

# Austrey Parish Council



## Draft Minutes Of Meeting Held At Austrey Village Hall on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2012 at 7.30pm

Item	Actioned When & By Whom
<p><b>1. PRESENT:</b> Cllrs D. Greally - CHAIR - (DG), P. Yates (PY), E. Fish (EF), R. Withey (RW), G. Bullivant (GB), Parish Clerk Lynsey Treadwell (LT) + 48 members of the public.</p>	
<p><b>2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:</b> EF stated that she would be unable to comment on the planning application for 3 The Green and would need to declare a prejudicial interest in this matter, given that the property is that of her immediate neighbours.</p>	
<p><b>3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING</b> held On 8<sup>th</sup> February 2012 , copies having previously been circulated, were approved by the council as a true record &amp; signed by the chair.</p>	
<p><b>4. MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES NOT OTHERWISE ON THE AGENDA:</b> None</p>	
<p><b>5. OPEN FORUM:</b> The pending planning application for a meteorological mast to be erected on land around Austrey led to a large public presence at this meeting. DG summarised the position so far &amp; a vote of those present showed that 38 were against the mast, 0 were for the mast &amp; 3 were neutral or undecided (the voting did not include the PC or visitors from local steering groups). A similar vote to show feeling for a wind farm showed the same results. Most residents in attendance spoke up about their concerns &amp; objections, &amp; members from SSWAT (Stop Subsidised Windfarms Around Tamworth) presented facts &amp; information about wind masts. DG is to formulate a letter to NWBC illustrating the strength of feeling from the village, ahead of a planning meeting at the Council Offices in Atherstone on 19<sup>th</sup> March. SSWAT urged as many residents as possible to attend the meeting to show the level of local opposition. They also looked to residents to form a village steering committee for the same reason.</p>	<p>DG by 19/3/12</p>
<p>*The council was advised that a Jubilee street party has been planned for Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June &amp; that preparations are underway. A small grant has been applied for to help fund it in some way. More information will follow. *Ellen Beatty provided a 'police update', reporting the theft locally of catalytic converters, cable &amp; a caravan, as well as gates being opened &amp; obvious signs of disturbance. There have also been negative reports concerning scrap metal collectors &amp; a new operation is urging people to report the registration numbers of any such vehicles cruising the village. These, and indeed anything causing concern or suspicion should be reported on the new non-emergency crime number - <b>101</b>.</p>	
<p><b>6. UPDATES ON RECENT OR REGULAR ITEMS:</b></p>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Arts festival:</b> The application for funding to help with costs has now been submitted. The next arts festival meeting will take place on March 22<sup>nd</sup> &amp; everyone is welcome.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Funding:</b> nothing to report.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Meeting dates of neighbouring parish councils:</b> In the interest of 'Working Together' with other local parishes, the clerk has researched other councils meeting dates &amp; Austrey councillors have agreed to attend a meeting or two this year at the following parishes &amp; report back: GB: Newton Regis et al, PY: Appleby Magna, DG: Twycross et al, BG or CM: Clifton Campville, RW: Polesworth &amp; Warton, EF: Shuttington &amp; Alvecote.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Newsletter:</b> The cut-off date for content for the next edition is June 1<sup>st</sup>.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Playing fields:</b> A meeting is arranged for 21<sup>st</sup> March between the 3 parties who have an interest in the fields. It is hoped that the outstanding issues can be resolved &amp; that an agreement can be reached over the lease of the allotments at Hazel Meadow. Results to be reported back at next meeting.</li> </ul>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <b>Site Allocation Development Plan:</b> NWBC has called for sites to be put forward as part of this plan. In a letter to the Parish Council, they asked that if there is any land locally that could be considered for development, these should be put forward to NWBC. The council decided that as this is part of a long term strategy, there was no point rushing into anything. This item is to be reviewed again in 3 months.</li> </ul>	<p>DG/PY 14/4/12</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Village maintenance:</b> The idea of a second bus shelter on Main Road is to be re-examined following research into the boundaries around the proposed site. The PC is awaiting a response from Cllr Tilly May to see if the funding is still available. This is to be chased up. *PY has formally asked for permission to use the piece of land opposite the pub entrance for 'The Village Centre'. * It has be reported from several sources that as a result of current water works, sections of the road have become cracked &amp;/or raised. The Highways Agency &amp; Chris Stone at South Staffs Water are to be made aware.</li> <li>• <b>Village Hall:</b> An update on current issues was received from David Key. Following an underground leak near the toilets, £300 has been used from the Burns Night proceeds to isolate the old supply &amp; replace it with a new supply to the new toilets. Additionally, a water meter is being installed &amp; a Leader Fund grant application has been submitted to further long term changes to the hall.</li> </ul> <p><b>7. TRAINING &amp; MEETINGS:</b> PY has been to a NWACPC meeting &amp; reported back on current issues, &amp; GB has attended training on what changes The Localism Act could bring to PCs in the future.</p> <p><b>8. PLANNING:</b> as per appendix. At the time of the meeting, the PC was unable to comment on the planning application for 3 The Green as the website was undergoing some maintenance &amp; the details were not accessible.</p> <p><b>9. CORRESPONDENCE:</b> as per appendix.</p> <p><b>10. FINANCIAL &amp; INSURANCE MATTERS:</b> Invoices as per appendix. PY proposed the closing of the old bank account now that the new one is ready to use. DG seconds, council agreed unanimously. It has long since been agreed that the council's existing accounting system is out-dated. PY proposed a budget of up to £100 to purchase new software for the clerk. This was seconded by GB and agreed by all.</p> <p><b>11. COUNCILLOR'S MATTERS &amp; ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDA:</b> PY expressed concern about the church clock - which is not currently in working order - &amp; the maintenance of the war memorial, &amp; asked that they be added to the next agenda. * The purchase of 2 new salt bins is to be added to September's agenda so that they may be installed before next winter. *The re-introduction of welcome packs is starting to come together &amp; it's hoped that they'll be ready by summer. *It has been commented on that the fence &amp; shrubbery in the Bird In Hand garden on Main Rd is starting to obstruct the path. The clerk is to write to the pub about this matter. *EF suggested that we approach the church to see if they'd be happy to develop an area for butterflies and wildlife at the bottom of the churchyard. It could enrich the village environment in general as well as supporting English wildlife. The PC would need to find some volunteers with practical knowledge of how to set this up, but the first step is to approach the Church. *PY asked that consideration of a second bus shelter be added to the next agenda for full consideration, provided that we know about the availability of funding.</p> <p><b>12. NEXT PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b> scheduled for <b>Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2012.</b></p> <p><b>Chairman</b> Cllr Darren Greally -----</p> <p><b>Date</b> -----</p> <p><b>Lynsey Treadwell</b> <b>Clerk to Austrey Parish Council</b> <b>28/03/2012</b></p>	<p><b>PY asap</b></p> <p><b>LT before works end</b></p> <p><b>LT asap</b></p> <p><b>EF when time allows</b></p>
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