

Minutes

Aughton, Bailey and Chaigley Parish Council

Parish Council Meeting 20 July 2026 - 7:00 pm

	PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
1	Present: Cllr Margaret Carrington (Chair), Cllr Des Harwood (Vice Chair), Cllr Lynn Hepworth, Cllr Christine Holden, Frances Ahearne (Clerk). Apologies – Cllrs David Bland, Isaac Nutter, John Wilkinson. Also present were two members of the public. Before any matters were discussed the Chair announced that Cllr Vinnie Joseph has resigned with immediate effect. She has written to Cllr Joseph acknowledging this and also thanking him for the work he has done on the council during his tenure of office.
2	Declarations of Interest – Cllr David Bland who was not present had notified the Clerk that he had an interest in the planning application for Shire Croft in Shire Lane and so he would not be commenting on this application.
3	Minutes from the last meeting for approval – accepted as correct. Proposed by Cllr Des Harwood and seconded by Cllr Christine Holden.
4	Matters Arising from minutes. None not covered under other sections.
5	Correspondence – covered under other sections.
6	Finance – 1. Actual balance: bank balance at 1st July is £24583.31. Predicted balance after pending is £24225.74 2. Cheques issued: 1.6.26 £43.30 Website, 2) 15.6.26 £138 Nancy Bailey (830), 3) 15.6.26 £456 Prime Garden Services (831), 4) 15.5.26 £200 Jen Sutcliffe (832), 5) 25.6.26 £109.60 Nancy Bailey (833), 6) 29.6.25 £61.97 I&G McDonnell (834). 3. Finance meeting date to be agreed. 4. AGAR form has been submitted but as yet not approved and signed off by the regulator. 5. Concurrent grant form submitted to RVBC for approval and payment. 6. VAT form submitted and awaiting payment. 7. Asset register is being updated following on from playground repairs. Will be finalised at next finance committee meeting. 8. Insurance premium renewal – Clerk has received the advance paperwork/questionnaire from Gallagher's who deal with the yearly insurance policy update. The questionnaire cannot be submitted until the asset register has been finalised.
7	Risk assessment check lists – Clerk requested return of lists at next meeting.
8	Planning Applications <u>1)</u> Shire Croft Shire Lane Hurst Green Grid Ref: 367926 438012 Proposal: Proposed dormer loft conversion to include the extension of the existing flat roof dormer ... <u>2)</u> Planning Application No: 3/2026/0480 Grid Ref: 368596 438001 Proposal: Proposed demolition of existing conservatory and erection of two-storey rear extension. Location: 16 Warren Fold Hurst Green BB7 9QS No objection to either of these applications.
9	Future Projects: 1. Repair of chain posts in village, see attached photos. Clerk instructed to get in contact with John Collinge to ask if he is able to assist with the repairs. 2) Repainting of bus shelters. Discussion followed on state of interior of all three shelters. Clerk was instructed to contact local painter/contractor to obtain quotation for repainting the bus shelters. Clerk then noted to the meeting that the bus shelter at the bottom of Knowles Brow needed attention to the exterior as it

	was full of weeds etc. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact Ian McDonnell who deals with weed killing relevant sites in the parish.
	Any other business – 1. Parking issues update from LCC. Clerk sent a further letter to Cllr Atkinson following on from his initial response to the problem. No response as yet. Copies of the correspondence have been sent to our MP Mrs Maya Ellis who had asked to be kept aware of the situation. 2. Tolkien Trail update. Clerk had received a response from Mr Pridmore (Manager of the Tourism Department at RVBC) to say that signage is usually a matter for the LCC Highways department. Mr Pridmore had forwarded our initial letter to them but has since said he will get in touch again. Mr Pridmore acknowledged that there was a need for better signage throughout the route as it was such a special feature of the Ribble Valley and attracted many visitors. The trail leaflet is also being updated in the near future. As part of this issue, the Chair had written to Mr Pridmore asking whether the RVBC would consider the possibility of purchasing some land in or near the village in order to make a new parking area. This links with item 1 above. 3. RVBC councillors listed information update. Councillors were again reminded to check the RVBC website to see if they require any details to be removed or updated in view of the policy changes. 4. Review of policies – this was deferred until the next meeting due to the low attendance of councillors. 5. ROSPA inspection date has been scheduled for August. 6. Pollution at Dean Brook. Concerns have been raised by a number of residents about the state of the water quality running through Dean Brook. After discussion the clerk was instructed to get in touch with the Environmental Agency concerned with such matters to raise the issue and express local concerns. 7. Ribble Valley Borough Council reviews – no further action. 8. Football posts on Bayley Field. The current posts are no longer fit for use. Apparently in the past the football club have obtained spare posts from outside sources. Some discussion took place about who is responsible for the purchase and maintenance of this equipment. Barry Bolton has been in contact with the Clerk and had obtained quotations, the lowest of which was in the region of £2000. The Council agreed that this was too expensive for them to consider at the present time without looking at grant options. It was also agreed that more information needs to be sought about who has the primary responsibility for the equipment as the Parish Council did not think it was something which came under their remit. 9. New parking area for visitors to the village. John Wilkinson had telephoned the clerk just prior to the council meeting to say that, following on from earlier discussions at previous meetings, he has now been in touch with Stonyhurst College who have agreed that they will allow some of the wooded area behind the football pitch (adjacent to cemetery) to be made available for additional village parking but they will not be contributing to any costs incurred in any such development should this happen at any point in the future. Much discussion followed and it was agreed that before any further progress is made the Parish Council will require a full report from Cllr Wilkinson about the scope of his conversations with the college as this is a complicated and possibly contentious issue. The meeting closed at 8.15 pm.
11	Future Meeting dates 2026 - 17 August, 21 September, 19 October, 16 November, no meeting in December. 2027 – 18 January, 15 February, 15 March (up to financial year end 26-27).