

Minutes

Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 17th February 2025 7:00 pm

1	Apologies Chris Berry Present Margaret Carrington (Chair) Simon Bailey, David Bland, Christine Holden, Lynn Hepworth, Julie Chang (Clerk)
2	Minutes: Minutes of the last meeting were proposed by SB and Seconded by DB Minutes accepted as a true record.
3	Matters Arising from minutes. none
4	Matters raised by attending public. –None in attendance
5	Correspondence – Correspondence – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 24/1/25 and 29/1/25 update from highways via Cllr Scofield re highways and speed concerns, noted. b. 27/1/25 Minutes from LALC meeting, noted c. 6/2/15 from RVBC -Information re <i>a free session for its customers around Cybercrime, a real & present threat to farmers, The Cyber Crime Unit offers free, impartial advice and can connect you to agencies within the Northwest and UK's Protect Network. The session starts at 1900hrs on 27th March and will run till 2000hrs with a chance then to socialise and ask questions till 2030' The Action mart is located on Lincoln Way, Clitheroe, BB71QD.</i> d. 7/2/25 RVBC Information on road safety partnership. Noted e. 10/2/25 FOI request re Lower Hud Farm. Response discussed. Planning applications come under 'Environmental Information Regulations' not Freedom of information, and the legislation differs in that not all correspondence needs to be shared. However, the Parish Council elected to share a redacted copy of all the email correspondence relevant to the application. This clearly shows that discussion with RVBC was for advice around the process of response and not the content of the response. All other documentation is publicly available on the parish council website.
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Finance – balance as of 4th February 2025 £10742.27 b. Cheques: Stone for pathway repairs and caps for playground equipment (£248.41), replacement defibrillator pads 147.60, Bayley field maintenance £207.00 c. Direct debit: website £36.96 d. Income: 0 e. Electronic Banking: - correct forms now available for signatures. f. Audit – Review internal documents to be prepared and appoint auditor.
7	Planning applications: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. 22/1/25 3/2025/0006, Avenue Farm Avenue Road Hurst Green BB7 9QB – <i>no objection</i> b. 23/1/25 3/2024/0853, Land off Longridge Road Hurst Green BB7 9QP – <i>no objection</i> 23/1/25 3/2024/0867 at Doctors Well Barn Morton House Farm Birdy Brow BB7 9QY – <i>no objection</i>
8	Forward Plan : 8a) Memorial hall car park: Clerk shared some information re Ice and snow responsibilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Owner occupiers are responsible for the carpark

	<p>2. We need to take reasonable steps to ensure peoples safety, so it is better to attempt to grit that to do nothing.</p> <p>3. We are unlikely to be sued for someone slipping on a gritted path, as the law recognises that individuals have a duty of care to themselves (see articles below)</p> <p>4. If we can't grit the whole carpark, The best solution seems to be to tape off a path to the door and grit that path for use, or to use signs to direct people to safer pathways when ice has made routes unusable</p> <p>5. Salt is best used before the freeze, grit after it has frozen.</p> <p>6. Don't tip cleared snow onto a public footpath or road because that would be an offence.</p> <p>7. There are companies that offer a gritting service, if we want to pay for it.</p> <p>The PC asked that this was shared with the VMH committee for their input. It was felt that closing the carpark if conditions were thought to be dangerous was the safest option, as we can't guarantee people being available to grit the carpark.</p> <p>8b) Playground: Repairs/surfacing - further quotes have been requested.</p> <p>8c) CCTV – information has been circulated thanks to NM about what other parishes who do have CCTV have said about it. Of three parishes who responded, all have found their CCTV useful for security, None have DBS checked the users and they have no specific guidance. All of them have signs on site saying that CCTV is in use. RVBC has an operational policy and publishes it's copy of the surveillance commissioner's self-assessment tool but doesn't offer any set guidance to parish councils.</p> <p>Discussion took place about whether we needed it. The majority of councillors present were in favour of obtaining it if we could secure funding. The chair asked the clerk to find out what the VHMC thought about this.</p> <p>8d resurfacing of bayley field. – Reports re drainage and from agronomist awaited.</p> <p>8e post and chain fencing around cenotaph. Some of the concrete posts are leaning and the chain looks rusty. There have been no complaints about it. Councillors have been asked to look at the fence before the next meeting to see if they think it needs replacing or not. Some councillors thought that the money would be better spent on CCTV.</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Review of risk assessments. Reminder to councillors that risk assessments/checklists to be done in February. Please email clerk with results.</p>
<p>10</p>	<p>Footpaths – The area between the 1st and 2nd kissing gates on the Tolkien trail around the back of St Peters club is very muddy and impassable. Chair sent a photograph to LCC. The official footpath crosses the middle of the field diagonally, so was not done because of risk to damage the farmers land. 'Mucky lane' is too steep to simply improve by adding stone.</p>
<p>11</p>	<p>Parking. No further correspondence re parking around the Shireburn arms. Clerk to contact Highways to explore having double yellow lines there.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>AOB:</p> <p>Gardening contract: For renewal. Discussion around police bank. Gardener says there is hogweed there, and it will all need to be removed if we want to plant wild flowers there. This would involve spraying with weedkiller. Apparently, this has been done in the past, and with no growth at all the soil all washed onto the pavement. Clerk has been asked to enquire about spot weeding/strimming.</p> <p>Remembrance day: Planning meeting TBA for March</p> <p>Bayley Arms: Community interest group crowdfunding on facebook to raise money for set up costs.</p>

	Parish Clerk: Current clerk looking to finish in April. Councillors thanked her for doing a fantastic job. Anyone interested in taking this on please contact parish council/clerk. Ask RTG to mention it.
13	Next Meetings 2025: Monday 17th March, Monday 14 th April, Monday 19 th May, Monday 16 th June