



Astley Village Parish Council

21 January 2022 at 7.00pm

Present

Councillor Arnold Almond (Chair) (in the Chair); Councillor John McAndrew (Vice Chair); Councillors Keith Ashton, Emma Barraclough, Matt Lynch, and Chris Sheldon.

302.01 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillors Susan Crook and Gillian Sharples.

302.02 Declarations of Interest

Councillors and officers were invited to declare any interests they had in any of the items on the agenda for the meeting.

Councillor John McAndrew declared a Personal Interest as a Governor at Buckshaw Primary School.

Councillor Matt Lynch declared a Personal and Prejudicial interest as a Chorley Borough Councillor in respect of the discussion on the planning application for the erection of an inflatable multi-sport airdome, including a concrete ring beam for anchoring, resurfacing of tennis courts and other associated infrastructure and ancillary facilities at Parklands High School Southport Road Chorley (Minute 302.13 "Reports from Parish Council representatives on Other Bodies").

302.03 Public Engagement

Members of the public are invited to put questions/make representations to the members of the Parish Council.

No members of the public were present.

302.04 Borough/County Councillor Reports

A report from Chorley North and Astley Ward Borough Councillors (copies of which had been circulated) was considered.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

302.05 Minutes

RESOLVED - That the minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Wednesday 3 November and the Extraordinary Parish Council Meeting on Tuesday 23 November 2021 (copies of which had been circulated) be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

302.06 Parish Clerk Report

The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing an update on ongoing projects, work outstanding and activities since the last meeting of the Parish Council.

The Chorley North and Astley Ward Borough Councillors had suggested the following possible Neighbourhood Priority Projects which could be submitted the Neighbourhood Area Meeting on 31 January 2022:

- To provide a memorial area including a pair of Unknown Tommy Figurines and planters in Astley Village. Estimated cost £350 for pair figurines plus cost of erection and creation of suitable area. Costs to be investigated.
- To provide extra planters and knee fencing on Chancery Road.
- To environmentally enhance a gateway into Astley Park.

RESOLVED – (1) That the report be noted.

(2) That the expenditure approved by the Parish Clerk, Councillor Almond - Poppy Wreath (Remembrance Sunday) £20, Chorley Borough Council - Room Hire (Extraordinary Council Meeting) £6.90, Printwise - Winter 2021 Newsletter £545, Ms Sue Edwards - Internal Audit 2020-21 £75 and 1st Euxton Scout Group – Delivery of Winter Newsletter £81.25.in accordance with Standing Order 16.2 be noted.

(3) To support the Neighbourhood Priority Projects suggested by the Chorley North and Astley Ward Borough Councillors for consideration at the Neighbourhood Area Meeting on 31 January 2022.

302.07 Statutory Business

(i) Co-option to the Parish Council Vacancy

No application had been received and had been circulated to Parish Councillors.

It was noted that Mr Rod Fraser had resigned from the Parish Council on 6 January 2022 resulting in two vacancies on the Parish Council.

RESOLVED –The Parish Clerk be requested to extend the deadline for expressions of interest in relation to the current vacancy to Sunday 20 February 2022.

(ii) Planning Issues Relevant to the Village

The Parish Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing details of planning issues relevant to the village. The Parish Council had been

consulted on the following planning application received by Chorley Borough Council:

- The Conversion of integral garage to habitable accommodation at 73 Long Croft Meadow, Astley Village, Chorley, PR7 1TR (Reference: 21/01479/FULHH).

The deadline for any representations was 26 January 2022.

- A two-storey side extension at 87 Studfold, Astley Village, Chorley, PR7 1UA (Reference: 22/00012/FULHH).

The deadline for any representations was 31 January 2022.

RESOLVED – That the planning applications be noted.

302.08 West Way Sports Hub - Phase 2 (New Play Area and Work to Pathways at the Site)

The Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) providing a formal response to the consultation on Phase 2 (new play area and work to pathways at the site) of the West Way Sports Hub Development.

RESOLVED (Unanimously) – (1) That the details and location of the new play area as part of Phase 2 at the West Way Sports Hub be supported subject to:

- Access to the play area being available 24 hours a day, seven days a week.
- Consideration being given to the installation of knee rail fencing around the perimeter of the site to protect the grass pitches, with multiple accesses for pedestrians/push bikes, instead of a timber post and rail, approximately one metre in height with multiple gates which could in the future be locked.
- The 'Partnership' between Chorley Borough Council and Astley Village Parish Council in delivering the new play area being reflected as part of the scheme.
- Due to the proximity of the new play area to the four ponds of the Community Nature Reserve, fencing should be repaired and made safe around the Nature Reserve to alleviate the safety concerns expressed by the Parish Council.

(2) That the scheme for the footpath layout be considered by the Parish Council before the Parish Council contribution (£5,000) is released.

(3) The Parish Council are concerned that Astley and Buckshaw Junior Football Club appear to have exclusive use of football pitches in the local area and if this is the case, the Parish Council should make representations to protect the interests of young people living in Astley Village in terms of their needs and access to these football pitch facilities.

302.09 Financial Matters

(i) Financial Position

The Responsible Financial Officer submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) showing the financial position as at 22 December 2021.

