

Minutes

Astley Parish Council

Date	Thursday 16 th January 2025
Time	19:00
Meeting called to order by	Chairperson: Councillor Spicer
Meeting closed	20:32

In Attendance

Councillor Spicer, Councillor Webber, Councillor Hunter, Councillor Proctor, Helen Billington (Clerk)

Apologies

Councillor Orton

Visitors

Adam Weaver

Absent

None

Approval of minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting (21st November 2024) were approved by the meeting and signed by the chairperson.

Matters Arising

No.	Minute details	Action
76-24	<p>Cabling and lighting issues-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No further issues reported for general cabling/broadband/street lighting. • However, it was reported that Storm Darragh caused a 10/11-hour power outage for some village properties in December. 	
73-22	<p>Duke of Suffolk Monument – Adam Weaver, Estate Manager, reported recent surveys by Severn Trent and the possibility of restoration funding from ST was discussed.</p>	
61-24	<p>Parking at the Nursery – Intermittent issues appear to be an ongoing problem. To be monitored.</p>	
75-24	<p>Parish Events-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The June event (date to be confirmed) will require extra manpower, eg. from Councillors/villagers. Cllr Proctor planning to step back from the main event organisation but could help oversee the plan. Councillors happy to help as required. • Viv Green will run kitchen and there seems to be sufficient help here. • Cllr Proctor will liaise with Jeanette and keep the Council up to date- there was a suggestion to create a sub-committee to help with the event organisation. • No date yet confirmed for Landmark Trust weekend. 	Cllr Proctor
36-21	<p>Solar Farms</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community fund letter from Innova (Sole End Solar Farm) was read and discussed. Innova have requested confirmation in writing regarding the annual payments (£5000 annually for 10 years). • There was discussion about the most appropriate account to hold the community fund. Clerk is to check the implications of it being paid into the PC account, and whether a Community account would be an option • The planning application for the Astley Gorse extension has been submitted to NWBC with comments requested by 26/01/2025- application reference number PAP2024/0577. The Clerk will approach the developer (AGE Solar Ltd) to discuss 	Clerk Clerk

	<p>the possibility of a Community fund to offset the impact on local residents.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The appeal regarding the Fillongley Solar Farm did not take place in December- an extended final hearing will now take place on 8th April for up to 6 days in Atherstone. All interested parties are welcome to attend at any point of the hearing. 	All
16-19	<p>Defibrillator maintenance There was discussion around how and when the defibrillator is maintained and checked. Clerk to check with Cllr Orton</p>	Clerk/Cllr Orton

46-23	<p>Dog bin</p> <p>Cllr Spicer and Adam Weaver, Estate Manager, will meet to identify appropriate location for wall/post mounted bin (proposed model Glasdon Metal Fido 50, green colour).</p> <p>Once confirmed, Clerk to check that NWBC are happy with the type of bin and the proposed location and will liaise with Peter Richards (installer).</p>	<p>Cllr Spicer</p> <p>Clerk</p>
64-24	<p>Finance</p> <p>The Clerk confirmed the current bank balance was £1253.91 on 14th January 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was unanimously agreed by Council to increase slightly Precept 2025-26 from £2000 to £2200. Following discussion, Clerk will check what minimum level of funds need to be held available in the account. <p>The council were happy to approve payments for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clerk to January 2025 - £134.90 Backpay for previous clerk Deb Spicer £19.20 NWBC annual dog bin fee £46.25 Richard Fellows for 2024-25 grounds maintenance/bunds £200. The Clerk reported there was an outstanding payment due to Richard from a previous year, which she would check in more detail and report back. The Council unanimously agreed to increase maintenance/bunds payments to £220 for 2025-26. 	Clerk

65-24	<p>Councillors report and items for future agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No items raised for future agenda other than those already discussed <p>Any Other Business (AOB)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion around producing a Freedom Scroll for eligible member of the Parish- costings to be checked and individual(s) confirmed • White paper/Devolution. Cllr Spicer outlined potential changes within Warwickshire relating to the White Paper, proposing one Unitary Council. He will keep us informed as events are confirmed. 	

The meeting closed at 20:32

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Thursday 20th March 2025 at 19:00

Signed: _____

Dated: _____