

MINUTES OF THE AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 15th APRIL 2024 AT 7.30PM

at the Village Hall, Castor

Present were Councillors: Dr M Ellershaw, Mr S Langston Jones, Mr R Moon, Mrs A Perkins (Chairman), Mrs J Pickett (Vice Chairman) Clerk Miss J Rice

Members of the public present: Mr Neil Boyce (Chairman, Castor Parish Council), Mr John Hodder (Neighbourhood Plan and Joint Parish Liaison Group) and 5 residents.

24/01	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk. Apologies were received from Cllr Stalley.
24/02	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda. Reminder to members to update their register if necessary. (Members should disclose any personal, prejudicial or pecuniary interests in the business to be discussed and are reminded that the disclosure of a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest will require that the member withdraws from the meeting room during the transaction of that item of business). There were no declarations of interest made.
24/03	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION Arrangements will be made for the public to join the meeting and a maximum of 15 minutes will be permitted for members of the public to address the meeting on any item on the agenda. A resident and Castor Parish Councillor, explained his position on the Climate Emergency policy statement made by both Parish Councils, in line with Peterborough City Council Climate Action Dept. He stated his disagreement with the statements and the money wasted in his view on net zero targets. His proposal is to revoke the declaration made by Parish Councils. It was agreed to add this to the June PC agenda just before the next Joint Parish Council Liaison Group meeting and circulate any information he has in the meantime. A resident had raised their disappointment and sadness with the council decision to lease the "horse field" called New Close to an external organisation for a tree nursery when there is limited space and farmland available for residents and for horses. A Councillor from the Parish Land Management Group gave a summary of how the process and decision had been made, being minuted from December 2023 onwards. The PECT rep. gave more information on non-chemical use and the situation with ragwort going forward. The resident had raised concern over the spread of ragwort to nearby horse fields.
24/04	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated) and matters arising. To confirm as correct the record of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 18th March 2024, Chairman to sign, previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed.
24/05	FINANCE, GOVERNANCE AND TRAINING
5.1	To receive and note finance situation to end of the year and answer any queries. The Clerk had circulated the end of year finance report with basic expenditure at 8% under budget and projects 13% under budget excluding the grant/play equipment. The bank balance is £27886, includes £19578 CIL monies and 9k earmarked reserves. There is a vat reclaim of 8.5k to come. This leaves 8.3k general reserves which is good practice.
5.2	To receive and agree Annual Governance and Accountability Return accounting statement, to follow, and agree auditor appointment. To note selected as part of 5% sample review also. The section 2 form was received and noted against the finance report and the auditor appointment agreed. The Clerk explained the council is part of a selection for further review by external audit. Action Clerk
5.3	To receive any applications for co-option to Parish Councillor position and resolve appointment/further recruitment action plan. The Clerk confirmed that there had been no applications received to date, however there had been interest shown but not confirmed. Councillors will approach other residents to try to recruit. Action All
5.4	To note training opportunities circulated and agree any new bookings. The training courses were noted but no bookings felt needed at this time.
5.5	To receive, note and agree updated asset register, herewith. This was received, noted and agreed.
24/06	NEW WEBSITE/EMAILS
6.1	To receive information on new website and emails and resolve action.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