RESOLVED – That the financial position be noted.

(ii) Payments to be Approved

The Responsible Financial Officer submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) recommending a list of invoices to be paid between 1 January 2022 and 28 February 2022 as follows:

Date	Creditor	Description	Cheque No	Total (£)	Vat (£)	Net (£)
07/01/22	Employee 4	Reimbursements (November 2021)	EB	77.63		77.63
07/01/22	Employee 4	Reimbursements (December 2021)	EB	42.85		42.85
01/01/22	Easy Web Sites	Monthly rental	DD	62.40	10.40	52.00
23/01/22	Zoom	Zoom Subscription (January 2022)	EB	14.39	2.40	11.99
14/01/22	Employee 2	Salary (January 2022)	EB	77.22		77.22
14/01/22	Employee 4	Salary (January 2022)	EB	304.50		304.50
15/01/22	HMRC	Tax (January 2022)	EB	76.20		76.20
01/02/22	Easy Web Sites	Monthly rental	DD	62.40	10.40	52.00
23/02/22	Zoom	Zoom Subscription (February 2022)	EB	14.39	2.40	11.99
15/02/22	Employee 2	Salary (February 2022)	EB	77.22		77.22
15/02/22	Employee 4	Salary (February 2022)	EB	304.70		304.70
15/02/22	HMRC	Tax (February 2022)	EB	76.00		76.00
				1189.90	25.60	1164.30

(iii) Spend Against Budget Headings

The Responsible Financial Officer submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) inviting the Parish Council to review the spend against budget headings.

RESOLVED – That the report be noted.

(iv) Proposed 2022/23 Budget Headings and Precept

The Parish Clerk submitted a report (copies of which had been circulated) to assist the Parish Council in finalising the Budget for 2022/23.

It was reported that the 2022/23 Tax Base approved by Chorley Borough Council for Astley Village was 927.20.

RESOLVED (Unanimously) – That the Astley Village Parish Precept for 2022/23 be set at £24,274 (Parish Yield: £20,397 and Parish Top-up Grant: £3,877) with the Band D amount being £22 (the same as 2021/22).

(v) Appointment of Internal Auditor for 2021/22 Accounts.

RESOLVED – That Ms Susan Edwards be appointed as Internal Auditor in respect of the 2021/22 Accounts at a cost not exceeding £100.

(vi) Review of Asset Register

The Parish Clerk submitted the updated Asset Register (copies of which had been circulated).

RESOLVED – That the Asset Register be approved.

302.10 The implications of potential HMOs in the Parish

The Parish Clerk reminded the Parish Council that at the last meeting on 3 November 2021, it was agreed to include this item on the Summons for this Council Meeting.

RESOLVED – That the item be deferred until the next meeting of the Parish Council on 2 March 2022.

302.11 Newsletter

The Parish Council discussed the timing and potential articles for the Spring edition of the Parish Council Newsletter.

RESOLVED – (1) That the next newsletter be produced in June 2022 and the Parish Clerk be requested to include an item on the Summons for the Parish Council meeting on 2 March 2022 to consider the content.

(2) That Parish Councillors be requested to suggest potential articles to the Parish Clerk in advance of the next Parish Council Meeting on 2 March 2022.

302.12 Environment Reports

No issues were raised.

302.13 Reports from Parish Council representatives on Other Bodies

Chorley Liaison

Councillor Arnold Almond reported that he and the Parish Clerk had attended a meeting of the Chorley Liaison on Wednesday 19 January 2022. A copy of the minutes from the meeting held on 20 October 2021 had been circulated with the Summons.

Friends of Astley Park

Councillor John McAndrew reported that the Parish Council had previously objected to the proposed erection of an inflatable multi-sport airdome, including a concrete ring beam for anchoring, resurfacing of tennis courts and other associated infrastructure and ancillary facilities at Parklands High School, Southport Road, Chorley on environmental grounds and the adverse impact on the ancient woodland.

He reported that the application had been refused by Chorley Borough Council but the applicant had submitted an appeal against this decision. He suggested that the Parish Council should support the Friends of Astley Park in making representations against the proposed development to the Planning Inspector.

RESOLVED – That Councillor John McAndrew be requested to make representations against the proposed development to the Planning Inspector reiterating the previous objections of the Parish Council.

Neighbourhood Area Meeting (Chorley Town North)

Councillor Arnold Almond reported that he and the Parish Clerk had attended a meeting of the Neighbourhood Area Meetings (Chorley Town North) on Wednesday 29 September 2021 and a copy of the minutes had been circulated with the Summons. He reported that the next meeting was on Monday 31 January 2022.

RESOLVED – That the reports be noted.

302.14 Minutes of the Personnel Committee.

The minutes of the Personnel Committee held on 7 July and 17 November 2021 (copies of which had been circulated) were noted.

302.15 Correspondence

Correspondence received had been reported as part of the 'Parish Clerk Report' (Minute 302.06).

302.16 Date of Next Meeting

It was agreed that the next meeting of the Parish Council would take place on Wednesday 2 March 2022 at the time of the Parish Meeting.

The meeting concluded at 8.20pm.

Chair