

**MINUTES** of Astley Village Parish Council meeting held Wednesday, 2 September 2015 at Astley Village Community Centre, Hallgate, Astley Village.

Present Cllrs A Bridge, R Fraser, I Handley, D Hope, C Lennox, L Lennox (Chairman), J McAndrew, from 8pm M Lynch Clerk Mrs D Platt.

264.01 Apologies none. None attend Cllrs Almond.

264.02 Declarations of Interest - none

264.03 Public Participation

RESOLVED: Council agreed to suspend standing orders.

Stagecoach Operations Direction and Communications Manager attended to introduce a new timetable through the village. Councillors asked questions and made enquires on routes, times and lack of bus to Tesco. Stagecoach will send timetables and posters and an article for the newsletter.

RESOLVED: Council agreed to restore standing orders.

264.04 Minutes of Meeting

RESOLVED: Minutes of the Council meeting of 1 July 2015 were accepted as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

264.05 Clerks Report

Members received the report. Members discussed the transparency bid and that applying for assistance was a good idea, Clerk to keep Councillors up to date if the form/submission is required prior to next meeting.

264.06 Statutory Business

Members noted the applications.

264.07 Financial Matters

i) Consider applications for payment made to the Council

RESOLVED: The following requests for payment/standing orders were approved. Councillors noted the uncleared cheque number 1401 and the transfer from the Unity Bank to the Barclays bank account to cover salaries paid from the Barclays account.

£	269.00	Chorley Council	Uncontested election May 15
£	48.00	Tell Tale Signs	Sign strips for noticeboard
£	338.58	Employee 1	Salary Sept 15
£	78.00	Employee 2	Salary Sept 15
£	595.29	Employee 3	Salary Sept 15
£	84.60	HMRC	Tax & NI for Sept 2015
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£	99.26	D Platt	Reimbursements
£	269.00		

ii) Approve financial monitoring statements

RESOLVED: Council approved the financial monitoring statements.

iii) Receive and approve the Annual Return and report from the External Auditor  
Item withdrawn as it had not been received back from the External Auditor.

iv) Consider grant application

Cllr Bridge declared a personal interest.

RESOLVED: Council approved a grant offer for £100 subject to receipt of accounts. Members suggested the group should promote its activities in the village using the community board, website, newsletter to actively encourage membership.

#### 264.08 Consultations:

##### Join the Chorley Conversation

Councillors extended an invitation to one of our meetings as they were uncertain as to what the consultation was for.

##### Lancashire County Council Draft Corporate Strategy

Noted.

#### 264.09 Two Year Plan Review

Members scrutinised the revised plan. Cllr C Lennox will write an article for the next newsletter.

Members wished to try to set up a meeting with Chorley Council, Places for People and the parish council to discuss overlapping work such as litter picking, maintenance in the village centre and such items.

Signs for seats – Clerk to get quotations.

#### 264.10 Christmas Event Planning

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> December, Parklands Band booked.

Clerk to contact WI, book room and speak to Parklands music teacher about carols.

Consider quotation for the electric box move (report 264.10)

RESOLVED: Council agreed to the work, estimated cost £400-500.

#### 264.11 Environment Reports

Reports: Path from the top of The Farthings into Astley Park, grass cutting at the side of the Community Centre, cut trees between Deerfold/Studfold and dumped posts and panels need removing, cat notices packing taped to noticeboards.

The Neighbourhood Officer had visited Tesco to remind them about picking up bags and waste blown from their site.

#### 264.12 Reports from Councillors who represent the Parish Council on Other Bodies

Chorley Liaison meeting – reported on the name change, Spice Time Credits, energy switching, corporate strategy, Youth Zone, events. Pilot Community Action Plans – asked what these are. Public Right of Way consultation, query raised about having combined insurance policies, traffic management in Croston.

Astley Park Advisory Committee – Flower Show discussions, dog wash not completed, lighting in walled garden complete, garden of reflection applied for grants, drones are a problem in the park.

Friends of Astley Park – CBC had some trees to give away, ongoing works in Sensory Garden, Balsam events and river cleaning dates, wildflower meadow updates, bat boxes are done and need putting up, acorn collections will begin when they begin to fall and a grant for equipment has been received, reed bed has a £5k grant so will get started soon.

Green Team – projects need to be bid for, which is surprising as residents pay into a fund. Second meeting was for Broadfields but they didn't turn up and made no contact.

264.13 Matters for information

Start reviews to finish before end of November CL, KR, ML. Personnel meeting in November.

Newsletter articles:

Chair  
2 year plan  
Bus service  
Christmas  
Flower Show/Evaders Garden  
WI dedication  
New Councillors  
CBC Community Action Pan  
Neighbourhood working  
Friends article  
Derian update  
Rugby club update  
Choir  
Guides

A Councillor asked why Council have just 6 meetings per year, when they did have 10 and they were briefly updated that Council decided some time ago to reduce its meetings by four, newsletters by 2 and other cost saving ideas were implemented but Councillors were all consulted at the time and the subjects discussed and agreed.

The Chairman declared the public part of the meeting closed.

**2016 meeting dates: 7pm Wednesdays: 6 January, 2 March, 4 May, 6 July, 7 September, 2 November.**