

Minutes

Aughton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

AGM Monday 19TH May 2025 7:00 – 7:30 pm

Parish Council Meeting 19th May 2025 - 7:30 pm

	ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
1	Present: David Bland, Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, Lynn Hepworth Christine Holden, Julie Chang (Clerk), Frances Ahearne (incoming Clerk), three members of the public attended. Apologies - none Minutes from last AGM Were proposed by Christine Holden and seconded by David Bland.
2	Matters Arising No matters arising from the minutes
3	Chair's report
4	Annual accounts for the year April 2024 to April 2025 were reviewed and approved.
5	Election of Chair/Vice chair Margaret Carrington was re-elected as chair and voted for unanimously. Des Harwood was nominated as Vice Chair and approved by all.
6	Vacancies- there are currently two vacancies. There are certain procedures to be carried out in relation to appointing new councillors. In some situations councillors can be co-opted. 14 days notice must be given and the information is to be added to the ABC website and also the public noticeboard. David Bland outlined the process in detail.
7	Finance Committee: Discussion followed on the situation regarding the Bayley Field. Funds are needed going forward to carry out certain necessary works. The PC must be sure that there are sufficient funds in hand prior to sanctioning any schedule of works. It was agreed that costs should be borne equally between the PC and the Memorial Hall. Lyn Hepworth agreed to join the committee dealing with this matter.
	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1	Present David Bland, Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, Lynn Hepworth Christine Holden, Julie Chang (Clerk), Frances Ahearne (incoming Clerk), three members of the public attended. Apologies - none
2	Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct.
3	Matters Arising from minutes. None.
4	Matters raised by attending public. – One query was raised by a member of the public attending the meeting regarding the state of the Punchbowl site. Currently there is nothing further to report but it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the RVBC to enquire about the ongoing situation.
5	Correspondence – Notice to remove the public telephone box has been received. After discussion about the viability of the PC taking over management of the telephone box it was agreed that no further action should be taken by the PC. The box will be removed at some point in the next few months. 30.4.25 – RVBC settlement review – one query was raised about what are our exact boundaries.

	<p>23.4.25 – volunteers – nothing to report</p> <p>16.4.25 – LALC – to be paid.</p> <p>15.4.25 – Simon Bailey's resignation from the PC accepted with much regret.</p>
6	<p>Finance – Balance on 19.5.25 was £19,620.</p> <p>Cheques:</p> <p>Income:</p> <p>Finance committee report and budget : a meeting of the finance committee was agreed for Monday 26th May at Lyn Hepworth's home.</p> <p>Due to the fact that there was more than £35,000 in hand for the last financial year, the council will be subject to an external review.</p> <p>Asset register – is outstanding and needs to be updated.</p> <p>Christine Richards will be carrying out an internal audit of the PC accounts before the end of June.</p>
7	Planning Applications: ? find
8	<p>Forward Plan :</p> <p>8a) – Bayley Field –Discussions have taken place with members of the PC and the Memorial Hall about the costs etc for the required works on the Bayley Field. It was agreed that the quotation received from one company should be accepted as soon as possible in order to avoid any increase in price prior to the works commencing later this summer/early autumn. It was felt that the PC must show proper governance of council funds and it was not necessary to apply for any grants at this time. The question of VAT refunds was also discussed.</p> <p>8b) Best kept village – it was agreed we should remain in this competition.</p> <p>8c) Playground – Isaac Nutter is to ask the children in the local primary school about their suggestions for any additional equipment.</p>
9	<p>Risk Assessments: David Bland will send the clerk updated forms which are to be completed by all users of the Bayley Field who book through the Memorial Hall Committee. These forms are to be completed and received prior to any event taking place. Updated forms should also be sent to the Memorial Hall Committee for their onward use.</p>
10	<p>Remembrance Sunday: The road closure procedure will be the same as last year. Quotation received of £980 for this to be done.</p>
11	<p>Bicycle Ride: in Memory of Chris Berry planned to take place on 12th July.</p>
19	<p>Any other business –</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. New bench: Margaret Carrington, Chair, would like to replace one of the broken benches near the Boer War Memorial with a new bench in memory of her husband John. This proposal was warmly accepted by all present. 2. Trees by Old Police House: Discussion followed on the current state and safety of some of the trees on the banking by the old police house. The Clerk was asked to approach Josh Leyland to see if he is able to carry out the work and to provide a quotation. 3. Tree being felled at Green Gore: discussion took place about the felling of a tree on the Stonyhurst Estate near to a property at Green Gore. It was agreed the clerk should write to Carter Jonas who manage the land to enquire as to whether permission was granted prior to the felling. 4. Smithy Row: The hedgerow leading from the end of Smithy Row to the sheep fields is very overgrown in places. It was agreed to ask Josh Leyland to carry out this work if possible and as soon as convenient. His invoice should then be submitted to PC for approval. 5. Bayley Arms: It was felt that it would be appropriate to write to Liz Johnson and Barry Ward to thank them for all their efforts in connection with fundraising for the purchase and ongoing management of the Bayley Arms.

20	Date of Next Meetings: 16 June, 21 July, 18 August, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November, no meeting in December, 19 January 2026, 16 February, 16 March, 20 April.