

Minutes

Aughton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 21st July 2025 - 7:00 pm

	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1	Present: Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, Lynn Hepworth, Isaac Nutter, Frances Ahearne (Clerk), two members of the public attended. Also attending was Jan Alcock our representative on RVBC. Apologies – received from David Bland.
2	Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct.
3	Matters Arising from minutes. None.
4	Matters raised by attending public. – none.
5	Correspondence – 1) Felling of tree at Green Gore. Response received from Carter Jonas that the tree in question was not on Stonyhurst land and so they have no further information about the felling, 2) Insurance renewal – Isaac Nutter is to look into the matter and will obtain quotations from other insurance companies for comparison, 3) LCC re pharmacy closures – noted, 4) NALC and LALC correspondence – agreed Clerk would forward relevant emails as necessary in future.
6	Finance – Balance at bank on 1.7.25 is £19181.86. Cheques: 1) Prime Garden Services £432, 2) Josh Leyland £180 for work to hedges in Smithy Row, 3) Nancy Bailey (Janice Hartley) £133.45 for best kept village costs, 4) DD £36.96 for web site (monthly charge), 5) electronic banking – nothing further to report, 6) finance committee report – nothing to report, 7) £258 received from Bayley Arms fundraising, 8) concurrent grant – Clerk to finalise and send in forms before end of July.
7	Planning Applications: 1) 9 The Dene no objection, 2) Lower Hud Lee Farm no objections.
8	Forward Plan: 8a) – Bayley Field – nothing to report 8b) - Best kept village – nothing to report as yet. 8c) - Playground – see below.
9	Risk Assessments: these are now due, and Clerk will email forms to relevant councillors for completion as soon as possible. These are to be updated every three months.
19	Any other business – 1. New bench: This is now in place. 2. Trees by Old Police House: More detailed information has now been received from RVBC, and it was agreed Clerk should obtain three written quotations based on what RVBC feel is required. 3. Plaque in memory of Chris Berry – It was agreed that the bicycle ride that was held earlier in July and which raised approximately £700 for the East Lancs Hospice was a very appropriate mark of appreciation. Nothing further to report. 4. New Councillors – Discussion followed, and it was agreed the Chair would look into the possibility of co-opting a new member and will report back. 5. Annual Governance review – This is now complete and on website for the required amount of time. 6. Ribble Valley Settlement Review – After discussion it was agreed Clerk should respond to RVBC confirming the details are correct as of now.

	<p>7. Local Primary school – the question of the local primary school being able to give priority to local children was discussed. The Chair will write to the new headmistress after she takes up her post at the beginning of September to express concerns.</p> <p>8. Cllr Hepworth mentioned the tree which has fallen over on the path leading down to Sandrock. Clerk agreed to speak to Josh Leyland to see if it can be easily removed. Ownership of the tree was not clarified but it does constitute a hazard at present.</p> <p>9. Lancashire Environmental Fund – the Council has received advance notice that this fund will be closing after next year. Discussion followed on what might happen after its closure and whether we could still apply for any grants to deal with soft pour repairs in the playground as well as identifying new pieces of equipment for younger children. The Chair agreed to take this matter forward to and to look into what might be possible and how best to proceed.</p>
20	<p>Date of Next Meetings: 18 August, 15 September, 20 October, 17 November, no meeting in December, 19 January 2026, 16 February, 16 March, 20 April.</p>