

AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of a meeting of Ailsworth Parish Council held on Monday 20th July 2026 at 7.30pm
at the Cedar Centre

DRAFT MINUTES FOR APPROVAL AT NEXT MEETING

45. ATTENDANCE

- a. **Present:** Anne Perkins (Chairman), Megan Ellershaw (Vice Chairman), Joan Pickett, Richard Moon, Martin Stalley, Anne Raven, John Tozer, Michelle Dickens (Clerk) and one member of the public.
- b. **Apologies:** None.

46. 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.

47. OPEN FORUM

48. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

- a. To confirm [Meeting Minutes of 15th June 2026](#) held at the Cedar Centre. Approved and signed by the Chairman.

49. PLANNING MATTERS

- a. [Planning/tree applications log](#) – current log.
- b. Planning/tree application decisions since the previous meeting –
 - (1) One tree application – 3 Station Road, Ailsworth. Noted.
- c. Planning/tree applications to consider since the previous meeting – two new tree applications and one new planning application-
 - (1) [26/002543/CTR](#) – 54 Main Street, Ailsworth - T.1 - Field maple - reduce by up to four metres. APC had no objections.
 - (2) [26/002470/CTR](#) – 19 Helpston Road, Ailsworth –
 - T.1 - Magnolia - Reduce crown by 1.5-2.5m
 - T.2 - Cypress - Fell
 - T.3 - Cypress- Fell. APC had no objections.
 - (3) [26/002328/FUL](#) - Ailsworth Methodist Church, Main Street, Ailsworth - Change of use from chapel (F1) to community shop (F2) and partial demolition of existing flat roof extension. APC asked the Clerk to feed a couple of points back to PCC – the fascia board colour should be given careful consideration as the

building is in a conservation area and the dropped kerb proposal could potentially affect the parking issues along the roadside.

(4) [26/002438/HHFUL](#) – 101 Peterborough Road, Ailsworth - Proposed two storey side and a single storey rear extension. APC had no objections.

(5) [26/002614/CTR](#) – 12 Maffit Road - T.1 - silver birch – fell – APC asked the Clerk to feed back to the tree officer if the trimming of the tree rather than felling could be taken into consideration.

d. Plans - Peterborough Draft Local Plan (LP) and Neighbourhood plan (NP)

(1) Cllr. Perkins with the assistance of Cllr. Moon confirmed that the revision of the NP is in progress. A village meeting will be held. Date to be confirmed.

(2) The setting up of a group with Castor PC to get the call for sites out to local landowners was confirmed. Cllr. Perkins, Cllr. Moon and Cllr. Ellershaw will arrange a meeting between themselves to discuss.

50. COMMITTEE REPORTS/WORKING GROUPS

a. JPLG. July's meeting agenda was agreed.

b. PLMG.

(1) The plan to install a gate at the entrance to the 16 acre-field and a footpath around the perimeter was discussed at the cluster meeting with NPT and is still in the pipeline. Walkers can still walk the perimeter currently without a designated footpath being in place.

(2) Cllr. Ellershaw to email Duncan at NPT regarding the rent. See Minute 55h.

51. COMMUNITY MATTERS

a. CIL (CIL balance - £6,577.93).

(1) Ideas – village signage, 16-acre field gate, pump track.

(2) Some previous APC expenditure has been allocated the CIL as it fits within the CIL spending criteria. Cllr. Stalley proposed and Cllr. Pickett seconded. Clerk has updated the CIL statement accordingly which is now an additional report within in the quarterly finance report. See Minute 55d1.

b. Nature Recovery.

(1) Cllr. Stalley is continuing to keep up with the watering.

(2) NPT has offered like they usually do to cut the wildflower area. APC is very thankful and will take them up on their kind offer.

(3) Tulip tree in rec. A credit of £202.80 has been put on APC's account with Ashridge Trees for the tulip tree which unfortunately didn't survive despite Cllr. Stalley's best efforts.

