

ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 17 MARCH 2026 IN THE
PARISH HALL ROSEGARTH AVENUE AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT Cllr S Forster (Chairperson)
Cllrs P Amrith G Davis P Davis M Elliott D Gee D Knowles
W Mawson B Mears D Pakenham H Ratcliffe R Taylor

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

26/39 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies and reasons for absence from Cllrs B Bartholomew J Peech and S Smith be accepted.

26/40 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs G Davis and P Davis declared an interest in respect of agenda item number 22.

26/41 CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Agenda item number 22.

26/42 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 10 February 2026 as being a true record of the business transacted.

26/43 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purpose Committee held on 24 November 2025 be received.

26/44 EVENTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Events & Recreation Committee held on 25 November 2025 be received.

26/45 FINANCE & EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Finance & Employment Committee held on 25 November 2025 be received.

26/46 RISK MANAGEMENT AND INTERNAL CONTROL POLICY

The Clerk asked that confirmation be given to the Parish Council's Risk Management and Internal Control Policy.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Risk Management and Internal Control Policy be accepted and approved.

26/47 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk asked that consideration be given to a recommendation from the Finance & Employment Committee to adopt the new Financial Regulations.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Financial Regulations be formally adopted.

26/48 CORPORATE RISK ASSESSMENT POLICY & REGISTER

The Clerk asked that confirmation be given to the Parish Council's Corporate Risk Assessment Policy and Register

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Corporate Risk Assessment Policy and Register be accepted and approved.

26/49 PARISHIONER REQUEST

The Clerk advised members that a request had been received from a parishioner for the Parish Council to seek volunteers to investigate accessibility issues for people using mobility scooters throughout the parish, and to feedback findings to local establishments to support compliance with Disability Discrimination legislation.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that it would not be feasible for the Parish Council to be involved in this initiative.

26/50 VEHICLE ACTIVATION SIGN - AUGHTON

The Clerk informed members that she had spoken with RMBC Road Safety regarding the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing a replacement vehicle activation sign for Aughton, with installation to be undertaken by RMBC. The officer advised that this was no longer an available option and that the installation of a replacement sign would cost approximately £6,500.

The Clerk advised that the new Head of Service was now in post and that she would forward the results of the Parish Council's survey relating to Treeton Crossroads.

26/51 STREAM AT LODGE LANE RECREATION GROUND

The Clerk reported that the Parish Council Operatives had discovered a newt whilst undertaking clearance works to the stream at Lodge Lane Recreation Ground. Works were halted immediately and the matter was reported to the RMBC Ecologist. Advice has been received that no further works should be undertaken until the end of the breeding season in October.

26/52 COUNCILLOR PAKENHAM'S APPOINTMENT TO THE GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE AND THE EVENTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

It was retrospectively **RESOLVED** that Cllr Pakenham be appointed as a member of the General Purpose Committee and the Events & Recreation Committee.

26/53 FINANCE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

- The Clerk presented a paper detailing the Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 28 February 2026. Following consideration it was agreed that the report be noted. Members further confirmed that the Clerk should continue investing with Redwood Bank for a further two years at an interest rate of 4.3%.
- It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts at Appendix I amounting to £26,671.38 be approved.
- The Clerk advised that there were no reimbursements due to the Clerk for the current month.

26/54 ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS

There were no matters requested by Councillors.

26/55 BT TELEPHONE BOX – YELLOW LION PUBLIC HOUSE

The Clerk advised that no progress had been made with the landowners in respect of the Parish Council's proposed adoption of the BT telephone box. BT has set a deadline of the end of March to finalise the matter.

Following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should request an extension in order to make further enquiries.

26/56 POLICING INFORMATION/REPORTS

There were no police officers present and no reports received. The Clerk advised members that they had attended the Chatty Cafe on the previous Friday and spoken to residents. The former PCSO has also advised that she will try to attend a future Cafe day.

26/57 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to planning applications contained within lists **07 – 11 (2026)**.

At the time comment was made on the following application only:-

RB2026/0297 – Erection of a steel framed prefabricated garage – Bail Rigg, Ulley Lane, Aston

The Clerk advised that she would circulate the link to the application to members and if they had any queries to let her know so that she could refer them to the Planning Officer.

With regard to the Whitestone Solar Farm consultation, members were informed that the South Yorkshire Mayor had attended the meeting held at Aston Hall Hotel and was now actively involved on behalf of local residents. The next Chairs' meeting will take place on Wednesday, 22 April, and the Clerk will enquire whether additional representatives from the Parish Council may attend. An update will be provided at the next meeting.

26/58 CLERK UPDATE

- The Clerk advised that the Talking Tables Training Day had been very interesting and informative
- The unveiling of the Baby Memorial in Aston Cemetery is scheduled to take place on Saturday, 28 March, at 11.30am. The local MP has accepted an invitation to attend, as well as local funeral directors.
- The Easter Disco will take place at the Parish Hall on 2 April 2026, any help will be gratefully received.
- Closedown of accounts for 2025/26 is on 27 April and the final year-end Internal Audit is on 29 April 2026.

26/59 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.

26/60 LAND AT KING STREET

The Clerk advised Members that the developers of the Swallownest Working Men's Club site had expressed an interest in purchasing the land to the rear of the Parish Council Operatives' depot on King Street.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk obtain costings for the Parish Council to appoint its own surveyor to assess the land, with a view to a potential onward sale for future development. The matter will be brought back to a future meeting for further consideration.

26/61 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting be held on Tuesday, 14 April 2026 at 6.30 pm.

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.10 PM

M S Elliott

14 April 2026

SIGNED **DATED**