		It was agreed that the Clerk will start to get information on other providers, with cloud storage for all files, and liaise with Cllrs. Action Cllr Moon and Cllr Langston Jones/Clerk
24/07	PLANNING; TO NOTE LATEST APPLICATIONS AND RESOLVE RESPONSES TO NEW ONES	
	7.1	To receive applications between issuing agenda and date of meeting and decide if can agree response. There were none.
	7.2	23/01464/FUL Change of use of field to dog walking area, including parking area and fencing. Deadline extended due to new parking plans being submitted. Response submitted, awaiting decision. No further plans submitted.
	7.3	24/00470/PRIOR the proposed installation of a shareable telecoms base station comprising 25m tower plus other equipment, at land at Peterborough Road, Sutton. Deadline 30/4/24. It was agreed to support this application as a necessary facility and suitable location. Action Clerk
	7.4	23/00299/CTR Alder trees raise crown 4-5m and reduce back from building by 2m. Response sent, awaiting decision. Noted.
	7.5	23/00240/LBC and 204/HHFUL Various external and internal works to 44 Main St, re-consultation on LBC to note. It was agreed that there were no new comments to add.
	7.6	24/00254/FUL erection of new shop with flat above, amended version of previously agreed 17/02123/FUL, deadline extended to 16/4/24. It was decided to support the application, after taking on board residents' views and impact of plans as they stand. Action Clerk
	7.7	24/00444/WCPP Variation of condition C1 (extend expiry date) of planning permission 22/01425. Deadline 26/4/24. This was noted as necessary and integral to the prolonged rebuild of the shop.
24/8	ALLOTMENTS, PARISH LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP PLMG (Cllr Ellershaw, Cllr Moon, Cllr Pickett and Cllr Stalley) and NATURE RECOVERY GROUP	
	8.1	To note update on lease of parish land to PECT for tree and wildflower nursery and agree action and update from PLMG and agree actions. It was confirmed that the lease used by Castor Parish Council will be shared as a starting point for Ailsworth Parish Council's and a future agenda item.
	8.2	To receive and note update from Nature Recovery Group and agree any new expenditure. The update from Cllr Stalley, previously circulated, was received and noted.
	8.3	To consider regular allotment checks (with defib rota?) and resolve action. It was agreed that Cllr Moon will continue with regular monthly allotment checks. Action Cllrs Moon
24/9	PARISH COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN AND CIL MONIES	
	9.1	To agree the revised 24/25 action plan and discuss investigating opportunities for CIL monies projects. The revised Action Plan was circulated, noted and agreed. A discussion took place about the village event on 6/7/24 and a simple APC stand will be there for residents to approach Councillors for general feedback and ideas. It was further agreed that future consultations will be based on general views and objectives for Councillors to decide how best to achieve them. It will be advertised in the next Newsletter. Action Clerk
24/10	PLAY AREA/RECREATION GROUND	
	10.1	To receive and note tree work quotes and decide contractor. The Clerk gave 2 quotes received and the Council decided on the best value contractor. Action Clerk
24/11	VILLAGE GROUPS / UPDATES	
	11.1	To note village group donations requests and decide response; a) Pre-School, form previously circulated. b) Bus service group, previously circulated. c) Scouts Group, previously circulated. It was decided to donate grants of £75 for promotional literature for the bus service group, £250 part 1 to the Pre-school for basic resources and £150 to the Scouts Group for new equipment, as it is early in the financial year and more requests could be forthcoming. Action Clerk
24/12	PARISH LIAISON/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/JOINT MEETINGS	
	12.1	To note feedback from police surgery and resolve any action. Feedback was received from Cllr Perkins who attended the meeting, around parking, flytipping, graffiti and speeding. It was decided to ask about a buffer zone for staggering driving more gradually from 60mph to 20mph and ask PCC to look at wildlife cameras for regular hotspots of graffiti or possibly flytipping. Action Clerk
	12.2	To receive and note feedback from Castor Parish Council meeting, Cllr Pickett, and resolve any actions.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

		Cllr Pickett added no further comments to that already mentioned. It was agreed to suggest a zoom meeting with Cllr Young prior to the main meeting. Action Clerk	
24/13	PARISH MAINTENANCE ISSUES		
	13.1	To check defib rota in progress. Checker for April, Cllr Langston Jones and May is Cllr Moon. The next defib checker is Cllr Langston Jones and the check forms will be re-sent.	
	13.2	To note feedback re site meeting with PCC re. flooding in Holme Close/horse field. This is due to happen soon.	
	13.3	To note any new maintenance issues and resolve appropriate action. Cllr Langston Jones is installing the bench and up to a maximum of £250 was agreed for a base. Action Cllr Langston Jones	
24/14	CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: To receive and note correspondence and decide any actions. a) To note communication re New Close from resident. This was noted. b) To note invitation to Army event on 22/5/24. This was noted.		
24/15	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT; To note and agree payments/ transfer to be made and already made as follows; TO BE PAID AND FUTURE The following payments were agreed:		
	15.1	Clerk pay 26 hours pm £395.46 plus £26 home office less tax/NI £79	£342.46
	15.2	Clerk; Reimburse ink shared pm J Rice paid in March	£4.22
	15.3	Clerk; mileage Mar/Apr	£9.90
	15.4	HMRC employer/ee payment for April	£79
	15.5	CAPALC affiliation fees	£319.67
	15.6	Tree works as approved above	£120
	15.7	Donations to groups as above	£75, £150, £250
	15.8	Nurture (was CGM) invoice no 346802, 25/3/24 visit	£206.18
	15.9	PCC for burial fees	£2530.67
	15.10	Receipts. Rent from A Harrison Smith	£567
24/16	DATE OF NEXT MEETING It was noted that the next meeting is the Annual Parish Council meeting on Thursday 23rd May 2024 at 7.30pm to be held in the Cedar Centre, Castor.		

See notice board/website (www.ailsworthparishcouncil.org.uk) for dates of meetings. Any associated papers/information are available by request from the Clerk at clerk@ailsworth-pc.gov.uk

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____