

**ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 11 FEBRUARY 2025 IN THE  
PARISH HALL ROSEGARTH AVENUE AT 6.30 PM**

**PRESENT** Cllr M Elliott (Chairperson)  
Cllrs S Allen G B Davis P Davis S Forster D H Gee D A Knowles  
W Mawson B Mears J Peech H Ratcliffe S Smith

Mrs K A Butler (Clerk)  
M Haigh (Assistant Clerk)

**IN ATTENDANCE** 1 Member of the Public  
Cllr D Sheppard, Cabinet Member, RMBC  
Catherine Oxtoby, Parish Council Liaison Officer

**25/21 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies and reasons for absence from Cllrs P Amrith B Bartholomew and R Taylor be accepted.

**25/22 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 14 January 2025 as being a true record of the business transacted.

**25/23 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 28 January 2025 as being a true record of the business transacted.

**25/24 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purpose Committee held on 25 November 2024 be received.

**25/25 EVENTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Events & Recreation Committee held on 26 November 2024 be received.

**25/26 FINANCE AND EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE**

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance and Employment Committee held on 26 November 2024 be received.

**25/27 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**25/28 CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

No items.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

A parishioner raised concerns about road safety issues outside Aston Lodge Primary School and requested Parish Council support to have traffic calming measures introduced in the vicinity of the school. Following consideration it was agreed that the Parish Council use some of its CIL monies (Community Infrastructure Levy) to pay for 20mph zones on Lodge Lane. Cllr Allen will provide the Clerk with the details of the officer she has already been in contact with at RMBC Highways on this matter. The issue will be included as an Agenda item at next month's Parish Council meeting.

The Chair then welcomed Cllr Sheppard, Cabinet Member RMBC, accompanied by Catherine Oxtoby, Parish Council Liaison Officer to the meeting. Cllr Sheppard commended the close working relationship already upheld between RMBC and Parish Councils and committed to strengthening this partnership going forward. The Chair thanked Cllr Sheppard and Catherine Oxtoby for their attendance.

**END OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

**25/29 ONGOING ISSUES**

- The play company has now completed all works following the recent inspection report for Lodge Lane play area. The Clerk is due to meet with them again at the beginning of March and they have advised the Parish Council not to reopen until after that date in order to allow the grass some time to grow. The Clerk will keep members informed of progress.
- The benches for the recreation ground at Lodge Lane are now in situ.
- Cllr Mears informed members that he has been unable to speak to anyone at the National Coal Mining Museum about a pit memorial for the village but that he will keep trying. The Clerk advised that she has not been able to source a pit wheel but that she has the contact information for the sculptor who created the memorial stone at Orgreave.

With regard to finding a suitable location for a pit memorial the Clerk advised that the land at NCB corner (Main Street, Swallownest) is owned by RMBC and is identified in the local plan for future housing development. The Clerk confirmed that she will contact RMBC Estates and find out whether any developers have expressed any interest in purchasing the land. The matter will be brought back to a future Parish Council meeting for further discussion.

## **25/30 FINANCE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS**

- The Clerk presented a paper detailing the Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 31 January 2025. Following consideration it was agreed that the report be noted.
- It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts at Appendix I amounting to £30,686 be approved.
- The Clerk presented a report detailing payments she has made in the past month on behalf of the Parish Council. Following consideration it was agreed that the Clerk be reimbursed as per the list submitted to members.

## **25/31 MATTERS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Forster asked that consideration be given to purchasing a rooted Christmas tree rather than having to purchase and erect/dismantle a tree annually. Members agreed that for several years any new tree will need time to mature.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk update members on the preferred site for a rooted Christmas tree subsequent to her contact with RMBC Estates about the land at Main Street, Swallownest (see minute no 25/29 above) and that she obtains quotes for the purchase of a rooted Christmas tree. The matter will be brought back to a future Parish Council meeting.

## **25/32 CCTV AT LODGE LANE**

The Clerk presented quotes received for the installation of CCTV cameras at various locations at Lodge Lane Recreation Ground.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that Quote 2 be accepted at £2,150.00 which included a PTZ camera to allow flexible monitoring.

## **25/33 TARMAC AT FAIRVIEW DRIVE**

The Clerk presented quotes received to tarmac Fairview Drive.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Quote 2 be accepted at £35,110.03 to plane out existing surface, sweep clean and remove spoil from the site before reinstating.

## **25/34 PATH AT LODGE LANE**

The Clerk presented quotes received to patch an area of path at Lodge Lane towards Moorland View.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that Quote 2 be accepted at £2,511.00.

## 25/35 POLICING INFORMATION/REPORTS

There were no police officers present however they have submitted a report advising:-

- 3 burglaries – 2 of which led to vehicle theft
- 7 further motor vehicle thefts – 5 of which were keyless thefts
- Anti-social behaviour on Main Street, Swallownest (engagement has proven effective) and the Rosegarth estate, Swallownest (work is still ongoing).
- The off-road bike team carried out operations at the beginning of February at various locations throughout the parish.
- An incident with attempted robbery occurred on Nursery Road, Swallownest – 1 male has been detained and is assisting police with their enquiries.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the information provided be noted.

## 25/36 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to planning applications contained within **lists 03 – 06 (2025)**.

At the time comments were made on the following applications:-

***RB2025/0029 – Proposed ground-mounted solar PV arrays, supporting energy infrastructure including battery storage (BESS), access improvements and ancillary development including landscaping and biodiversity enhancements and continued shared agricultural use – land off Carr Lane, Ulley***

The Clerk reported that 2 of the fields in this development fall within the Aston boundary and are in close proximity to the proposed Whitestone Solar Farm, which is classed a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) and will not require planning permission.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that objection be made to the above planning application due to loss of amenity (green spaces). The Clerk will bear in mind other material considerations that will have an impact on the local community and include them in the Parish Council objection. She will liaise with members for final approval prior to submitting the objection to the Planning Board.

***RB2025/0073 – Application of Lawful Development Certificate re use of land for scrap metal yard – 682-686 Retford Road, Woodhouse Mill***

The Clerk will contact RMBC Planning to ask for an extension on this application in order for her to obtain further information on location and possible noise pollution aspect. She will email members with details.

**25/37 CLERK UPDATE**

- The Parish Council Valentine Disco will take place on Tuesday, 18 February, from 2.00-4.00pm. Tickets are available from Aughton Early Years Centre and the Parish Hall. Any help will be gratefully received.
- The Clerk has had a productive meeting with the developers at Swallownest Social Club and committee members from Swallownest Bowling Club. Demolition work is due to commence on 13 February and the builders have agreed to supply the Parish Council with hardcore from the site for use by Parish Council operatives.

**25/38 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Clerk requested that any suggestions for future Agenda items be received in the Parish Council office no later than the Monday of the week prior to the next Parish Council meeting.

**25/39 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting be held on Tuesday, 11 March 2025 at 6.30 pm.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 7.30 PM**

*M S Elliott*

**11 March 2025**

**SIGNED** ..... **DATED** .....