

MINUTES OF THE AILSWORTH PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD ON MONDAY 17TH JUNE 2024 AT 7.30PM

at the Cedar Centre, Castor

Present were Councillors: Dr M Ellershaw, Mr R Moon, Mrs A Perkins, Mrs J Pickett, Mr M Stalley. Clerk Miss J Rice
 Members of the public present: Six.

24/34	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE. To receive and record apologies sent to the Clerk. Apologies were received (not by the Clerk but via a Councillor) for Cllr S Langston Jones.	
24/35	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.	
24/36	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. The Chairman reminded everyone of it being the period before a general election and any political preferences or bias statements are not allowed. A representative from the Climate Action Group (CAG) stated their disappointment at the amount of time allocated to them to respond to an item on the agenda (40.1) that had had information circulated before the meeting and this was noted. The Chairman explained that the correct process had been followed, and as the 40.1 item had new information it warranted more time, whereas the current CAG policy statement had already been decided and agreed with the known information. It was further explained that policies are regularly reviewed by the Parish Council too. Another member of the public stated their support for the information on item 40.1 which challenges the statement on climate action, citing a conflict of interests by those furthering the cause and that whilst environment problems do exist, they can be tackled, without the need for targets and imposed fines by Governments. He commended the resident for their courage in tabling this item. The representative from the Climate Action Group then re-enforced their policy to work with the Peterborough City Council and community to reduce carbon emissions, due to the overwhelming evidence of changes in weather and climate, mainly due to human activity causing quicker changes, and increased greenhouse gases, and the vital role that Parish Councils play in helping to combat these changes. They stated their view is that the Local Area Energy Plan is reasonable and is not to bankrupt households.	
24/37	MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING (previously circulated) and matters arising	
	37.1	To confirm as correct the record of the minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 23rd May 2024, Chairman to sign, previously circulated. The minutes were agreed as a true record and duly signed by the Chairman. It was agreed to move item 44.3 and then 40.1 to this point of the meeting.
24/38	GOVERNANCE, FINANCE AND TRAINING	
	38.1	To note training opportunities circulated and agree any attendance required, plus receive feedback on planning training attended. Cllr Moon fed back from the planning training attended and other opportunities for training are circulated and noted for any requests to be made.
	38.2	To receive and review new NALC Financial Regulations, circulated. The new model regulations from NALC were received and noted. With the terms of reference to be agreed on the finance group, it was agreed that the new regs can be reviewed with the Clerk and Councillors. Action Clerk/group
	38.3	To receive and note financial report to end of May 2024 and resolve any queries, herewith. The current financial position was circulated and noted and briefly explained by the Clerk with no queries.
	38.4	To receive any co-option applications for Parish Councillor vacancy and agree on co-option or further action to recruit. It was noted that there have been no new applications and it was agreed that Councillors will approach new potential members and ensure a vacancy notice in on the community board. Action Cllrs, Cllr Pickett
	38.5	To receive and note terms of reference for finance working group and amend/agree. The terms were agreed and adopted. Action Clerk

