



Astley Village Parish Council

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 7.00 pm via Zoom.

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

Note: The live meeting can be accessed via the following link:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/96767301276?pwd=SkMyd3hjb251TWxWdUxVQU5wN2d3UT09>

Meeting ID: 967 6730 1276

Passcode: 177690

'Virtual Agenda'

1. **Introduction and Welcome.**
2. **Annual Report of the Parish Council 2020/21 by the Chair, Councillor Laura Lennox (Attached)**
3. **To invite the public to raise any matters of interest.**

The Parish Meeting is an opportunity for parishioners on the Electoral Roll for Astley Village to raise any matters of concern to them that relates to their local community. It would be helpful to have written notice of any matters to be raised but it is not essential. Matters can be raised at the meeting without prior notice. For any queries, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council (Craig Ainsworth at clerk@avpc.org.uk)

The Parish Council Meeting will follow immediately after this meeting.

**Councillor Laura Lennox.
Chair, Astley Village Parish Council
22 February 2021**



Astley Village Parish Council

Title	Annual Report 2020/21					
Report of	Councillor Laura Lennox, Chair of the Parish Council					
Date	3 March 2021					
Type of Paper	Decision		Discussion		Information	X
Purpose of Report						
To present the Annual Report for Astley Village Parish Council for 2020/21.						
Key Issues						
<p>We held our annual budget setting Council Meeting on 8 January 2020 and decided not to increase the precept for 2020/21, so charges remained the same for residents. At the Parish Council Meeting on 4 March 2020, we reviewed plans in progress for several projects in the village. We did not realise even then at our March meeting that almost everything would be put on hold.</p> <p>The Parish Council has had a busy and disrupted year. The Parish Clerk, Debra Platt decided to leave in January 2020 but thankfully was happy to continue until we found a replacement. Recruitment was put on hold until lockdown relaxed. Thank you to Debra for all her work for the Parish Council and welcome to Craig Ainsworth, who took over in September 2020.</p> <p>We have had a number of changes to our Parish Councillors as well, Anne Pryce joined us in March 2020. At the same meeting Susan Crook resigned and in September 2020, Jenny Dawson resigned, and Gillian Sharples joined the Parish Council. We welcomed Gillian and we wish Ed, Jenny and Susan well as they moved on to pastures new. Over the summer Keith Robinson decided it was time to step down after many years of service to the Parish. However, Keith continues to take an interest in all matters "Astley". Thank you to Keith for all his work over so many years. Keith Ashton joined us in January 2021 and is already taking an active role on the Parish Council.</p> <p>We still have a vacancy to fill and would especially like to recruit from "unrepresented" areas. If you would like to be a Parish Councillor please contact the Parish Clerk.</p>						

We were unable to publish our Newsletter in May 2020, due to the lockdown and the closure of our printers but were able to go ahead with our winter edition in December 2020. Sadly, our annual carol singing event had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 restrictions.

One of the biggest changes for the Parish Council has been the move to Zoom meetings. Members of the public can still join the meeting but need to contact the Parish Clerk in advance. We look forward to returning to face-to-face meetings as soon as possible. We have also updated our website, so please take a look. The contact details of Parish Councillors and how to contact the Parish Clerk are on the website, as well as the notice boards in the village centre.

At our January 2021 Council Meeting we set the parish precept for 2021/22 and again decided not to increase the charge for residents (in fact you will see a small decrease in the amount you pay). We have revamped our Parish Development Plan and have a number of projects underway these include a plan for a new play area on the Westway playing field development, further tree planting, new gateway signage and finger post signs to indicate footpath routes. A working party is also looking cleaning and repainting the bus shelters.