



Newbold Astbury cum Moreton Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting, Wednesday 11 June 2025

Astbury Village Hall at 7.30 pm

Present:

- Councillor J Critchlow
- Councillor N Plant
- Councillor T Potts
- Councillor P Critchlow
- Councillor B Jelf
- Councillor C Sutton
- Councillor S Harrop
- Ward Councillor L Wardlaw
- Mr C Evans (Clerk)

Part 1 – Public and press Forum

No press or members of the public were present.

065/25 - Declarations of Interest

Cllr P Critchlow for an expenses claim.

066/25 – Apologies

The Council received and **resolved** to accept apologies from:

- Cllr A Banks - travel
- Cllr P Cliff – work commitments
- Cllr M Bailey – illness
- Cllr I Parry – work commitments

067/25 Minutes

The Council **resolved** that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 May 2025 are a true and accurate record.

068/25 - Accounts

The Council discussed and **resolved** to approve the accounts (**see Annex 1 for details**). The Clerk noted that the cost of the Council's insurance had increased

because the increased precept request had taken it into a higher 'band' of charges. Also, because of the insurance claim for the damaged phone box at Ackers Crossing he will have to discuss a bespoke insurance policy for the coming year rather than the 'off the shelf' one previously applied.

069/25 – Ward Councillor Report

Cllr Wardlaw reported that Cheshire East Council is about to launch its largest ever highways improvement plan which would include four potential sites in Astbury and Moreton. OFSTED is looking at child protection services across Cheshire East. Vulnerable people are being encouraged to contact their landline phone providers if they have personal alarm systems set up, as they may stop functioning after the switchover to a fully digital phone system. Cheshire East and Cheshire West and Chester are making further presentations about local devolution.

070/25 – Annual Audit Certificate of Exemption

The Council considered, approved and the Chairman signed the Certificate of Exemption for Financial Year 2024-2025.

071/25 - Internal Audit

The Council received and noted the Internal Auditor report for Financial Year 2024-2025.

072/25 – Annual Governance Statement

The Council considered, approved and the Chairman signed the Annual Governance Statement for Financial Year 2024-2025.

073/25 – Annual Accounting Statements

The Council considered, approved and the Chairman signed the Annual Accounting Statements for Financial Year 2024-2025.

074/25 – Bank Reconciliation

The Council considered, approved and the Chairman signed the Annual Bank Reconciliation for Financial Year 2024-2025.

075/25 – Analysis of variances

The Council considered, approved and the Chairman signed the Annual Explanation of Variances for Financial Year 2024-2025.

076/25 – Notice of Public Rights

The Council noted the period for the exercise of public rights – 30 June to 11 August 2025.

077/25 – Planning Applications and a pre-application public consultation

25/1834/CLPUD

Certificate of lawful development for proposed erection of a single-storey side extension with a maximum height not exceeding 4.0 metres, occupying less than half the width of the original dwelling, and finished in materials to match the existing property - Woodside New Road, Moreton, Congleton

The Council **resolved** not to raise an objection to this application.

25/1835/PRIOR-1A

Prior Approval: Larger householder extension - for the erection of a single-storey rear extension extending 8.0 metres from the original rear wall of the dwelling, with a maximum height of 4.0 metres and an eaves height of 3.0 metres. The extension will be finished in materials to match the existing dwelling and will not exceed the width of the original house - Woodside New Road, Moreton, Congleton

The Council **resolved** not to raise an objection to this application.

24/4851/FUL Full Planning

Development Proposal: Proposed new concrete paving to driveway.

The Old Barn School Lane, Astbury

The Council **resolved** not to raise an objection to this application.

Sandbach Road – Asteer Planning

A Land Promotion Business is hoping to use land to build up to 130 homes at the edge of the parish, opposite the Loachbrook estate in Somerford. The planning consultants have launched a public consultation ahead of a formal application. The Council agreed to discuss this further once the application had been formally submitted but is minded to object to it.

078/25 – Update on Councillor Vacancies

The Council asked the Clerk to start the process of advertising current vacancies via Cheshire East Council.

079/25 – Policies to Review: Asset Register

Councillors reviewed and **resolved** to approve its Asset Register.

080/25 - Highways

Nothing further to report.

081/25 – Common Land

The Chair reported that Councillors had met for discussions at the Common Land and will return to the Council with a proposal for a more comprehensive phase II/maintenance plan. They had been disappointed at the spraying by Streetscape and

asked the Clerk to follow up and arrange a site visit to specify which sections need to be tackled.

082/25 - Chairman and Members' Reports

The Chair noted that she would ask Crewe Colour Printers to print a limited number of 'hard cover' Neighbourhood Plans as reference works for councillors. Parishioners had already been sent 'soft cover' versions.

Sibelco had confirmed it would be able to side out a stretch of paths along the A34, likely in October. Cllr P Critchlow will spell out more precisely where they will do it and co-ordinate with Cllr Wardlaw on using her Ward Councillor budget for the rest.

083/25 Clerk's Report

The Clerk reported that he was trying to co-ordinate between Scottish Power Energy Networks and X2 Connect to replace the damaged phone kiosk at Ackers Crossing and get a new electricity supply installed for the new defib unit.

The Meeting closed at 2045 hrs

Annex 1 - Accounts

Bank Balance as of 01 June 2025: £28,743.24

Of which:

- £6,833.47 unspent CIL from May/July 2023
- £2,625.23 unspent CIL from April 2025

The Council **noted** the following receipts since 01 May 2025:

- £nil

The Council **approved** the following Payments:

- £63.50 – Cllr P Critchlow expenses for 2024

The Council **noted** the following Payments since 01 May 2025:

- £51.50 – NEST, Clerk's Pension
- £585.02 – Clerk Salary
- £396.00 – Zurich Insurance renewal

X

Chairman