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	38.6	To receive and note new asset checks responsibilities and agree to carry out, with form. Cllrs are carrying out asset checks. It was agreed that new signage and the information board will be a new project in future.
	38.7	To note Annual Return form requirements sent off to External Audit and displayed in board. Public have right to inspect accounts 3/6 to 12/7/24. This was noted.
	38.8	To note responses from residents re CIL monies; wildlife cameras (wildlife/graffiti), sound monitors (planes) and/or purchase of the chapel. To agree CIL course attendance or not. The responses from residents were noted. The use of cameras is being discussed at PCC level and may come to Parish Councils for use at hotspots. A further idea of a table tennis table or padel court was also mentioned and will be discussed at a later meeting.
	38.9	To note from PCC; new members' interests form via a link on PCC website. This was noted for new members.
24/39	ALLOTMENTS, PARISH LAND MANAGEMENT GROUP - PLMG (Cllr Ellershaw, Cllr Moon, Cllr Pickett and Cllr Stalley) and NATURE RECOVERY GROUP	
	39.1	To note update on lease of parish land to PECT for tree and wildflower nursery and agree action and any update from PLMG including community allotment PECT idea and agree new actions. (Note response from tenant of 16 Acre Field) It was noted that there has been no draft lease received from CPC as yet. It was agreed to query the payment of the rent. A further idea circulated by PECT is yet to be considered by the group. The outline proposal from Nene Park Trust for Station Road is still being drafted. The response from the tenant of Station Road allotment will be approached again. Action PLMG, Clerk
	39.2	To receive and note update from Nature Recovery Group and agree any new expenditure. Cllr Stalley gave an update on the group's activity – owl review, tree survey needed and Sarah Lambert's involvement.
	39.3	To note a risk assessment is needed for parcels of land, 16 Acre field and Donkey Paddock and flower boxes. It was agreed to carry these out as responsible for the safety of the land. Action Clerk
	39.4	To note criminal damage to water harvester reported and new locks bought. This was noted.
	39.5	To note badger activity to be monitored as less seen and communicated to tenants. This was noted and agreed as not a current issue.
24/40	CLIMATE CHANGE	
	40.1	To note zoom meeting held with resident, receive feedback and resolve action. The information, notes, presentation slides and recording of the zoom meeting that was held with a resident on their alternative climate change approach were received and noted. A Councillor thanked the member of public for bringing it to the Council meeting. This Councillor had previously brought data and reports that question the member of public's reports and information presented. They further explained that the current, agreed local policy and plan used by Parish/City Councils does not overlap with national or international policy or any climate scepticism. Councillors agreed it is good to hear differing views and review policies however Parish Councils are limited in their powers to act, and must act for the local people, with sensible environmental actions and a modest plan. A discussion took place and as each Councillor was still in agreement with the climate action statement, there was no move to propose a resolution to change it. The member of public explained they agreed with most of the actions in the climate action statement but not the reference to climate crisis/emergency and not carbon/net zero reduction. It was agreed that as a discussion at the next joint meeting is tabled this week, any further agenda item needed as a result of this will be actioned, otherwise it will remain as it is. Action Clerk/Cllrs
24/41	PLANNING; TO NOTE LATEST APPLICATIONS AND RESOLVE RESPONSES TO NEW ONES	
	41.1	To receive applications between issuing agenda and date of meeting and decide if can agree response. There were none.
	41.2	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. New plans x 2 submitted. Support responses submitted. Awaiting decision, noted.
	41.3	24/00470/PRIOR the proposed installation of a shareable telecoms base station comprising 25m tower plus other equipment, at land at Peterborough Road, Sutton. Support response sent. Withdrawn by applicant, noted.

