

MINUTES OF THE AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 20TH JANUARY 2025 AT 7.30PM

in the Cedar Centre, Castor

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

Members of the public present: 1. Mr J Hodder for Neighbourhood Plan/JCAP

24/121	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk. There were no apologies for absence.	
24/122	DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST	
	<p>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).</p> <p>Chairman to remind Councillors about one of the seven Nolan principles of public life, to be present in all that they do – selflessness, objectivity, leadership, integrity, accountability, openness and honesty.</p> <p>There were no declarations of interest made.</p>	
24/123	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	<p>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, limited to 3 mins per person.</p> <p>There were no members of the public wanting to speak. It was agreed to discuss item 128.1 at this point.</p>	
24/124	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated) and matters arising	
	124.1	To confirm as correct the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 16th December 2024, Chairman to sign, previously circulated. The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.
24/125	PARISH MAINTENANCE ISSUES	
	125.1	<p>To note maintenance issues and resolve appropriate action/expenditure. Verges (email refers), village sign, benches, info board.</p> <p>A discussion about the state of the verges near the donkey paddock took place and it was decided to try new signs saying do not park on the grass verge to help stop parking and corner cutting for an improvement. City Fibre has also been asked to confirm when they are returfing near there. It was decided to revisit the option of hard standing parking under the grass along Main St and to request double yellow lines for parking issues on the corner of Main St if residents support it. The police will be contacted to offer help on enforcement. It was agreed the village sign will be cleaned for now and the refurbished bench oiled. Action Cllr Langston Jones/Clerk/Cllr Perkins</p>
	125.2	<p>To resolve hedge cutting contractor, as work previously agreed.</p> <p>The quotes were reviewed and a contractor decided upon. Action Clerk/Cllr Stalley</p>
	125.3	<p>To agree tree felling contractor and replacement tree costs, as recommended by tree surveyor and proposed by Cllrs Ellershaw and Stalley. It was confirmed that the queries had been answered and a contractor chosen and a date agreed for the work. It was agreed to spend £320 CIL monies on new trees. Action Cllr Stalley/Clerk</p>
	125.4	<p>To agree ideas to reduce dog fouling issues at recreation ground.</p> <p>It was agreed to purchase 10 signs about picking up dog poo for around the village. Action Clerk</p>
24/126	PLANNING; TO NOTE LATEST APPLICATIONS AND RESOLVE RESPONSES TO NEW ONES	
	The following applications were noted.	
	126.1	24/01495/TRE to sympathetically reduce in size by 50% a Sycamore tree at 21 Helpston Road. Deadline 6/12/24, extended. Response sent. Permission refused 8/1/25.
	126.2	24/01440/FUL change of use of land to cemetery including building, maintenance building, car parking and soft landscaping at land to south of Old Peterborough Road, Sutton. Deadline 13/12/24, extended. Response sent, awaiting decision.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	126.3	To receive any applications between issuing agenda and date of meeting and decide if can agree response. There were none.
24/127	REPORT FROM THE WARD COUNCILLOR NEIL BOYCE, if available. There was no report, Cllr Boyce was not present.	
24/128	PARISH LIAISON/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/JOINT MEETINGS/JCAP	
	128.1	To hear feedback from latest joint PC meeting and agree any actions to be agreed at next meeting. It was agreed that the notes of the joint PC meeting will be reviewed and agreed at the next meeting. Mr J Hodder explained a new item on the JCAP about registering common land and this will be investigated further. The JCAP will be agreed in due course. Action JH/Clerk/Cllrs
	128.2	To note update on Neighbourhood Plan review for Ailsworth PC, with Castor PC, awaiting feedback from Peterborough City Council/CPC meeting and support for Local Plan, email 28/12/24 refers. Mr J Hodder explained an issue being addressed with the old Neighbourhood Plan website and links being referred to on the PCC website. It was noted that the NP review will be discussed by D Shaw and N Boyce with PCC. It was noted that the Local Plan review timetable will be delayed due to the elections being held in May. Action CPC
	128.3	To hear feedback from other recent meetings attended and agree any actions, including offer for bus shelter names of Ailsworth residents. Cllr Perkins gave feedback from the recent Castor Parish Council meeting for information only, including work ideas for a community justice scheme eg bus shelter, phone box repaint and under hedge clearance. She also invited feedback on displaying names of residents who have served in wars in the bus shelter/war memorial. An interactive, digital board was mentioned, and the discussion will be carried forward to the next meeting.
	128.4	To note amended Good Neighbours Scheme agreement and amount for 25/26 and information shared on numbers and scheme poster to display for residents. The Clerk had obtained information and material, which was noted. A poster will be displayed in the boards
	128.5	To note request for a Parish Council representative on Integrated Neighbourhood Board panel and resolve. Cllr Raven agreed to do this.
	128.6	To note Expression of Interest form for net zero project grant money submitted and hear details. The deadline had been extended for this and so it was discussed in more detail. Cllr Ellershaw noted it needed to be a project within a community building but will confirm. The Climate Action Group are looking at it also. Action Cllr Ellershaw
	128.7	To note new Parish Charter and request for two Cllr contacts to be given forward. The names were agreed as Cllr Perkins and Cllr Pickett. Action Clerk
	128.8	To note grant available for ASB (Cllr Boyce referred) and resolve ideas. It was noted that there could be money available for cameras and police patrols as previously stated by Ward Cllr Boyce. It was further agreed to ask the police about help with parking enforcement. See also 125.1 Action Cllr Perkins
24/129	GOVER	NANCE, FINANCE AND TRAINING, Clerk and Finance working group (FWG)
	129.1	To receive and note training opportunities and agree any new bookings. There were no requests for training.
	129.2	To receive and note financial position report and internal checks to end of December 2024 and resolve any queries, including report on CIL monies and principles on spending (Received April 2023). To follow. The report was received and noted with no queries. The Clerk explained the position and level of reserves predicted at the end of the year which will be reasonable if not all stated projects are realised, around 7-10k. The bank balance is currently 35.6k but includes 19.5k CIL monies. A discussion on CIL ideas took place – some were already agreed as part of the budget setting for 25/26. Some new suggestions included improved disabled access to recreation ground, more owl boxes and an extended list will be agreed at the next meeting. Action Clerk
	129.3	To receive and note update on recruitment of Clerk and RFO to vacancy and agree interview date, hand-over date and old files centralised plus option to review job scale level for £100. Cllr Perkins gave an update on the process so far and will advise on an interview date very soon. Handover will depend on candidate appointed. A check on references and other checks will be made. The storage of old files will be revisited as these are not central. A review of the job banding was not discussed. Action Rect group/Clerk
24/130	PLAY AREA/RECREATION GROUND	

