

# MINUTES OF THE AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

## HELD ON MONDAY 26<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30PM

at 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) and Mr M Stalley.

Clerk Miss J Rice

Members of the public present: 4 Mr John Hodder (Neighbourhood Plan and Joint Parish Liaison Group) and Mr N Boyce (Chairman of Castor Parish Council) and Tony Cook, Peterborough Environment City Trust (PECT) and one other resident.

<b>23/149</b>	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk.</b> There were no apologies, all Councillors were present.
<b>23/150</b>	<b>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST</b> <b>To receive all declarations of interest under the Council's Code of Conduct related to business on the agenda.</b> <b>Reminder to members to update their register if necessary.</b> (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 made.
<b>23/151</b>	<b>PUBLIC PARTICIPATION</b> <b>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.</b> It was agreed by all that the items 156.4 and 160.1 are to be moved to the top of the agenda. The resident explained their concerns about the shop on Peterborough Road's temporary storage arrangements as they are adjacent, in terms of issues affecting their property. They have made contact with the shop owner to gain access and gave a copy of the request to the Clerk. He stated they thought there were ongoing relationship issues and problems moving things forward. The breach of conditions to cease trading by 31/12/23 was noted. The Chairman explained an unofficial mediation meeting has taken place with the architect, residents and Parish Council representatives and that it was positive. The negative impact on the conservation area was noted.
<b>23/152</b>	<b>MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated) and matters arising</b> <b>To confirm as correct the record of the minutes of the meeting held on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2024, Chairman to sign, previously circulated.</b> The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman.
<b>23/153</b>	<b>FINANCE, GOVERNANCE AND TRAINING</b>
<b>153.1</b>	<b>To receive and note finance situation to end of January for any monetary decisions, herewith.</b> This had been circulated and there were no queries raised.
<b>153.2</b>	<b>To note response to PCC burial grounds maintenance costs.</b> It was noted that the Parochial Church Council do try to ensure value for money for contractors doing maintenance and earlier figures will be provided for the budget setting process.
<b>153.3</b>	<b>To note training opportunities and agree any new bookings.</b> The opportunities were noted and no training requested.
<b>153.4</b>	<b>To receive any applications for co-option to Parish Councillor position and resolve appointment.</b> It was noted there had been no applications so far and Councillors are to approach prospective applicants. <i>Action Cllrs</i>
<b>153.5</b>	<b>To receive and note advice from insurers re volunteer cover for specific tasks and other risk assessments.</b> The advice was received and noted and will be considered in future for works carried out by volunteers. <i>Action All</i>
<b>153.6</b>	<b>To consider transfer of 10k – 15k to Instant Access interest account.</b> It was agreed to transfer 15k to the Instant Access interest account. <i>Action Clerk/signatories</i>
<b>153.7</b>	<b>To consider date and format of Annual Parish meeting. Clerk away 20/5/24.</b> It was noted that the normal meeting would fall when the Clerk is away and so other availability for that week will be sought. <i>Action Clerk.</i> The format of the Parish Meeting will be discussed next meeting.
<b>23/154</b>	<b>METHODIST CHAPEL</b>