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	41.4	24/00254/FUL erection of new shop with flat above, amended version of previously agreed 17/02123/FUL. Response sent, awaiting decision. Revised plans submitted and deadline 15/5 and support sent. Permitted 24/5/24 To hear any further feedback on progress. A summary of meetings held was given. There is concern and uncertainty over the future re-build costs and options are being considered on a way forward.
	41.5	24/00444/WCPP Variation of condition C1 (extend expiry date) of planning permission to 31/5/25. Permitted 23/5/24, noted.
	41.6	00569/CTR 1 x Ash tree fell at 39 Main St. no objections sent. Permitted 30/5/24, noted.
	41.7	00582/CTR tree works to 2 Sycamore at 1 Holme Close, deadline 23/5/24. Request for tree officer visit sent. Noted it has now been permitted.
	41.8	To note tennis club update, circulated, and Nene Park Trust/CPC planning application response to be queried by club. It was noted that some inaccuracies were being dealt with by the tennis club.
24/42	PLAY AREA/RECREATION GROUND	
	42.1	To note new bench chatty sign and advertise. It was noted that this is to be done. Action Cllr Ellershaw
	42.2	To note projects in reserves budget reminder – den building/goals plus pond/trees/hedging £1500 x 2. This was noted and will be considered, with the CIL monies, by the Finance Group. Action FWG
24/43	BUS SERVICE/BUS SHELTER OPENING	
	43.1	To note bus service resumed through village and receive feedback. To review bus shelter opening times. It was noted that feedback is so far positive. An issue with location of bus stops will be raised and also the resident contacted over the open/close times. It was agreed to leave any books there and just keep tidy. Action Cllr Perkins/Cllr Pickett
24/44	PARISH LIAISON/COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/JOINT MEETINGS	
	44.1	To receive and note feedback from Castor Parish Council meeting, Cllr Pickett, and resolve any actions. Cllr Pickett gave a brief report of subjects (previously) discussed and they were noted.
	44.2	To discuss Saxon stall at K900 stall event on 6/7/24 and check APC involvement all in hand. Arrangements for the stall were agreed, with the same questionnaire on parish requirements being used for feedback and photos on display. Action all
	44.3	To agree agenda for joint PCs meeting and attendance on 20/6/24. John Hodder explained the purpose of these meetings and that they are not formal meetings and no decisions are made - joint parish issues are discussed and brought back to Parish Council meetings for a decision, eg the Climate Action Group members have a slot to update the attendees and then leave the meeting. A resident from the CAG stated their disappointment at others spending so much time on the alternative climate view item. They will update the councils on the recent events and review of policy. The next meeting agenda was agreed with the addition of “events and liaison between village groups” and attendance at the next meeting confirmed. It was further confirmed that Cllr Shaw is getting the review of the neighbourhood plans to Parish Councils before the meeting.
24/45	PARISH MAINTENANCE ISSUES	
	45.1	To receive feedback from June defib check. Checker for June is Cllr Perkins and July is Cllr Pickett. Feedback and responsibilities were noted.
	45.2	To note further quotes of stone wall to Donkey Paddock and resolve action. The quotes were received and noted. It was agreed that the resident should contribute. Action Cllr Perkins to visit
	45.3	C/F To note complaint re chemical spraying on weeds by PCC, their response, and resolve action. It was agreed that Council are uncomfortable with the way this is done. The date for future spraying will try to be obtained to monitor application. Action Clerk
	45.4	To note feedback from meeting re flooding areas and resolve action. It was agreed to ask Cllr Boyce about the site meeting and feedback. Action Clerk
	45.5	To note any new maintenance issues and resolve appropriate action. None were raised.
	45.6	To consider purchase of trail camera(s). This was noted as a possibility with PCC.
24/46	CLERK REPORT/CORRESPONDENCE: To receive and note correspondence and decide any actions. a) To note resident unresolved complaint re AWA manhole reported. This was noted and being monitored. b) To note query re hedge removal in conservation area. This was noted and resolved. c) To note query re chapel sale and response to clarify Parish Council position. This was noted and a meeting held in the coffee shop noted also. A newsletter article will also clarify the position.	

Signed by Chairman _____ Date _____

	d) To note request from resident to help with developer issue. This was noted as an issue between the developer and the resident, and some papers from the application passed over.		
24/47	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 authorised.		
	47.1	Clerk pay 26 hours pm £395.46 less tax/NI £79 payable 30/6/24	£316.26
	47.2	Clerk; Reimburse ink shared pm J Rice paid in May	£4.22
	47.3	Clerk; mileage May/June plus home office expenses £26	£9.90 plus £26
	47.4	HMRC employer/ee payment for June	£79.20
	47.5	Nurture (was CGM) grass cutting 349087 (April) and 348633 (May)	£412.37 and £412.37
	47.6	Curtis Website design for extra storage	£9 then £31
	47.7	Wave water bill Mar to Jun	£53.04
	47.8	XF of Community Leadership Fund payment for Neighbourhood Watch signage	£117
	47.9	Reimburse Clerk for M/Soft Office and Avast software security paid in Oct 23 and Dec 23	£59.99 and £64.99
	47.10	CAPALC for Cllr planning training and old invoice for CIL training	£180 and £50
	47.11	SLCC share of subs	£57.25
	47.12	The Cedar Centre hall hire	£30
	47.13	M Stalley for replacement lock	£22
	47.14	Receipts;	£117 CLF received 30/5/24
24/48	DATE OF NEXT MEETING It was noted that the next meeting is on 15 th July 2024 at 7.30pm.		

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 _____