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	130.1	To note update on repairs of equipment done and reports of any other issues to resolve. The contractor has carried out the required repairs and there were no more issues reported.	
	130.2	To agree ideas to address increasing issue of dog owners not picking up dog poo at recreation ground, possibly more posters. See 125.4	
24/131	ALLOTMENTS, PARISH LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP - PLMG (Cllr Ellershaw, Cllr Moon, Cllr Pickett and Cllr Stalley) and NATURE RECOVERY GROUP		
	131.1	To agree lease for New Close trees/wildflower field and issue to PECT. It was agreed to ask the solicitor that Castor Parish Council used, for their similar version, to check the lease and first obtaining an indicative cost and timescale, to be agreed. Action Clerk	
	131.2	To note any new update from PLMG. There was no new update.	
	131.3	To receive and note update from Nature Recovery Group and agree expenditure. £100 was agreed from the NR budget.	
	131.4	To note Donkey Paddock 1 year tenancy agreement signed and rent paid. This was noted.	
24/132	PROJECTS		
	132.1	To receive and note feedback on new and improved signage for village assets etc. It was noted that this is in progress.	
	132.2	To review need for installation/request for double yellow lines. See 125.1	
24/133	CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: To receive and note correspondence and decide any actions. a) CAPALC The Big Lunch webinar 30/1/25 to explore the big lunch event on 7/8th June 2025. There was no interest to attend this. b) 80th anniversary of VE Day. It was noted that the celebrations group are looking into this. c) Resident complaint about parking near tennis club. It was agreed to discuss with the tennis club to see if more complaints and action.		
24/134	ORDERS FOR PAYMENT; To note and agree payments/ transfer to be made and already made as follows; TO BE PAID AND FUTURE The payments were all agreed as follows;		
	134.1	Clerk new rate pay 26 hours pm £411.84 less tax/NI payable 31/1/25	£329.44
	134.2	Clerk; Reimburse ink shared pm J Rice paid In January.	£4.22
	134.3	Clerk; mileage Nov/Dec plus home office expenses £26 for January	£9.90 plus £26
	134.4	HMRC employer/ee payment for January 2025.	£81.40
	134.5	The Cedar Centre Hall hire invoice	£60
	134.6	Unity Bank monthly charge by DD	£6
	134.7	Contractor for play area repairs, tree replacement, tree felling	£292.80
	134.8	Parish Online sub	£57.60
	134.9	CPC for proportion of tree costs, previously agreed, returned payment	£100
	134.10	Viking A4 paper, APC turn	£32.88
	134.11	M Stalley reimburse for NR items	£28
	134.12	Receipts: Rent for Donkey Paddock field allotment Bank acct interest received 31/12/24	£180 received £178.26
24/135	DATE OF NEXT MEETING It was agreed that the next meeting will be on Wednesday 12th February 2025 at 7.30pm due to half term. To note April meeting date is currently Easter Monday – it was resolved to change this at a later date.		

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____