



Astley Village Parish Council

NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 4 March 2026 at 6.30 pm at the West Way Hub

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

'Agenda'

- 1. Introduction and Welcome.**
- 2. Minutes from the last meeting on 5 March 2025 (Enclosed).**
- 3. Annual Report of the Parish Council 2025/26 by the Chair, Councillor Gillian Sharples**
- 4. 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 Gillian Sharples
Chair, Astley Village Parish Council
24 February 2026**



Astley Village Parish Council

Annual Parish Meeting

5 March 2025 at 6.30pm

Present

Councillor Gillian Sharples (Chair), in the Chair and 9 members of the public.

1. Introduction and Welcome

The Chair welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Meeting and explained that the Parish Meeting was an annual meeting that allowed residents to raise and discuss issues effecting the village and was separate to Parish Council Meetings.

2. Annual Report of the Parish Council 2024/25

The Chair of the Parish Council (Councillor Gillian Sharples) presented the Annual Report of the Parish Council 2024/25 (copies of which had been circulated).

RESOLVED – That the Annual Report be noted.

3. Items Raised by Members of the Public

The Chair invite the public to raise any matters of interest.

No issues were raised.

The meeting concluded at 6.32pm

Chair



Astley Village Parish Council

Annual Report 2025/2026

Re-elected as Chair

I was honoured to be re-elected as Chair of Astley Village Parish Council at the council meeting which took place on Wednesday 7 May 2025. I have continued to enjoy working collaboratively with fellow councillors to help improve our local community. Thanks to all residents who have taken the time to provide feedback on the various projects and activities the Parish Council are involved with.

Village Development Plan

The following new schemes were added to the Village Development Plan:

- Providing additional litter bins, including at the Astley Village Community Garden of Reflection.
- Increasing the Road Safety budget to enable the Parish Council to work with Lancashire County Council to fund speed enforcement.
- The refurbishment of the footbridge between The Farthings and Long Copse.

We will also:

- Continue to make provision for additional improvements to the Chancery Road Underpass.
- Commission a survey/report from The Wildlife Trust for Lancashire, Manchester and North Merseyside to consider further maintenance/future improvements West Way Nature Reserve.
- Provide additional planting at the Astley Village Community Garden of Reflection
- investigate illuminating the Gateway Signs (possibly installing solar floodlights) and providing a backing to the signs to make them more visible.

As Chair, I am looking forward to seeing the results of what will be welcome enhancements to the village.

Car parking charges at Hallgate car park

Residents will be aware that since 5 November 2025, parking charges between 8am and 5pm (Monday-Sunday) were introduced on the Hallgate car park. There has been evidence of displaced parking on Hallgate which is being monitored by Lancashire County Council. Both the County Council and the Parish Council are collaborating with Chorley Borough Council regarding the impact, and traffic regulation orders will be considered to try and prevent parking on Hallgate. However,

we appreciate that this may mean that parking is displaced onto surrounding, residential roads.

One-Way system – Chancery Road

We are continuing to highlight the issues regarding the one-way system, which is put in place by Chorley Borough Council for events taking place in Astley Park. On 7 November 2025, the fireworks display and Light Up Astley were combined into one event, meaning that there was a significant increase in numbers of people attending and various incidents of indiscriminate parking and drivers not adhering to the one-way system. We will continue to try and work collaboratively with the borough council to find a solution.

Remembrance Sunday/Poppies in the Parish

Parish Councillors attended Chorley's Remembrance Sunday service on Sunday 9 November 2025. As Chair, I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. Poppies were also attached to street signs throughout the village during the week before Armistice Day.

Monthly Litter Picks

Our monthly litter picks are a great way to help keep our village clean and tidy. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at the Community Centre at 10am and we split into groups so we can cover as much of the village as possible. Equipment such as litter pickers, gloves, bin bags and hi-vis jackets are provided.

Christmas 2025

The Parish Council held its annual Christmas carol singing event on Friday 5 December 2025. Once again, we were accompanied by members of the guitar group, 'AKA Acoustic', featuring our very own Cllrs' John McAndrew and Keith Ashton. We also lit the Christmas tree and refreshments were served afterwards.