

Minutes

Aighton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 19th January 2026 - 7:00 pm

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING	
1	Present: Margaret Carrington (Chair), Des Harwood, David Bland, Isaac Nutter, Lynn Hepworth, Christine Holden. Frances Ahearne (Clerk). Apologies – from local Councillor Jan Alcock, and councillors Vinnie Joseph and John Wilkinson. Niall MacFarlane as Chair of the HGMH Committee and Mr Holt and his son also attended.
2	Declarations of Interest - none
3	Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct. Proposed by Lynn Hepworth and seconded by Des Harwood.
3	Matters Arising from minutes. None.
4	Matters raised by attending public. – Mr Holt queried why the parish council had submitted a letter of objection to his recent planning application. He felt that our information was incorrect and that the objection lodged was nonsensical in his view. The chair acknowledged his comments and stated that the Parish Council had taken a collective view of the application prior to submitting the letter to the RVBC.
5	Correspondence – yet to be done
6	Finance –Actual Balance at bank on 4.1.26 is £42333.30 with no pending transactions. Predicted balance is the same as actual for this month, (this includes contingency/playground monies of £26600). Monthly account update: cheques issued: 1) 10.12.25 CHC Ltd (811) - £116 (Xmas Party food), 2) cheque 812 cancelled, 3)14.12.25 T. Smith (813) (Christmas tree), 4) 17.12.25 G. Jacques (814) £134 (Xmas party). 5) 4.1.26 DD re website £36.96. Pension Regulator - David Bland requested it be minuted that the three-yearly resubmission to The Pensions Regulator will be completed prior to the 1 st May.
7	Planning Applications: all recent applications since the November meeting have been dealt with. Chair requested that all councillors should respond as a matter of urgency to any applications sent to them by the Clerk so that action can be taken prior to the relevant deadline for such applications should it be necessary to do so.
8	Forward Plan: 8a) - Best kept village – Clerk reminded councillors about various items raised by the BKV organisers relating to their visits to Hurst Green last summer so that these can be looked into in more detail to see if any improvements still need to be made. Clerk will re-send this information. 8b) - Playground – The Chair is in contact with Kompan and a full detailed invoice has now been sent. It is hoped the work will commence as soon as it is practical to do so weather permitting. Chair will update as necessary.
9	Risk Assessments: - completed.
19	Any other business – Tree felling – Waiting on a date from Winstanley Tree Services. Clerk has been in touch by phone and email requesting further details. Safeguarding policy – our safeguarding lead, Des Harwood, did attend an online forum but Clerk will look into more detailed courses available online which are certificated.

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	<p>Parking throughout village- the clerk had written to Highways at LCC before Christmas and had received a reply stating that there are currently no plans to extend the yellow lines and no parking areas in the village and in particular on Longridge Road. The Highways stated that they had carried out an inspection and in their view the parking issue in this area is sporadic and for limited times. They have requested residents to proceed with caution on this short section of the affected highway. In their view there is a good safety record on Longridge Road as indicated by their records which do not support the introduction of parking restrictions or any other measures at this time.</p> <p>Leaves on playground – update to be requested 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>Remembrance Day Parade – David Bland has asked that the clerk requests a meeting of the various relevant personnel to get preliminary arrangements for November 2026 in place.</p> <p>Bayley Arms Hotel – concerns were raised about the current situation regarding both the sale of the hotel and the condition of the building. All that is known is that the hotel is under offer. Clerk was requested to write to RVBC concerning this building and its listed status within the village conservation area to see if they have any further information.</p> <p>Solar Panels for Memorial Hall – Niall Macfarlane informed the meeting that it was intended to fit solar panels to the east side of the roof. Quotations are being considered and it was also hoped to obtain substantial grants from certain groups. Once funding is in place and everything is approved it is hoped that the work will commence later this year.</p> <p>St Joseph's School intake requirements – the Chair did write to the new headmistress in October of last year but to date has not received any response. The matter will be raised again with the school.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 19.45.</p>
20	Date of Next Meetings: 16 February, 16 March, and 20 April.