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

	154.1	<b>To note that no expressions of interest to bid were submitted from the village group/sub group and Chapel advertised for sale now.</b> This information was received and noted.
<b>23/155</b>	<b>PLANNING; TO NOTE LATEST APPLICATIONS AND RESOLVE RESPONSES TO NEW ONES</b>	
	155.1	<b>To receive applications between issuing agenda and date of meeting and decide if can agree response.</b> There was one new application but this can be done at the next meeting.
		<b>23/01666/HHFUL demolition of former side 1 ½ extension and construction of 2 ½ storey extension, including loft conversion, entrance porch and external works, s/s outbuilding and brickwork walls with metal railings at 11 Holme Close. Objection response sent. Application refused.</b>
	155.2	<b>23/01464/FUL Change of use of field to dog walking area, including parking area and fencing. Deadline extended to 27/2/24. Decide response.</b> It was decided that as the Highways Officer has requested revised plans with a new vehicle access and a parking/turning area due to regulations and the increase of traffic in the area, the new plans would be awaited before a comment agreed and submitted. Councillors expressed concerns over the speeds of vehicles via recent data obtained from the motor vehicle activated speed sign.
	155.3	<b>24/00030/CTR trim branches of one tree at Singerfire Road overhanging bus shelter (APC application) Consent given. Decide on carrying out work.</b> It was decided to obtain quotes and a decision made at the next meeting. <b>Action Clerk/Cllr Stalley</b>
	155.4	<b>To note information from CPC on Homes England site, planner involvement.</b> The information sent from Cllr Shaw was received and noted.
	155.5	<b>To note planning change of use for retail storage at 109 Peterborough Rd runs out 31/3/24 (3 months from 31/12/23 to restore to former condition) and resolve action and receive any feedback on building works and consider contacting Conservation Officer.</b> It was noted that the temporary change of use date has expired and the lack of progress with the building works has unfortunately caused upset to residents. Councillors agreed that they are keen to encourage the shop owner to make better progress and it was agreed that the shop owner will be contacted within 4 weeks as part of the mediation process to help explore all avenues. See 155 above. <b>Action Cllr Perkins</b>
<b>23/156</b>	<b>ALLOTMENTS, PARISH LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP PLMG (Cllr Ellershaw, Cllr Moon, Cllr Pickett and Cllr Stalley) and NATURE RECOVERY GROUP</b>	
	156.1	<b>To clarify members of all groups and terms of reference and any changes needed on process. C/F</b> This is being done outside of the meeting.
	156.2	<b>To receive and note update from Nature Recovery Group, including the water harvester update/risk assessment.</b> There was a brief update and more to come for March meeting.
	156.3	<b>To note communication to allotment holders re gap in hedge and responses and correspondence from resident to consider no use of pesticides on allotments.</b> It was noted that the communication was received ok and the issue regarding pesticides will be carried forward to the next meeting. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	156.4	<b>To receive and note feedback from PLMG - meeting with PECT on New Close tenancy (previously circulated) and correspondence from residents and resolve action plus update re Station Road field allotment.</b> Mr Cook from PECT gave an overview of PECT's background/history and work. It was noted that Castor Parish Council (CPC) has agreed to lease their field to them for a tree nursery, for a 20 year term. Mr Cook confirmed there can be no uninvited access due to insurance liability but the public footpath will remain. He explained the need to maintain their own tree and flower stocks and the benefits to bio-diversity and reducing the carbon footprint and the contribution to the current environmental challenges. There was a discussion about Ailsworth Parish Council (APC) leasing their field called New Close (currently not let due to a change in the access across CPC's land) on similar grounds as CPC eg for a tree nursery and the PC involvement being minimal but public open days and planting, plus education activities could be arranged in the future. The Clerk said that the financial regulations state that there should be a business case presented if parish land is to be leased and adequate consultation with residents. It was agreed to make this clear at the March meeting and on social media and a report will be made, with another option to keep the tender process as it is and the access made clear to potential tenants, along with ideas for Station Road 16 acre field allotment included too, for full details, input and vote at the next meeting. <b>Action Cllr Ellershaw, Parish Land Management Group</b>

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

	156.5	<b>To note tenant of Donkey Paddock erecting a fence to protect the wall and decide if need updated quote.</b> The fence was noted and it was agreed to obtain an up to date valuation for the wall rebuild. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	156.6	<b>To note recent water inspection at allotment site passed compliance, plus future advice.</b> This was noted and an advice note will be circulated about long hoses not left in butts due to a risk contamination with water possibly flowing back. <b>Action Clerk</b>
<b>23/157</b>	<b>PARISH COUNCIL DEVELOPMENT ACTION PLAN AND CIL MONIES</b>	
	157.1	<b>To agree the revised action plan and discuss investigating opportunities for CIL monies projects.</b> It was agreed that Cllr Pickett will lead on this and take ideas on CIL projects initially. <b>Action Cllr Pickett</b>
<b>23/158</b>	<b>PLAY AREA/RECREATION GROUND</b>	
	158.1	<b>To note report of dirt bikes and resolve any future action.</b> It was thought that there had been no more incidents of dirt bikes on the recreation ground due to informal action, so it will be closely monitored for any future problems. <b>Action All</b>
	158.2	<b>To note quote for tree survey £250 and resolve to agree to date/cost.</b> The cost was agreed and a date for the tree survey will be agreed. Reports of concerns over certain trees have been sent. <b>Action Clerk</b>
	158.3	<b>To consider improving the appearance of notice boards.</b> It was agreed that all boards need tidying up or replacing and new boards investigated for parish owned land. <b>Action Cllr Pickett</b>
<b>23/159</b>	<b>VILLAGE GROUPS / UPDATES</b>	
	159.1	<b>To note village group donations budget remaining and consider any new requests.</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) <b>Event group not submitted form.</b> This has been requested twice but not yet received.</li> <li>b) <b>Pre-School submitted form and circulated.</b> It was agreed that even though the events group form is not received the budget is agreed/spent and Pre-School's request will be added to the April agenda.</li> <li>c) <b>NHW request sent to Ward Councillor for signs from CLF. Or use reserves/crime prevention power £117.</b> This was not agreed as good use of funds.</li> </ul>
	159.2	<b>To note bus service re-instated from April 2024.</b> This was received and noted.
	159.3	<b>To receive and note update from the Climate Action Group and resolve Cllr attendance at meeting 7/3/24.</b> The update was received and noted and attendance at the meeting agreed. <b>Action Cllr Stalley</b>
<b>23/160</b>	<b>PARISH LIAISON/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/JOINT MEETINGS</b>	
	160.1	<b>To note date for next Joint Parish Liaison Group meeting is 29/2/24 at 7.30pm.</b> The draft agenda was received and agreed and the date was noted and Cllr Perkins and Cllr Pickett are attending. Others to check availability. <b>Action Cllrs</b>
	160.2	<b>To receive and note feedback from Castor Parish Council meeting, Cllr Pickett, and resolve any actions.</b> Cllr Pickett gave a brief update and also Cllr Perkins had circulated the minutes and requested this each time. <b>Action Cllr Pickett</b>
	160.3	<b>To note update on Castor Neighbourhood Plan review consultation, D Shaw email refers.</b> This was received and noted and forms part of the JPLG meeting.
	160.4	<b>To note information on K900 event, circulated.</b> The information had been circulated by Cllr Perkins and noted.
	160.5	<b>To note date for Good Neighbours Parish Liaison Group meeting is 6.30pm on 21/3/24 by Zoom.</b> Cllr Perkins confirmed attendance and Neil Boyce confirmed attendance by the Police and Crime Commissioner.
<b>23/161</b>	<b>PARISH MAINTENANCE ISSUES</b>	
	161.1	<b>To note new battery ordered for de-fib. And note defib use recently and decide any actions needed.</b> New battery purchase was agreed and no further actions needed except the normal defib check.
	161.2	<b>To note feedback from Homes England re resident issue with flooding in Holme Close/horse field.</b> The Clerk reported that Homes England said they will investigate and also Neil Boyce confirmed a meeting has been arranged with PCC and a drainage engineer and he will confirm date to APC to join them. <b>Action Neil Boyce/Clerk</b>
	161.3	<b>To note further incidents of graffiti around villages and that reported to the police and cleaned off. Resolve possible actions to address.</b> The situation was noted. Thanks were also noted for anyone involved in cleaning it off. Further reports will be sent to the police if it happens again, however the police confirmed no action could be taken now as there are no lines of enquiry.

