

MINUTES of Astley Village Parish Council held on Wednesday, 1 July 2009 at Astley Village Community Centre, Hallgate, Astley Village

Present Cllrs M Perks (Chairman), P Baker, A Cain, L Lennox, K Robinson, H Seaman, D Swards, J Thomas.

24 residents.

212.01 Apologies none

212.02 Declarations of Interest - none at this time.

212.03 Minutes of Meeting

i) Minutes of Council meeting on 1 April 2009

RESOLVED: Minutes of 1 April 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

ii) Minutes of Council meeting on 6 May 2009

RESOLVED: Minutes of 6 May 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with a minor adjustment to 209.05.

7.37pm There were numerous interruptions from the members of the public present. The Chair gave several warnings to the public to keep order, keep all questions and statements until the agenda item for public participation and that the meeting could be adjourned and the public asked to leave if the interruptions did not stop.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to exclude the public from the meeting because of disorder so it could be allowed conduct its business.

The meeting was resumed at 7.50pm

iii) Minutes of Council meeting on 3 June 2009

A review of the standing orders will go on the September agenda

It was raised that the publicity protocol was requested for the agenda. The Clerk informed it was on last months agenda and would the newsletter item on this agenda covered the same policy.

Cllr Perks left, Cllr Cain Chair

For a trial period the Environmental Reports will be logged on a separate report so progress on them can be reported at each meeting by the Clerk.

Cllr Perks returned

RESOLVED: Minutes of 3 June 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with minor adjustments to the attendance list.

iv) Minutes of Extra Ordinary Council meeting on 12 June 2009

RESOLVED: Minutes of 12 June 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

212.04 Statutory Business

Councillor Vacancies - The Clerk updated that since the last meeting there had been a second resignation, Ian Handley, and that following the statutory notice on the noticeboard both vacancies had had an election called on them. The election will be the 27 August 2009.

The estimated cost to the Parish Council for a by-election is £7,114.51 which included optional polling cards and their delivery (£1,757.40). If there are only two nominations for the two vacancies then the cost for the uncontested election would be £498.43.

RESOLVED: The Council opted to have the polling cards and associated delivery costs. This would need to be ratified at the next meeting.

The budgets would be discussed at the next meeting to decide where the funds could be diverted/taken from to pay an election bill.

212.05 Public Participation

212.06 Finance

i) Consider applications for payment made to the Council.

RESOLVED: The following request(s) for payment were approved for payment.

£	91.65	1st Euxton ROF Scouts	Delivery for newsletter June 09
£	410.58	Employee 1	Salary for June 2009
£	146.35	Employee 2	Salary for June 2009
£	591.49	Employee 3	Salary for June 2009
£	185.88	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI June 2009
£	393.58	Employee 1	Salary for July 2009
£	119.80	Employee 2	Salary for July 2009
£	591.49	Employee 3	Salary for July 2009
£	168.39	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI July 2009
£	50.00	Penny Calley	Grant
£	50.00	Paul Turner	Grant
£	100.00	NW Air Ambulance	Grant
£	100.00	Derian House	Grant
£	100.00	Friends of Astley Park	Grant
£	100.00	Victim Support	Grant
£	117.79	D Platt	Reimbursements

ii) Approve the Financial Monitoring Statements

RESOLVED: Council approved the Financial Monitoring Statements for June and July.

212.07 Newsletter

Councillors discussed a circulated proposal document offering some ideas and options to move forward with the newsletter.

RESOLVED: The Council agreed that an editorial working group would be set up for a year consisting of Cllrs Thomas as Chair and Cllr Perks and Cllr Lennox. The group will meet in the week commencing 13 July to compile content for the deadline of 31 July.

Cllr Thomas left

The report stated the website was out of date in places. The Clerk informed that the pages for the newsletter, minutes, Councillors, planning, and any news items were updated regularly as and when there were items, some weekly. There were some historical sections like the Astley In Bloom, artwork etc but they were kept on for reference purposes.

Councillors were asked to have a look through the site and report any pages which were felt to be out of date, think of any new ideas. The editorial working group will look at this area when it meets.

212.08 Environment Committee and Reports

The new rota would be drawn up after the election in August.

Problem	Location	CIlr
An A-board on footpath obstructing pedestrians, causing obstruction	Chancery Road at driveway entrance to Rugby/Golf	KR
Hedge overgrown	Chancery Road junction with Deerfold	KR
Pile of wood chips and branches piled 6ft high, could be future fire risk, rate in area	End of Woodfall	KR
Path access unsuitable for disabled scooters	End of Merefield where it enters the park	KR
Path has sunken area in tarmac which gathers water, in winter will freeze	End of Merefield where it enters the park near the gated access	AC
Road surface very poor with pot holes	Hallgate	PB
Art board has been pulled off and only one remains	Under subway	PB
Village caretakers storage facilities at the school	Village (presently at school)	PB
Village road signs, street name places, seats are turning green with moss and they look untidy	All around the village	DS
Land around the underpass where tree works have take place is unfinished, bricks loose around steps, generally unfinished and untidy	Land both sides of the under pass, both sides of the road	LL
Grass overgrown along the side of the footpath, needs cutting	Along side of footpath from underpass, along school fence	LL
Litter in the hedge and around the grounds, looks very untidy and blows out and around the village	Stonham Housing Parent & Baby unit grounds	

The Chairman reported the Council's receipt of a £500 Green Partnership Award to plant sapling hedge trees in the hedge along Westway Ponds to fill in the gaps.

212.09 Reports from Parish Councillors who represent the Parish Council on Other Bodies

PACT - new Sergeant for the area, called Sgt A Khan. Crime in Chorley down but increase recently in bicycle thefts. Efforts will be increased to raise awareness of summer crimes and risks of leaving windows open. Speeding and parking around Hallgate being tackled, school sent a letter to parents. Tackling youths throwing stones at cars.

212.10 Matters for information

There being no further business the Chairman declared the public meeting closed.

NEWSLETTER SCHEDULE

Distributed	Councillors deadline before: (copy posted out to you on this date)	Date goes to the printer (nothing accepted on/after this date)
1 st week September 09	7 August 2009	14 August 2009
1 st week December 09	6 November 2009	13 November 2009
1 st week March 10	End of 1 st week February 2010	End of 2 nd week February 2010
1 st week June 10	End of 1 st week of May 2010	End of 2 nd week of May 2010

PRIVATE, PART II ITEMS

Exclusion of Press and Public

Pursuant to section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 and defined in Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972, Paragraph 1, Part 1 ss1. It is resolved that, because of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted the press and public are excluded from the forthcoming items of business.

212.11 Review of Clerks Contract and Job Description

RESOLVED: Cllrs Perks, Cain, Thomas and Seaman would form a sub-committee to review the contract and job description of the Clerk and report recommendations back to the Council.

There being no further business the Chairman declared the meeting closed.