

Minutes

Aughton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 17th November 2025 - 7:00 pm

	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1	<p>Present: Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, David Bland, Isaac Nutter, Vinnie Joseph, Lynn Hepworth, Christine Holden. Frances Ahearne (Clerk), John Wilkinson.</p> <p>Apologies – from local Councillor Jan Alcock. Niall MacFarlane as Chair of the HGMH Committee also attended.</p>
2	<p>Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct. Proposed by David Bland and seconded by Christine Holden.</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising from minutes. None.</p>
4	<p>Matters raised by attending public. – None.</p>
5	<p>Correspondence –</p> <p>1) nil</p>
6	<p>Finance –Actual Balance at bank on 2.11.25 is £22052.58 with pending transactions totalling £543.94. predicted balance £21508.64 (including contingency/playground monies of £4600).</p> <p>Bank statement. The account has now been updated, and the Clerk should receive the monthly statements with effect from 1st November.</p> <p>Dormant Bank account: There is a very small amount still held in an old account which was originally set up some years ago in connection with the previous playground refurbishment. The Clerk has been to see Virgin Money in Burnley, and it was agreed that if a letter is sent with two of the signatories' approval (Peter Butterfield and John Nutter), then the account can be closed and the sum of £5.47 transferred to the main operating account.</p> <p>Monthly account update: cheques issued: 1) 26.10.25 Prime Garden Services £432 (805), 2) 1.11.25 Clerk salary £480 (806), 3) 1.11.25 HMRC tax £120 (807).</p> <p>Internal/external Auditor: Councillor Hepworth notified the meeting that her husband, who is a qualified accountant, has offered to take on the auditing of the parish accounts. This offer was very gratefully accepted by all.</p> <p>Clerk was asked to write to Mrs Christine Richards thanking her for all her hard work and assistance with the parish accounts over some year and to include a gift voucher in appreciation of her efforts</p> <p>Precept for 2026-27 – After discussion and a review of the 2026-27 projected budget it was agreed that the precept should be set at £12,500. The Clerk is to complete the precept request form and return it to RVBC asap. All councillors voted in favour.</p> <p>Bayley Field repairs – this has been shelved for the time being.</p> <p>At this point Councillor Joseph left the meeting.</p>
7	<p>Planning Applications: 1) Kemple End, no objection,</p> <p>The Chair then declared an interest in item two relating to Longridge Road and did not take part in the discussions. 2) 8 Longridge Road, no objection.</p>
8	<p>Forward Plan:</p> <p>8a) – Bayley Field – see above.</p> <p>8b) - Best kept village – Letter of thanks to be sent to James Warburton for the assistance given by his staff in the provision and locating the new stone and plaque adjacent to the other plaques on the green. Clerk to re-circulate notes from BKV organisers about Hurst Green so that these can be reviewed at a later meeting.</p>

	<p>8c) - Playground – The Chair reported to the meeting that a grant of £20,000 had now been received from the Lottery and a further grant of £2,000 from the Harold Bridges Trust. These two sums together with £4600 from council funds mean that the repairs and addition of new playground equipment can proceed.</p>
9	<p>Risk Assessments: - being updated.</p>
19	<p>Any other business – Boer War Memorial – the Council were very impressed with the new Poppy memorial banner made by members of the WI and fitted to the column. Clerk to write to say thank you to the President of the Hurst Green WI.</p> <p>Tree felling – Waiting on a date from Winstanley Tree Services. Clerk to contact them for an update.</p> <p>Safeguarding policy – The clerk is to send Cllr Des Harwood information about online training courses.</p> <p>Christmas party – This is being dealt with by the Clerk and David Jacques. A grant of £250 is available from the RVBC.</p> <p>Parking throughout village- The Clerk has written to the Highways about the recent problems and accident. Awaiting a reply.</p> <p>Leaves on playground – update from Des Harwood at next meeting about assistance requested from football club staff who have the necessary pieces of equipment to blow leaves off the surface.</p> <p>Christmas Tree – Ordered for delivery in December.</p> <p>Remembrance Day Parade – Events on the day to be reviewed at January meeting. David Bland was thanked for all his work as the parade and service went extremely well.</p> <p>Solar Panels for Memorial Hall – Niall Macfarlane informed the meeting that the possibility of fitting solar panels was being investigated at the present time. A review of the situation and what grants may be available is ongoing.</p>
20	<p>Date of Next Meetings: 19 January 2026, 16 February, 16 March, and 20 April.</p>