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

	<b>161.4</b>	<b>To note any new maintenance issues and resolve action/contractors. (Danger sign put up, flytipping removed, branches application submitted, branch trimming nr path in rec, bench placement).</b> Maintenance actions were noted and no new actions reported as necessary. It was confirmed that installation of the new bench is needed. <b>Action Cllr Langston Jones.</b>
	<b>161.5</b>	<b>To note Peterborough Rd hedge scheduled to be trimmed by Aragon.</b> It was noted that the hedge has recently been trimmed.
<b>23/162</b>	<b>CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: To receive and note correspondence and decide any actions.</b> <b>a) To note report of drugs found near Main St/Helpston Road reported to police.</b> This was noted. <b>b) To note email from a Castor resident about dangerous parking and speeding and resolve action.</b> This was noted and also known that Neil Boyce is meeting with the resident to discuss the actions that have taken place and any further help. <b>c) To note Highways resurfacing works 26/2/24.</b> This was noted.	
<b>23/163</b>	<b>ORDERS FOR PAYMENT; Payments were noted and agreed as follows;</b>	
	<b>163.1</b>	Clerk pay 26 hours pm £395.46 plus £26 home office less tax/NI <b>£342.26</b>
	<b>163.2</b>	Clerk; Reimburse ink shared pm J Rice paid in January <b>£4.22</b>
	<b>163.3</b>	Clerk; mileage Jan/Feb <b>£14.85</b>
	<b>163.4</b>	HMRC employer/ee payment for March <b>£79.20</b>
	<b>163.5</b>	Cedar Centre for meetings room hire <b>£60</b>
	<b>163.6</b>	CAPALC training course CIL <b>£50</b>
	<b>163.7</b>	Your Security Sign for danger sign <b>£33.94 paid 25/1</b>
	<b>163.8</b>	Community Heartbeat Trust for new battery <b>£267</b>
	<b>163.9</b>	Village Tribune subs <b>£125 paid</b>
	<b>163.10</b>	Transfer from current to Instant Access account <b>£15000</b>
	<b>163.11</b>	R Peace tree survey <b>£250</b>
<b>23/164</b>	<b>RECTS</b>	None
<b>23/165</b>	<b>DATE OF NEXT MEETING To note that the next meeting is proposed as the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 7.30pm to be held in the Cedar Centre, Castor. Clerk away 20-25<sup>th</sup> March.</b>	

See notice board/website ([www.ailsworthparishcouncil.org.uk](http://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](mailto:clerk@ailsworth-pc.gov.uk)

Signed by Chairman \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_