

## Minutes

### Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

#### Parish Council Meeting 16 March 2026 - 7:00 pm

	<b>PARISH COUNCIL MEETING</b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Present:</b> Cllr. Margaret Carrington (Chair), Cllr. Des Harwood, Cllr. Vinnie Joseph, Cllr. Isaac Nutter, Cllr. Lynn Hepworth, Cllr. John Wilkinson. Frances Ahearne (Clerk), RVBC Cllr Jan Alcock. <b>Apologies</b> – Cllr. Christine Holden. Also attending were Niall MacFarlane as Chair of the HGMH Committee and Mr Denny a resident of Hurst Green.
<b>2</b>	<b>Declarations of Interest</b> – none.
<b>3</b>	<b>Minutes from the last meeting for approval</b> – accepted as correct. Proposed by Cllr. Hepworth and seconded by Cllr. Harwood.
<b>4</b>	<b>Matters Arising from minutes.</b> None not covered under other sections.
<b>5</b>	Mr Denny then addressed the Council to update them on the status of the proposed development adjacent to his property on Whalley Road. Mr Denny stated that there are ongoing discussions between various parties about this planning application and particularly in relation to proposed drainage works and highways access. Mr Denny was concerned that LCC Highways had passed the proposal as he feels the line of site and speed of vehicles approaching the area are a major concern. The Council noted his concerns and Mr Denny said he would keep the council updated on future developments with regard to the site and planning approval.
<b>6</b>	<b>Correspondence</b> – covered under other sections.
<b>7</b>	<b>Finance</b> – <b>Actual balance</b> at bank as at 1.4.26 is £40470.84. However, payment/invoices totalling £26747.13 are outstanding and need to be added which will make the final balance going forward into 26/27 accounts as £13723.71. <b>Monthly account update:</b> <b>Cheques issued are:</b> 1) 23.3.26 P&D Holden (819) £162 for Bayley field grass cutting, 2) 28.3.26 J. Leyland (820) £1000 for felling trees etc. 3) 29.3.26 F. Ahearne (821) £69.75 gifts in appreciation to C Nutter and C Holden, 4) 30.3.36 Kompan (822) £26.515.38 for playground repairs/additions. Cllr Carrington informed the meeting that a further sum of £1500 is being donated by The Craven Trust in connection with the playground works. This means that of the total sum paid to Kompan £23,500 has now been raised through various grants, leaving a balance to be funded from the parish council of £3515.38. These grants have been of great benefit and appreciation was expressed to the Chair for all her hard work on the project. An external auditor (approved by LALC) has now been appointed to carry out the necessary financial audit. It is hoped this will be completed by early May. There will be a requirement to complete and submit an AGAR return once the audit has been completed.
<b>8</b>	<b>Risk assessment check lists</b> – ongoing.
<b>9</b>	<b>Planning Applications:</b> 1) Lodge at Winkley Hall – no objection, 2) New Barn, Knowles Brow, no objection.
<b>8</b>	<b>Forward Plan:</b> <b>8a) - Playground</b> – This work is now complete, and the Chair has approved the payment of the account to Kompan.

	<b>8b) – Bayley Field</b> – under review, no action at this time.
<b>9</b>	<b>Risk Assessments:</b> - Three monthly check lists being reviewed.
<b>10</b>	<p><b>Any other business –</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Trees on police bank –work now completed. There has been a request from the village gardening group to keep the grass levels at approximately 10-12 inches in order promote new planting etc. Clerk to inform Prime Gardening Services.</li> <li>2. New build on top of Avenue Road – concerns raised about wooded area by a resident – this issue has been resolved.</li> <li>3. Annual Parish meeting in May- Clerk to draw up necessary paperwork. Deputy Chair to run meeting as Chair not available on that date.</li> <li>4. Report back on recent LALC meeting. Cllr Nutter and Clerk informed the meeting about topics covered in recent meeting. There was some discussion as to the merits or otherwise of being part of this Association but it was agreed that moving forward it could be beneficial to be part of such an organisation particularly in regard to the local government reorganisation plans, yet to be finalised and clarified at local level.</li> <li>5. New Microsoft business account – Council agreed that the proposed costs of £94.80 plus VAT and monthly backup service of £5 plus VAT should be accepted. Clerk to move forward with the company (Plexio UK).</li> <li>6. Tolkien Trail signage. After some discussion about the issues being experienced by visitors who wish to follow the Trail the Clerk was instructed to write to The Tourism Office at RVBC to request a review of the signage and whether it is possible to add extra signs along the full length of the route.</li> <li>7. Parking problems in the village (photos recently circulated to councillors). After much discussion the Clerk was instructed to write to Chair of LCC, Cllr Atkinson, about the problems being experienced with parking at various times throughout the year. Additionally the Clerk will copy the correspondence by writing to our local MP Maya Ellis on the same subject. The Highways Department of LCC have informed the Council that at this time there is no provision for installing extra yellow lines etc. however, there has been a lot of concerns raised within the village about the parking issues which are becoming hazardous on all roads within the environs of Hurst Green.</li> </ol> <p>The meeting closed at 8.20 pm.</p>
<b>11</b>	<p><b>Future Meeting dates 2026 - 18 May, 15 June, 20 July, 17 August, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, no meeting in December.</b></p> <p><b>2027 – 18 January, 15 February, 15 March (up to financial year end 26-27).</b></p>