

# Minutes

## Astley Parish Council

<b>Date</b>	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May 2024
<b>Time</b>	19:16
<b>Meeting called to order by</b>	Chairperson : Councillor Spicer
<b>Meeting closed</b>	20:35

### **In Attendance**

Councillor Spicer, Councillor Vickers, Councillor Orton, Councillor Hunter, Debra Spicer (Clerk), Councillor Webber

### **Apologies**

None

### **Visitors**

None

### **Absent**

None

### **Approval of minutes**

The minutes of the previous meeting (16<sup>th</sup> May 2024) were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairperson.

## Matters Arising

No.	Minute details	Action
44-23	<b>Potholes</b> – this is an ongoing problem and needs to be reported again when noticed.	All
46-23	<b>Dog bin</b> – It was agreed that this would be deferred to the September meeting.	Clerk
73-22	<b>Duke of Suffolk Monument</b> – Councillor Spicer visited the monument again at the June open weekend. It had scratches on it, not necessarily graffiti. He was with a gentleman who is an Historian, who has suggested getting into touch with the writer Alison Weird who specialises in that area. Councillor Spicer suggested another option may be a crowdfunder to raise funds to protect the monument. The estate are happy for us to look into things and find out more. Councillor Vickers suggested that we discuss it with The Landmark Trust, to find out if they can get involved. Councillor Orton suggested that we contact Lord Daventry directly, as it is about the heritage of the land. Councillor Spicer agreed to draft a letter ready for Septembers meeting.	Councillor Spicer
61-24	<b>Parking at the Nursery</b> – James, who lives next door to the Nursery, expressed concerns at May’s Annual Parish Meeting, about parking at the Nursery. Visitors Park on the grass, on the road, and it makes it really challenging to see out onto the road and safely pull out. In the winter, they leave headlights on, and that makes it harder. Councillor Hunter advised that this has been an issue for a number of years. A previous suggestion involved trying to cover the grass with mesh to stop it from churning up, but this was cost prohibitive. The previous Chair has asked them about it, and they would park differently for a short period of time. James had asked about the possibility of having the wall removed, to create more parking. It was agreed that this would be a matter that would have to be taken to the estate, as it is a safety issue. Councillor Webber suggested that we copy the nursery into a letter to the estate, to make them aware that this is an issue again.	Councillor Spicer
62-24	<b>Fly tipping (Breach Oak Lane)</b> – Claire, a resident who attended the May annual meeting, reported that there have been some issues with fly tipping on Breach Oak Lane. Councillors agreed that any sights can be reported when seen, so that it can be addressed by the borough council, but that it is a national issue. The Clerk has agreed to add a specific link to reporting fly tipping onto the website, along with a link for pothole reporting.	Clerk
58-24	<b>Clerk role</b> – The chair approached Corley Parish Council, and the Clerk approached other local clerks, but so far this has been unsuccessful. The Chair has asked if we can also share the job with other local Clerks in North Warwickshire. Councillor Vickers asked if we could send it to the wider Parish, to find out if someone else would be prepared to do it. It was discussed that we could send out a news letter out to	Clerk/ Councillor Spicer

<p>63-24</p>	<p>parishioner. Councillors Spicer and Webber have agreed to deliver these.</p> <p><b>Community Orchard</b> – Councillor Spicer hasn’t approached the estate about Castle Drive, as he has another potential bid which would require a larger piece of land. This is something we could apply for as a community group, if we could get some land. The deadline for applying to the Woodland Trust is November 2024. Councillor Vickers asked who would maintain and manage it at the start. If it was more local, then this could be possible, and the woodlands trust provide training about this with theirs. Councillor Vickers suggested the land which is attached to Brand and Forge, but not used, as it is central to the village. Councillor Orton said that as the centre of the village is quite fluid in terms of them being tenants, this may not be worthwhile. It was suggested that it could go into the community news letter to find out if people are interested.</p>	<p>Councillor Spicer</p>
<p>60-24</p>	<p><b>Warwickshire Low Carbon Network</b> – This is going to be delayed until September 2024, for the same reason as mentioned before and can include this in the newsletter so that residents can find out more if they wish to, and we can find out what the appetite is for this.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>64-24</p>	<p><b>Finance</b></p> <p>The Clerk confirmed that the current bank balance is £1,001.11 on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024.</p> <p><b>The council were happy to approve payments for:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Zurich Insurance - £196.00</li> <li>• Clerk for July 2024 - £120.00</li> <li>• WALC membership - £126.00</li> </ul>	<p>Clerk</p>

65-24	<p><b>Councillors report and items for future agenda</b></p> <p>Updates on this month's minutes</p> <p><b>Any Other Business (AOB)</b></p>	
66-24	<p><b>Lorries at the woodyard</b> – Councillor Vickers has suggested that we contact Highways to find out if we can get double yellow lines there to stop lorries from parking outside the woodyard, blocking the flow of traffic and often the junction from Castle Drive. Councillor Webber said that it is a violation of the highway code to park opposite a junction. He has said that he will talk to Community Speed Watch to ask for advice about this. The other issue noted with regards to the Castle Drive entrance, is that the wall diminishes visibility when turning out of the road.</p>	Clerk
67-24	<p><b>Events with the Church</b> – the idea of running joint fundraising events with the Church was raised. However, it was flagged that this may be a breach of our code of conduct for us, so further investigation is required.</p>	
68-24	<p><b>Councillor Vickers Resignation</b> – Councillor Vickers has given her notice a Parish Councillor, as she is leaving Astley in August 2024. Councillor Spicer expressed his thanks on behalf of the parish council for all her input, hard work, enthusiasm and energy over the time she has served on the council.</p>	

### Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 19:00

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_