

Minutes

Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 16 February 2026 - 7:00 pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	
1	<p>Present: Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, Vinnie Joseph, Isaac Nutter, John Wilkinson, Frances Ahearne (Clerk), Cllr Jan Alcock.</p> <p>Apologies – Lyn Hepworth, Christine Holden and David Bland. Niall MacFarlane as Chair of the HGMH Committee also attended. Mr Danny Heys and his father also attended the meeting.</p>
2	<p>Declarations of Interest - none</p>
3	<p>Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct. Proposed by Des Harwood and seconded by Isaac Nutter.</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising from minutes. None.</p>
4	<p>Mr Heys spoke to the Council regarding the issue of the planning application for holiday cottages to be built on land at Reed Deep. He has been in contact with RVBC as there is a major issue concerning the drainage works which are to be routed over his land. He stated that he has not given any permission at any time to allow this work to be carried out. The applicant has stated that permission has been granted but Mr Heys says this is very definitely not the case. Mr Heys wanted to give an update to the council on the situation as it stands as the matter is ongoing. The chair reiterated that the Parish Council had lodged an objection to the proposal back in December. Cllr Jan Alcock has agreed to take the matter up with the relevant department at RVBC. At the end of the discussion the Chair thanked Mr Heys for his attendance and for the information he has passed to the parish council.</p>
5	<p>Correspondence – 1) Animals in War: an email had been received from Andrea Townsend about whether the Parish Council would be prepared to fund a purple wreath to be laid at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day in recognition of the contribution made by all animals during wars. The Council agreed this was an appropriate gesture to make and funding of £27.50 was agreed. Discussion needed about who would lay this wreath but this will be brought up at the planning stages later this year.</p> <p>2)NALC/LALC various emails being received on a number of subjects. It was agreed the clerk would draw up a more specific list of what actions might be required (such as completing online surveys relating to specific matters etc) and send to councillors prior to each meeting as necessary.</p> <p>3) correspondence received about defibrillator maintenance, community furniture and RVBC funding changes all acknowledges, no action required at this stage.</p>
6	<p>Finance –Actual Balance at bank on 4.2.26 is £41694.31 (includes £26600 funding for playground repairs). Pending transactions total £120, making predicted bank balance £41576.31</p> <p>Monthly account update: cheques issued: 1) 14.1.26 C. Holden £120.03 for planting (815), 2) 2.2.26 £36.96 DD for website, 3) 1.2.26 £120 HMRC re clerk salary tax (817), 4) 1.2.26 F. Ahearne £480 clerk salary (816).</p> <p>Finance Committee – A third councillor is required for the committee. A meeting also needs to be scheduled before the March council meeting in order to finalise the budget for the next 12 months.</p>
7	<p>Planning Applications: The Rochfords, Longridge Road. No objections raised.</p>

8	<p>Forward Plan:</p> <p>8a) - Best kept village – Nancy Bailey has notified the parish council that sadly there will not be a BKV competition this year due to various factors including lack of major sponsorships and committee structure. It is hope that it will be possible to revisit the competition in 2027. The question of repainting the bus shelters as part of any BKV initiative was discussed.</p> <p>8b) - Playground – The works are scheduled to start later this month. There is a site visit meeting planned for the 23rd of February which will be attended by the Chair.</p>
9	<p>Risk Assessments: - three monthly check lists to be circulated shortly to relevant councillors.</p>
19	<p>Any other business –</p> <p>Tree felling – Clerk has been in contact with Winstanley Tree Services about the issue. Unfortunately, Pete Winstanley suffered an injury a while ago which has delayed things somewhat. However, he assured the Clerk that the works should be completed by the end of February. Clerk will continue to monitor.</p> <p>Safeguarding policy – It is hoped that our safeguarding lead, Cllr Des Harwood will be able to complete the relevant online course in the near future.</p> <p>Parking throughout village- There is still a lot of concern over parking problems and the provision of extra yellow lines at certain points in the village. Clerk was instructed to go back to the Highways Department at LCC to raise the matter again and to request an onsite meeting to allow for a better discussion of the problems which occur frequently.</p> <p>Remembrance Day Parade – Clerk has contacted the relevant people who are involved in the organisation and planning of the Remembrance Day Parade and a meeting will be held week commencing 23 February in the upper room at the Memorial Hall.</p> <p>Bayley Arms Hotel – There is still concern about the lack of information concerning the sale/purchase of the hotel. There is some hope that more details about the situation may be forthcoming before too long.</p> <p>Martyn’s Law: The Clerk brought forward the new act called Martyn’s Law and how it might impact on use of the Memorial Hall for events over a certain minimum number. The factsheet was passed to Niall Macfarlane as Chair of the HGMH for his attention should anything need to be revised regarding public protection procedures.</p> <p>St Joseph’s School intake requirements– This matter is still ongoing and will be raised again with the school.</p> <p>War Memorial and surround: The Clerk has had a discussion with John Collinge of RBL who has agreed to deal with any necessary repairs and repainting of chains etc over the coming months.</p> <p>Defibrillator for Chaigley Ward: The question of whether it would be appropriate or possible to site a new defibrillator in the Chaigley area was discussed. Councillor Vinnie Joseph said he would consult local residents and report back at the next meeting.</p> <p>Solar Panels for roof at Memorial Hall – this project is moving forward as possible.</p> <p>Repairs to Green Gore paths – Clerk was asked to write to the relevant department at LCC to express thanks for the work carried out recently to improve the area. However more specific details are required before this can be done. Clerk to check on this.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 8.25pm.</p>
20	<p>Date of Next Meetings: 16 March and 20 April.</p>