges all the way along Main Street which appears to be growing slightly.*

l. Surface at Norman Gate – City Fibre hasn't re-instated surface properly.

Action: Clerk to speak to PCC in the first instance.

m. Request for flowers/soil for Planters. *Cllr. Stalley asked for approval to buy some more plants and compost. APC agreed.*

7. HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY

a. Double yellow lines on the corner of Maffit Road-parking issue.

Action: Clerk to contact community police officer.

b. *ElanCity Speed Signs. The sign in Helpston Road is out of warranty further to an email received from ElanCity.*

Action: Clerk to enquire and ask how much the sign would cost to replace and how much the warranty is.

8. FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE

a. Bank statements for Unity Trust Current Account & Deposit Account, invoices & receipts present at meeting.

b. New Rialtas Accounting System. *Clerk explained the cost of the new system (software £420 approx and support & licence £114 approx) and how it will make the accounting much more streamlined. APC are in agreement of the new system.*

Action: Clerk to contact Rialtas.

c. Sabbatical request from Cllr. Langston-Jones. *Grant of leave agreed by APC with a return date of around the end of October 2025. Clerk emailed Cllr. Langston-Jones after our last meeting, awaiting reply.*

Action: Cllr. Ellershaw is going to speak to him/wife.

- d. Year-end/AGAR. *Page 6 of the forms was discussed, approved and signed.*
- e. Bus service celebration for one year back in service. *APC initially agreed on a grant of £40 which has been increased to £46. This will be paid out of the grant/donations 2025/26 budget.*

Action: Clerk awaiting grant request form from Sue McGill.

- f. Local Government Pension Scheme.

Action: Clerk to take more information to the next meeting for discussion.

- g. Good Neighbours Scheme.

Action: Clerk to arrangement payment of fee due for 2025/26.

9. **BURIAL GROUNDS**

- a. Cemetery. *See planning application above, Minute 5a(2).*
- b. Provision for extra burial ground. *To be discussed at the JPLG meeting on 12th June.*

10. **ANY ADDITIONAL COUNCILLOR POINTS**

- a. Clerk overtime. *Overtime has been agreed when required.*

11. **COMMITTEE REPORTS/WORKING GROUPS**

- a. JPLG. *Next meeting is on 12th June. APC is happy with the following agenda -*
 - (1) Provision of extra burial ground.
 - (2) Request for CCTV for crime prevention.
 - (3) Litter pick. *Proposed date of 18th October to be agreed by both Parish Councils.*
- b. PLMG. *Registration of common land and 16-acre field. Cllr. Ellershaw is exploring various options regarding the 16-acre field. Nene Park has been contacted, awaiting reply.*
- c. Nature Recovery. *Cllr. Stalley has been keeping up with the watering. A big thank you to Cllr. Stalley for his continued efforts.*
- d. Peterborough Partnerships Integrated Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting. *Cllr. Raven attended the recent meeting and is going to produce a short article to go in the next Parish News.*

12. **NEXT MEETING**

- a. APC confirmed that the next meeting would be held on 16th June at 7.30pm.

- 13. Meeting concluded at 9.45pm.

Michelle Dickens

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Clerk to Ailsworth Parish Council

3rd June 2025

Signed as a true record: Chair: Dated: