

MINUTES of Astley Village Parish Council held on Wednesday, 9 December 2009 at Astley Village Community Centre, Hallgate, Astley Village

Present Cllrs L Lennox (Chairman), R Fraser, I Handley, K Robinson, D Swards, J Thomas.

2 residents

217.01 Apologies - Cllrs I Hodgson, J Nuttall, D Slessor.

217.02 Declarations of Interest

217.03 Minutes of Meeting

RESOLVED: Minutes of 11 November 2009 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman with one minor amendment at 216.13 to £300 from £400.

217.04 Statutory Business

i) Councillor vacancies - co-options

Clerk reported there was still one vacancy on the Council which has been advertised in the current newsletter.

ii) Planning

09/00688/FUL 74 The Farthings Change of use of land to create garden area, erection of boundary fence, erection of garden shed and land level change

RESOLVED: Council requested if a condition could be considered for this application that it remains garden/land and cannot be built upon, also to enquire about the void of land left by this application which is behind number 72.

09/00939/FUL 45 Elmwood Erection of a part single, part two storey rear extension and inclusion of new first floor window in the east elevation of the dwelling house.

217.05 Public Participation

RESOLVED: Council agreed to suspend standing orders.

Maria Ratcliffe from Places for People brought along some presentation boards of some area concepts for the Greenspaces project. It was explained that there would be trees lost, areas cut back but also there would be substantial new planting, opening up of pathways and creation of community gardens. Also, a 20 year maintenance fee is to be set aside for the management of the new areas.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to restore standing orders.

217.06 Finance

i) Consider applications for payment made to the Council.

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

£	75.00	1st Euxton ROF Scouts	Delivering Sept newsletter
£	75.00	1st Euxton ROF Scouts	Delivering Dec newsletter
£	190.00	Lancashire Training Partnership	Trainer for the training day
£	368.14	Employee 1	Salary for Dec09
£	120.00	Employee 2	Salary for Dec09
£	591.49	Employee 3	Salary for Dec09
£	157.22	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI Dec 09
£	368.34	Employee 1	Salary for Jan10
£	119.80	Employee 2	Salary for Jan10
£	591.49	Employee 3	Salary for Jan10
£	157.22	HM Revenue & Customs	Tax & NI Jan10

£ 110.54 D Platt
£ 307.00 Sprintprint

Reimbursements (Copies/Post/Miles etc)
Dec Newsletter printing

ii) Approve the financial monitoring statement and receive an updated budget.

RESOLVED: Council received the statement and update.

iii) Consider the Precept Budget for 2010/2011

RESOLVED: Council considered the budget and set the precept (as per attached sheet) at £21,840 which equates to approximately £20 per band D property.

217.07 Council Policies

Asset Register

RESOLVED: Council agreed the asset register.

Financial Regulations

RESOLVED: Council agreed to adopt the new SLCC/NALC template Financial Regulations.

217.08 Environment Committee and Reports

Reported items were: Path between Elmwood and Deerfold slippy and full of leaves. Leaves around and in bus stop at bottom of Deerfold. Footpath full length of Chancery needs sweeping. Light outside Ravensthorpe (4A) is out. Street light at the top of school side steps which flashed on and off is now off. Grass is overgrowing the edges of the kerb stones and needs trimming back all along Chancery Road.

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

Civic Society - Cllr Robinson reported on the talk at the end of November.

Friends of Astley Park - Cllr Robinson reported a group had spent more time clearing the River Chor, and thanks were sent for the grant which purchased waders, gloves etc, the flow of the river is much improved. The group is assisting with a Japanese Knotweed survey and Chorley is still looking into the Sensory Garden access.

Partnership Working Forum, sub group - Cllr Lennox reported they discuss older peoples activities and using the Community Centre more.

Neighbourhood Watch have been concerned about the parking at Hallgate junction with Chancery Road and alerting people over a scam which informs people they have a refund and requests their bank details.

217.10 Matters for information

The Clerk reported that Astley Pharmacy is to have a late night opening on the carol singing night, 20% off goods and will have mince pies and refreshments for customers.

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 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
1 st week September 10	End of 1 st week of August 2010	End of 2 nd week of August 2010
1 st week December 10	End of 1 st week of November 2010	End of 2 nd week November 2010

**ASTLEY VILLAGE PARISH COUNCIL
2010/2011 PRECEPT BUDGET**

		2010/2011 Budget	
Budget Heads		Ear marked Reserve c/f from 09/10	Precept 2010/2011
01 - ADMINISTRATION			
	Room Hire		250
	Sundry/stationery/office		1000
	Insurance		500
	Auditors/Accounts		450
	Election		4000
	Employees		16650
02 - COUNCIL			
	Newsletter/Public's		800
	Public Works		300
	Training (cllrs/employees)		150
	Other/emergency/subs/small projects		4410
03 - PLAN			
	Village Green project		2000
	Information/map boards		3000
	Tackle litter and dog fouling problems		500
	Improvements to the village		500
	Facilitate floral displays around the village		1000
	Astley in Bloom		500
	Westway Ponds maintenance		500
	Security initiatives/crime prevention		500
	Grant fund/local projects & groups		1000
	Christmas festivities		500
04 - GRANT OUTSTANDING			
	Westway Ponds Env Grant	500	
	Total Budget		38510
	Cash in hand		16670
	Precept		21840

PUBLIC MINUTE

(to be issued, following the approval of the minutes)

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, Part 1 ss3 & 4. 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.

217.11 Review of Clerks Contract and Job Description and Employee Salary Review

RESOLVED: Council received the minutes of the Employee Review Committee of 7 December 2009 and accepted all the recommendations put forward.

Council resolved to return to public session.

217.10 Matters for information

A Councillor raised with the Council the amount of paperwork involved in defending a Standards Board investigation and Adjudication Panel Hearing and deposited a letter with the Council which informed that he had misplaced private documents relevant to the case.

A Councillor warned the Council of commenting on local issues to members of the press and recommended that Councillors should refer the press to the Chair or Council Clerk.

The Chair endorsed this comment, Councillors should refer the press to the Chair or Clerk to the Council to issue a comment on behalf of the Council.