- c. Improved/new signage for all parish land. Cllr. Perkins & Cllr. Stalley to get together to discuss and get things progressing.
- d. Bus shelter names/memorial list – recurring item.
- e. Bus shelter.
 - (1) Community Pay Back. Cllr. Perkins thanked APC and the residents who were involved with ensuring the work done to the bus shelter and phone box was to a good standard.

52. **HIGHWAYS AND ROAD SAFETY MATTERS**

- a. Speed sign.
 - (1) Clerk to confirmed that ElanCity who the sign was purchased from initially quoted £196 + VAT for a diagnostic test. A second quote detailing the cost of repairs will then be provided.
 - (2) Clerk confirmed that the insurance excess is £250 if we choose to go down that route for repairs. Highways at PCC has confirmed that they will re-install it once it's up & running again. They will do so as part of accident reduction. APC were in agreement to go via insurance for the repairs due to the cost of the diagnostic test alone being a similar amount to the excess.
 - (3) Clerk contacted Highways to ask if they can assess the positioning of the post and sign as it is possible it's positioned too close to the road. It was confirmed that the positioning is perfectly adequate and sits within their recommended dimensions.
- b. Helpston Road.
 - (1) To reemphasise, the Clerk reported that in July's meeting it was confirmed that PCC will be installing two 'No Footway' signs by the end of July.
 - (2) A site visit has been carried out by the Road Safety Officer at PCC and at the present moment no additional safety measures are deemed necessary.

53. **BURIAL GROUND MATTERS**

- a. Provision of extra burial ground. APC has agreed to put the item on hold until the new church rector has taken over – recurring item.

54. **ALLOTMENTS**

- a. Revised agreement. Cllr. Moon will provide Clerk with the final version of the revised agreement ready for issuing to all allotment holders towards the end of August.
- b. Allotment holder/plot. Clerk advised APC of the current situation with the allotment plot in question. The plot will need to go to the next person on the waiting list if and when it becomes vacant rather than directly passed over to a friend. Clerk to inform plot holder of this and get an update on the latest plan with regards to tidying etc.
- c. Clerk to reach out to all allotment holders to ask if they will be wanting to continue from 1st September when the new tenancy commences.

- d. Clerk to reach out to all on the waiting list to ensure they wish to still be on the list, so APC has an up-to-date record.

55. GOVERNANCE AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a. Unity Trust Current Account [statement](#), [reconciliation](#) and [transactions](#) for June.
- b. Unity Trust Deposit Account [statement](#), [reconciliation](#) and [transactions](#) for June.
- c. Unity Trust 32-day Notice Account [statement](#), [reconciliation](#) and [transactions](#) for June.
- d. Finance update.

(1) Clerk circulated prior to the meeting the [quarterly finance report](#) covering period April-June, which was also produced in the meeting. APC satisfied with current financial position. Next quarterly report due in October's meeting for the second financial quarter, July-September.

(2) APC happy with the budget virements which were proposed by the Clerk and discussed at a recent Finance Meeting.

- e. Nest. Clerk agreed to input pensionable earnings figure into Nest after each monthly meeting and either Cllr. Stalley or Cllr. Pickett will then authorise and submit for payment.
- f. Archive plan. Cllr. Raven has agreed make a start on this with Cllr. Pickett.
- g. Holiday dates. Confirmation of when APC members are away over the summer period.
- h. 16-acre field rent. £720 (+VAT) due 25th March and 25th September.
- i. Invoices to be authorised for payment –
 - (a) Clerk expenses for June. Approved.
 - (b) Nurture – June mowing - £343.12. Approved.
 - (c) Wave – water bill – 7/3/2026 – 6/6/2026 - £107.17. Approved.
 - (d) Cedar Centre Hire – May & June - £60. Approved.

56. ANY ADDITIONAL POINTS

- a. None.

57. NEXT MEETING

- a. APC confirmed that the next meeting will be held on 7th September 2026.

58. Meeting concluded at 9.20pm.

Michelle Dickens

Michelle Dickens

Clerk to Ailsworth Parish Council

17th August 2026

Signed as a true record: Chair: Dated: