

## AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **ALLOTMENT COMMITTEE MEETING** of the Parish Council held at Audley Pensioners Hall, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 6.30PM

Present:

Chairman: Mr N Hayes (NH)

Councillors: Mr D Jervis (DJ), Mr P Cole (PC), Mr I Rowley (IR), Mrs S Williams (SW), Mr S Johnson (SJ), Mr K Chell (KC), Mrs M Toft (MT), Mr C Griffiths (CG), Mr N Ginnis (NG), Mr P Maddock (PM), Mr A Howell (AH) part

Cllr Machin

Parish Clerk

### Parish Council Meeting

1.	<b>To receive apologies – Cllr T Cork, Mr Warriner, Cllr Grocott, Cllr R Garlick</b>																																		
2.	<p><b>Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda</b>  <i>(Note member should notify Monitoring officer within 28 days if not already. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships)</i></p> <p><b>To note dispensation granted for Parish Councillor Ian Rowley, Chris Cooper, Michelle Toft, Stephen Johnson, Sarah Williams (Audley Allotment Tenants)</b></p>																																		
3.	<b>To note the approved minutes from last Allotment Cttee meeting 20 March 2025</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> to note.																																		
4.	<p><b>To note income and expenditure for the Parish Council Allotment accounts for 2025/26 – This was noted.</b>  <b>To approve the zero balance for the allotments as proposed March 25 –</b>  <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve.</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td colspan="3" style="text-align: center;"><b>PARISH COUNCIL ALLOTMENTS AS AT 10.03.26</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="2"><b>Opening Balance at 31.03.25 (-7,274.45)</b></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£0.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Interim (turnover) Receipts 25/26 received after April 2025</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Interim H/end</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£35.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Receipts for 26/27</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Audley (new &amp; Old)</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Receipts for 26/27</td> <td style="text-align: right;">Halmer End</td> <td style="text-align: right;">£400.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£435.00</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Expenditure during 25/26 (£250 Audley &amp; £669 H/End)</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,405.75</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Less Subs (NASLG) net</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£70.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plus outstanding rent Audley Allot 26/27</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£1,120.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Plus outstanding rent Halmer End 26/27 (rent up to 31.01.27) - NIL</td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;">£0.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td style="text-align: right;"><b>£79.25</b></td> </tr> </table> <p><b>Expenditure includes:</b>  Audley - Skip x 1 (plus tree work £350 planned)  Halmer End - Skip x 2 and lock (plus clean up material due to skip issue)  NALSG Subscription</p>	<b>PARISH COUNCIL ALLOTMENTS AS AT 10.03.26</b>			<b>Opening Balance at 31.03.25 (-7,274.45)</b>		<b>£0.00</b>	Interim (turnover) Receipts 25/26 received after April 2025	Interim H/end	£35.00	Receipts for 26/27	Audley (new & Old)	£0.00	Receipts for 26/27	Halmer End	£400.00			<b>£435.00</b>	Less Expenditure during 25/26 (£250 Audley & £669 H/End)		£1,405.75	Less Subs (NASLG) net		£70.00	Plus outstanding rent Audley Allot 26/27		£1,120.00	Plus outstanding rent Halmer End 26/27 (rent up to 31.01.27) - NIL		£0.00			<b>£79.25</b>	
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5.	<p><b>To discuss other issues raised by the Allotment tenants as follows:</b>  <b>AUDLEY ALLOTMENT ASSOCIATION (THROUGH THE NOMINATED SPEAKER)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To receive the Chair's Report - <b>Appendix Allot 1</b> – The report was provided by the Chair of the Audley Allotments Association as attached.</li> <li>2. To receive the Secretary's Report - <b>Appendix Allot 1</b> - This was noted as attached.</li> <li>3. To receive the Financial Report - <b>Appendix Allot 1</b> – this was circulated.</li> <li>4. To request the annual skip for the allotments for Easter</li> </ol>																																		

.....Signed .....Dated

	<p><b>RESOLVED</b> to approve 2<sup>nd</sup> April Thurs 12 yard skip lidded between 7am and 8am. 5. To request driveway improvements to the gate entrance due to issues with skip deliveries</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to approve the driveway quote as circulated at a cost of £540 plus materials and to use plainings. 6. To consider re-installing heras fencing along the playground hedge due to low cut hedge line by allotments and security issues.</p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to go ahead.</p> <p><b>QUERIES RAISED BY HALMER END TENANTS:</b> 1. None</p>	<p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p> <p><b>Clerk</b></p>
6.	<p><b>To note the previously agreed rent £20.00 per year - Halmer End (1<sup>st</sup> February to 31<sup>st</sup> January) and Audley (1<sup>st</sup> April to 31<sup>st</sup> March)</b> <b>Frozen for 5 years from 26/27 (1), 27/28 (2), 28/29 (3), 29/30 (4), 30/31 (5)</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> to note this as previously agreed.</p>	

**Meeting closed at 21.15pm**

### **Appendix Allot 1 - AAA Chair's Report – 2026**

I would like to thank the committee for their hard work and commitment over the last year. Once again, they have supported the allotments splendidly. Thanks to all plot holders for your hard work. Thanks to the Parish Council for their support.

- The newsletter has been updated and has been very well received.
- Planned plot inspections were carried out as per the policy.
- Just held the second seed swap social – well attended despite the rain. First held last year and supported by Rileys. Thank you to Michelle for the home baking.
- Open Day at the end of last summer – well attended by local public and Helmerend Allotment holders. Repeating earlier this summer.
- Food donations to local community.
- Christmas Tree in St James' Tree Festival. Thanks to all for their crafting.
- Regular maintenance across allotments – mowing.
- Skip policing – scrap metal collection.
- Parish Council grant for new Chompy sorted out.
- Security consult with Parish Council following break in & PC Forest.
- Planned Pie & Quiz evening for Autumn.

The financial statement has been sent out prior to the meeting. The accounts have been checked and verified by an external person.

At present we have a waiting list of 17.

With the ongoing proposals for future development in the parish it is now more important than ever to protect our green spaces. We need to preserve our Allotment site, it's important to keep plots full, well maintained, so they are there for future generations.

We would like to thank all members for their support throughout the year.

Sarah Williams AAA Chair

.....Signed .....Dated

### **Appendix Allot 1 - AAA Secretary Report**

All plots were rented out during 2025. A high standard of maintenance was seen in general across the site, during our three plot inspections carried out in April, July and October last year.

We had use of a skip in the spring, provided by Audley Parish Council, which helped to maintain the overall tidiness of the plots and site. We will be planning on bringing in a skip again this spring, when the weather improves. We have asked for hardcore to be laid in the tracks up to the gate to make the deliveries easier, again being provided by APC.

We have a waiting list of 17 people currently and have welcomed several new members over the last twelve months, sadly saying goodbye to others along the way.

The Committee has continued to monitor the presence of rats on the site and have encouraged members to report any sightings. I can report that our local ginger cat, that many of you will have seen on site, is good at catching rats. I have seen the evidence.

There were 3 events held last year, the seed swap, open day and the Christmas tree festival, several members helped to make our tree decorations this year, which was fantastic, hopefully many of you visited the church while it was open to see our tree and those made by other local groups, apparently over 500 people were recorded by the church volunteers. We plan to go even better for the next festival in 2027. Many plot holders donated surplus produce for the harvest festival held by The Methodist Church, which were then distributed to the local people that needed it.

We have produced digital membership cards this year, which we gave as receipt for your rent.

## AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of the Parish Council held at Audley Pensioners Hall, on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2026 at 7pm

Present:

Chairman: Mr N Hayes (NH)

Councillors: Mr D Jervis (DJ), Mr P Cole (PC), Mr A Howell (AH), Mr I Rowley (IR), Mrs S Williams (SW), Mr S Johnson (SJ), Mr K Chell (KC), Mrs M Toft (MT), Mr C Griffiths (CG), Mr N Ginnis (NG), Mr P Maddock (PM)

Cllr Machin

Parish Clerk

### Parish Council Meeting

1.	<b>To receive apologies – Cllr T Cork, Mr Warriner, Cllr Grocott, Cllr R Garlick</b>	
2.	<b>To consider approving and signing the Full Council meeting minutes on 19 Feb 2026</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> to sign as a true and accurate record. The Chair signed the minutes at the meeting.	
3.	<b>Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda</b> <i>(Note member should notify Monitoring officer within 28 days if not already. They should not act or take decisions in order to gain financial or other material benefits for themselves, their family, or their friends. They must declare and resolve any interests and relationships)</i> <b>To note dispensation granted for Parish Councillor Ian Rowley, Chris Cooper, Michelle Toft, Stephen Johnson, Sarah Williams (Audley Allotment Tenants)</b> DJ - payments App F KC – Church yard grant application – personal interest	
4.	<b>Public Participation: None</b>	
5.	<b>Police, Borough, County Council and MP update (if available)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Police update – Noted as attached.</b></li> <li>• <b>County Councillor Machin Update – attached.</b></li> </ul> <p>The Alsager Road speed limit issue was raised in light of the ongoing accidents at the Alsager Road A500 slip road. Discussion took place regarding the poor condition of Church Street and the ongoing potholes along with the quality of previous repairs – Cllr Machin noted that these are temporary repairs.</p> <p>DJ raised the serious concerns around the poor state of Church Street and the risk to pedestrians etc due to drivers avoiding parked cars to pedestrians and potholes. The overall road condition has already been reported to Highways.</p> <p>KC reported that HGVs which deliver goods to some of the shops often carry out u-turns by Chester Road and end up pulling out the repairs by the Oriental Chef.</p> <p>Heathcote Road/Station Road issue was also raised around the issues during school run in terms of the congestion.</p> <p>SCC Contractors have removed the safety railings at Church Street, which were damaged by the SCC contractors. Cllr Machin will be chasing the replacements up.</p> <p>Church Bank has been tarmacked by SCC – Cllr Machin to follow up the reasons for this. Clarification regarding the policy to sell off County farms land and holdings was given and that this land cannot be used, but land used for non farming activities may be.</p> <p>AB2 was raised in terms of County's position on this going forward given that officers had supported the scheme put forward by the developer and supported by Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council. Concerns were raised following the recent use of large lorries using Ravens Lane from Chesterton through Audley whilst the main roads were congested or inaccessible. It was felt that this will be a regular occurrence in the future should AB2 be developed. It was also raised that pavements are also in a poor state.</p> <p>Cllr Machin was thanked for his attendance and input into Parish issues.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Borough Councillor Update – None.</b></li> <li>• <b>MP Update – None.</b></li> </ul>	
6.	<p><b>Staffordshire Local Government Reorganisation</b> - consultation ends 26 March 2026 – see link <a href="https://staffordshires tokelgr.org.uk/">https://staffordshires tokelgr.org.uk/</a> - this was noted and there were a variety of opinions around these proposals with no support given to the reorganisation.</p>	
7.	<p><b>To receive a report back from Sir Thomas Boughey Academy students (Standing item)</b> As the school was not represented there was no update.</p> <p><b>To update on the bus shelter painting project –</b> This is ongoing awaiting input from the school and artist to progress.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Elections - Thurs 7<sup>th</sup> May 2026 - 7am to 10pm – Parish/Town and Borough Council Guidance and Nomination forms can be downloaded here:</b> <a href="https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/combined-guidance-returning-officers-local-government-and-police-and-crime-commissioner-elections/nominations">https://www.electoralcommission.org.uk/combined-guidance-returning-officers-local-government-and-police-and-crime-commissioner-elections/nominations</a></p> <p><b>Key Dates –</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Notice of election to be posted 27 March 2026</li> <li>- Withdrawal Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April</li> <li>- Deadline for receipt of nominations <b>Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2026 at 4pm with Returning Officer at Newcastle Borough Council</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Advice and assistance:</b> <b>Phone</b> - Elections Office at 01782 742249 or Parish Council 07946 060826 <b>Email</b> - <a href="mailto:electreg@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk">electreg@newcastle-staffs.gov.uk</a> or <a href="mailto:clerk@audleyparishcouncil.gov.uk">clerk@audleyparishcouncil.gov.uk</a></p> <p><b>Further info also here:</b> <a href="https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/elections-registration-1/local-government-elections-2026">https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/elections-registration-1/local-government-elections-2026</a></p> <p>This was noted and all applications for nominations are encouraged for all interested.</p>	
9.	<p><b>Local Plan update – INFO only</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. NBC Local Plan – latest update is here <a href="https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-examination/2">https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/planning-policy/local-plan-examination/2</a> - Noted.</li> </ol>	
10.	<p><b>Planning – To consider any planning applications received, including:-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To agree delegated authority to Chair/Vice Chair and Clerk for comments on planning applications where the deadline falls before the next meeting</li> </ul> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <a href="#">Proposed two storey extension at rear</a> Corner House Alsager Road Audley Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8JG Ref. No: 26/00148/FUL (Village env/Green Belt/Delegated) - <b>RESOLVED</b> to support.</li> <li>2. <a href="#">Certificate of Lawful Development for the proposed replacement of a flat roof with a shallow pitched/sloping roof</a> Spring Cottage Miles Green Road Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8LQ Ref. No: 26/00117/PLD (Green Belt/Delegated) - <b>RESOLVED</b> to support.</li> <li>3. <a href="#">Proposed demolition of existing rear / side single storey elements and erection of two storey side extension to rear of existing attached garage</a> The Haven Wereton Road Audley Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8HE Ref. No: 26/00114/FUL (note was on previous agenda as Lawful Development Cert – supported) Village Env/Delegated <b>RESOLVED</b> to support.</li> </ol> <p>An additional planning application had been received and an extension for comments requested to the next meeting. However in the event that an extension was not agreed to the next meeting the below was agreed.</p> <p><a href="#">26/00207/PIP Application for Permission in Principle for the erection of between 2 and 4 dwellings</a> – Received 17<sup>th</sup> March deadline 31<sup>st</sup> March – <b>RESOLVED</b> to object on grounds of Green Belt not greybelt, which is currently used for farming Grade 1 – 3a/b which should be a material consideration by the officers given the NPPF proposed changes. It is also an important strategic gap in the Neighbourhood Plan. It was also noted that</p>	

	<p>there is a stream next to the site and there are flooding issues, plus environmental concerns for the brook due to any contamination created into the brook etc. There is also a public footpath which runs through the site. NH noted there is no regulator that oversee the decisions taken by the Local Planning Authorities to ensure consistent decisions are taken.</p> <p><b><u>FYI ONLY Development of up to 220,000m2 GIA of storage and distribution units (B8), general industrial units (B2) and industrial units (E(g)(iii)); training and education (F1(a)) and occupier support services accommodation; service yards and parking areas; new main vehicular access off the A500 and emergency access off Barthomley Road; lorry parking and ancillary driver amenity facilities; with associated landscaping, earthworks, drainage and attenuation features and other associated works (outline, all matters reserved except for the principal means of vehicular access to the Site)</u></b> Land South East Adjacent Junction 16 M6 At Cheshire Boundary Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire Ref. No: 25/00346/OUT – Ongoing</p> <p>Noted that National Highways have further responded to some further data provided by the applicant.</p>	
11.	<p><b>To consider Grant applications (£1531 remaining overall/£300 per application, constituted parish groups)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To consider an application from Halmer End CIC Stute towards the cost of a new boiler - £300 – <b>Appendix A RESOLVED</b> to support.</li> <li>To consider an application from Audley Pensioners/Village Hall towards new outdoor storage for the shared use by the Audley St James Church Yard group - £300* - <b>Appendix A1 RESOLVED</b> to support.</li> <li>To purchase a police approved tool shed at a cost of £917* net and to gift to the Audley Pensioners hall/Church yard group (utilising the unspent £50 towards this purchase from the previous approval of £300 in April 2025 towards the tomb rails repair – which cost £250 net). <b>RESOLVED</b> to accept a donation in April from the Church yard group. <b>RESOLVED</b> to purchase the shed and gift to the Audley Pensioners Hall for the use of both the churchyard and the hall.</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p><b>Allotments (Audley budget 2025/26 £599/Halmer End £180)</b></p> <p>To consider a quote for driveway improvement to Audley Allotments entrance gate and also to install Heras fencing along the hedgerow due to low hedge/security issue – <i>note this is not budgeted</i> – see <b>Appendix B</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> to appoint a contractor to install the driveway £540 plus materials. <b>RESOLVED</b> to install a run of heras fencing along the hedgerow due to low security. AAA to notify tenants.</p> <p>Skip for easter at both sites for Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> Apri – to be a lidded skip due to ASB issues in the past. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
13.	<p><b>Footpaths (Budget £1,133.00/£533 remaining)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note the working party on 18<sup>th</sup> March and future dates if agreed This was cancelled and will be rearranged for a future date to be agreed.</li> </ol>	
14.	<p><b>Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Car park/Assets inc :</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Flagpole monthly inspection (TC) – standing item - to instruct a monthly written report at a cost to be notified to inspect the pole in line with the manufacturer’s guidance, plus instruct an annual inspection at a cost of £240 net (to take place in September 2026) by the manufacturer. <b>RESOLVED</b> to include this monthly written report within the Annual Maintenance contract. <b>RESOLVED</b> to appoint an annual inspection through the manufacturer at a cost of £240 net.</li> <li>To approve the updated Flagpole policy in line with updated dates released – <b>Appendix C1 RESOLVED</b> to approve and note the revised dates.</li> <li>To note Play Area and Car Park Monthly Inspections for March (<b>Appendix C2 and C3</b>) and approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority –removal of fallen tree Albert Street, removal of zip wire seat Queen Street due to damage (and</li> </ol>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>notices), entrance repairs to MUGA, fly tipping Rileys Field – this was noted and agreed.</p> <p>4. To note ASB issues at Queen Street, dogs off leads, dog fouling, motorbike - All issues have been reported to the dog warden who is looking into it and also the police. Signs have now been installed regarding dogs on leads and no dog fouling.</p> <p>5. Leddys Field Support Group update – IR IR reported that the grass cut has been carried out and has been done well – first cut since last August. The pond leak has been repaired but it is not fully resolved. May look at other repairs to the dam may require a contractor to do the work in the summer pending the weather. Noted that there are squirrels in the owl box, siskins, tree creepers, owls, linnets and other birds present at the site. The pond weed is also being removed. Frog spawn has been seen in the stream and pond. PAPG have an event on 18<sup>th</sup> April and there will be a presentation about Leddys. It was also noted that the Countryside Stewardship application submitted for the creation of a 10 year woodland management plan.</p> <p>6. To consider a quote to carry out identified repairs needed to the BMX tarmac surface for £1000 following ROSPA inspection- see <b>Appendix C4 - RESOLVED</b> to appoint Ridgway to complete the work.</p> <p>7. To confirm the ongoing arrangement with NBC to empty litter bins at Miles Green Play area and Queen Street play area (at a cost of 7.50 per week x 2 – total cost £780) (note this is in addition to the bins already emptied by contractor) <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve. To follow up with the Chief Executive at NBC later in the year.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
15.	<p><b>To further consider projects for a volunteer day for each parish ward and lead councillors</b> Dates to be agreed and promoted when the new Council is in place. Other projects to include: Seat clean up and bin by Hougherwall Road Nantwich Road roundabout weeds on pavement Grass bank by the Plough – entrance to MPW and painting of the tub. More bulbs by the Bignall Pit wheel. All to send to Clerk for the projects.</p>	<p>ALL</p>
16.	<p><b>To consider the nominations for the Parish Awards (Community, Environment and Young Persons (u18)) to be invited to the May meeting</b> It was agreed to revert back to the April format for the Annual Parish meeting. A list of nominations received were fully considered and the award recipients were approved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
17.	<p><b>Parish Seats and Bus shelters (£5.1k budget/£500 remaining)*</b> 1. To note the update on the installation of bus shelter at Ravens Lane – Noted that this is in progress and may not be completed before the year end. Clerk to report the poor state of the Meadowside bus shelter which belongs to Newcastle Borough Council.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
18.	<p><b>Audley Bowling Club (Budget £1k/Actual spend £1320) (note legal fees funded by reserves £3k)</b> 1. To note the AGM minutes (Jan 25) and club accounts up to end Oct 25– see <b>Appendix D</b> – This was noted. 2. To carry out the annual building inspection at a cost of £300 net – <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve. 3. To consider a quote to relay flags on pavement (after inspection)</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
19.	<p><b>Car parks :</b> 1. Car Park Audley Methodist Church (budget £85k/£25k committed/£60k remaining for works ) – update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To note closure for Good Friday church service – 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2026 – Noted.</li> <li>• To note the Legal costs £450 for land registration of lease – Noted.</li> <li>• Party wall surveyor update – Following further technical detail and input it has been agreed that the work will not require a party wall agreement and notices. However it is noted that the surveyor required has cost £700 net which will fall to the Parish Council to fund.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To note update with the Planning application submission – this is expected today/tomorrow. Final drawing circulated for comments. The drawing was agreed for submission.</li> <li>Signage and bin for the site – Noted that the Borough Council have agreed to continue emptying the bin on their schedule.</li> <li>Procurement progress update – to follow once planning app underway.</li> </ul> <p>2. Bignall End Road lease progression (£50k budget 26/27 financial year) –update</p>	
20.	<p><b>Highways issues (Budget £1400/£700 remaining):</b></p> <p>1. Miles Green (Heathcote Road/Station Road junction) – standing item – <b>County Cllr update on DHP</b></p> <p>2. Bignall Hill and nearby drains – flooding (Standing item) – <b>to monitor future downpours</b></p> <p>The Clerk was asked to report ongoing issue with the ‘fountain’ along Bignall End Road.</p> <p>3. A500 from National Highways – <b>to note 3 accidents since temp signs were installed (Nov, Dec, Feb) plus reported near misses, no further update</b></p> <p>The Clerk read out the latest update received that afternoon from National Highways regarding the installation of the new signs. A public message for sharing has been requested. It was noted that at the last crash a number of vehicles were seen to do the same and not stop to give way but continued across to the other slip road in front of the police who were present for the crash. The Clerk was asked to enquire with the police if they follow with these vehicles if witnessed.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
21.	<p><b>Standing item – CCTV /Police</b></p> <p>1. To note any requests for footage from Police– March – ASB Motorbike Queen Street and dog warden to request footage of dogs off the lead.</p> <p>2. To receive an update on the CCTV camera Church Street (column replaced 16 March) and costs to replace parts if required – Power surge has been caused by the post being hit at Heron Foods which has damaged the recorder. To be replaced and for an insurance claim to be logged. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve and progress the replacement in line with the quote circulated.</p> <p>3. To note the outcome with service inspection of the units – reports awaited, any issues to be brought to the next meeting.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Next agenda</p>
22.	<p><b>UK GDPR (standing item)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Data breaches/Subject Access requests/Information Security – reminder of responsibilities – Noted.</li> <li>See emails for training opportunities</li> </ul>	
23.	<p><b>Communications and PR messages (Standing Item)</b></p> <p>To agree PR messages for the next month</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elections</li> <li>- Dog fouling etc at Queen Street</li> <li>- Bulb planting that has been carried out at the pit wheel Bignall Hill, Nantwich Road, Heathcote Road, Hougherwall, The Plough and Leddys</li> <li>- Planning app for car park</li> <li>- New bus shelter installed Ravens Lane</li> </ul>	
24.	<p><b>Correspondence and circulars -To review other items received not listed for next agenda</b></p> <p>1. Civic Pride Day 26 August 2026 – Borough Council Event for Audley – suggestions for community groups, volunteers etc wanted to be involved on the day for a Parish Clean-up day working with partner agencies and the Borough Council – <b>projects also required</b> <a href="#">Civic Pride 2025 – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council</a> - Lead councillor required for this event</p> <p>This will be discussed at the May meeting post elections with the new council.</p> <p>2. D2D service update and change to Port Vale Foundation from 1<sup>st</sup> April – circulated 11.03.26 – this was noted.</p>	<p>May</p>

25.	<b>Clerks Update – Appendix E</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- To note that Halmer End Stute are planning to create a new CIC called Headway for forestry skills for young people to be located in a unit on the site and introduction of ladies' football team – <b>RESOLVED</b> to note.</li> <li>- Annual leave- noted and agreed.</li> <li>- To note the submitted response agreed (as per working group 9 March) for the NPPF consultation – see <b>Appendix E1 – RESOLVED</b> to approve.</li> </ul>	
26.	<b>Councillor Reports</b> (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda – <b>(note Highways/ROW issues to be reported outside of the meeting)</b> None.	
27.	<b>Finance:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To approve payments/orders, receipts and transfers including noting payments made by delegated authority – <b>(Appendix F)</b> DJ noted a personal and pecuniary interest and left the room. <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve as attached.</li> <li>2. To note the budget update and bank reconciliation statement (not signatory) – <b>(Appendix F1)</b>- This was noted and approved. Budget £218,936.02 Actual spend £117,794.49 Remaining spend £118,617.08 <i>(which includes some spend to be carried forward to next year)</i> Total expected spend £223,355 (unadjusted re carry forward) Total Income £244,693 The Bank reconciliation was checked and signed by PC.</li> <li>3. To receive the Interim Audit report findings <b>(Appendix F2)</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> the report was discussed and the 4 recommendations have been actioned accordingly.</li> <li>4. To note End of Year Auditing arrangements – Noted.</li> <li>5. To approve the Assets Register – <b>(Appendix F3)</b> <b>RESOLVED</b> to approve.</li> <li>6. To agree the Reserves Policy – This will be brought to the April/May meeting.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clerk</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Next meeting</b></p>
28.	<b>TO RESOLVE UNDER THE 1960 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT) TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE MEETING TO BE DISCUSSED</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To further consider legal opinion – <b>Appendix G- RESOLVED</b> to note.</li> <li>2. Renewal of the Annual Maintenance Contract for next year expires in March 2026 – <b>Appendix H RESOLVED</b> to approve and award the contract to Mr Hough and Mr Till.</li> </ol>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Clerk</b></p>

### AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL – POLICE REPORT

19/03/2026 – 1900Hrs Audley Pensioners Hall

Data 19/02/2026 to 19/03/2026 (Since last meeting)

Total incidents reported on the Audley area – 161 (Previous month was 136) although 90 of the 161 were M6 motorway of A500 traffic related. So, only 71 incidents reported to Police on streets of Audley which is 2 fold increase from the previous month.

ASB Community – 3

Off Road E Bikes Church Street

Off Road motorcycle CARA Park, Queen Street – CCTV being reviewed by PCSO Chaplin.

Parking issues along Birch Road – vehicles parking on pavements.

ASB Personal – 3

ASB Environmental – 0

Burglary Dwelling – 0

Burglary Business / Commercial Property – 1

Quad bike stolen from local farm

Last month there were 0 recorded Commercial Burglaries.

Street Robbery – 0

Vehicle Crime – 2

Quad bike stolen (additional to the one above)

Criminal Damage – 1

Community Issues identified since last meeting – E bikes seem to be declining now, with only 1 complaint in the last month. Police continue to seize illegal ones.

Tickets continue to be sent out in relation to parking on zig zag lines on Church Street. This carries a penalty of 3 points and £100 fine.

Incidents of Note –

Rogue Traders – No further report since last meeting

Suspicious incident – No further reports of Hare Coursing. Nothing else reported in Parish.

Traffic Matters – Pleased to say that there seems to be a decline in incidents at the A500 /Alsager Road junction. Police will continue to monitor and liaise with Highways. 1 RTC reported since new year at this location – Highways are aware and planning works to reduce number of incidents.

### Approved Payments Schedule – March 2026

Voucher	Name	Description	Amount
529	Reimburse	Post charge bank cheque	2.77
530	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Waste transfer fee Bin empties	36.00
531	Bignall End Cricket Club	Bignall End CC Grant app	300.00
532	Audley Allotments Association	Audley Allot Grant app	319.00
533	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 382 removal of zipwire seat Queen Street and signs up re closure	45.00
534	Stuarts Gardening Services	AM Car park inspections x 3	100.00
535	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 379 Rileys Clean up MUGA and improvement work to entrances	150.00
536	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 363 Halmer End car park clean up - removal of brambles, saplings, and around shelter	185.00
537	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 377 Removal of poppies at cenotaphs x 2 etc	65.00
538	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 371 Collection of 2 x bin liners Broxap and install in bins Play areas	65.00
539	North Staffs Fire Protection	Fire extinguisher service Bowling Club	153.60
540	C2C Consulting Ltd	Car park drainage design for planning app and spec	1,161.00
541	npower	Electric March 25 to Feb 26 Xmas lights	290.04
542	npower	Electric costs April 24 to March 25 CCTV revised	163.78
543	Newcastle under Lyme BC	NBC bins Queen Street and Miles Green weekly 1st April 25 to March 2026	624.00
544	Shraleybrook Media Duncan Richardson	Dogs on leads etc signs Queen Street and play areas	110.00
545	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Halmer end car park posts and play area sign materials	21.97
546	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials Seats - paint and stain	39.99

		.....Signed .....	Dated	
547	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials	Seats - cable ties signs	3.90
548	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials	Post crete Rileys entrances	83.40
549	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Bignall End Road	springer repair nuts and barrier key cut	7.22
550	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Bignall End Road	NBC barrier key cut	6.50
556	EE	EE Mobile costs	Office Phone	32.04
557	EE	EE mobile costs	SIM cards Village CCTV	84.00
558	O2	Mobile phone	CCTV Halmer End	24.60
559	Reimburse	Stamp		0.87
560	Evansign	Chairs board and long	service board update	300.00
561	Sheen Botanical Labels	Cherry Tree	plaques x 4	177.60
562	Steve Hough	AM contract		365.00
563	Steve Hough	ON 369	Car park posts refit Halmer End car park	100.00
564	Steve Hough	ON 375	Paint removal at Halmer end Train and rubbish play area	25.00
565	Steve Hough	ON 380	Chairs board rehung	25.00
566	Steve Hough	ON 352	Springer repair Bignall End Road refitted bolts	50.00
567	Steve Hough	AM Contract	bowling club roof and slabs inspection	125.00
568	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Nuts and screws	for seats and signs	55.44
569	Trent Steel Stockholders Ltd	Steel for church yard	tomb repair (approved in April 2025)	300.00
570	Rob Elliot	Digger hire	for drainage survey and barriers	558.00
571	Tree Heritage Ltd	Tree survey	car park Church St	780.00
572	Potteries Waste	Car park plainings	and skip Church	528.00
573	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Material for banner	install	0.80
574	Wicksteeds	Halmer end zip wire	trolley part	433.40
575	Staffordshire County Council - Bus Account D&G	Bus subsidy		£32,166.87
576	Ionos	NPlan website	Monthly sub	12.00
577	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract -	fortnightly until school holidays 25_26	72.00
578	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract -	fortnightly until school holidays 25_26	72.00
579	WJ North Limited	Markings in	Butchers Arms car park	979.68
580	Audley OAP Association	Audley Pensioners	Hall Room Hire	60.00
581	Shraleybrook Media Duncan Richardson	Banners x 2	car park closure	90.00
582	Newcastle under Lyme BC	Planning app Fee	Church Car park planning portal	234.00
583	Hewitt and Carr Architects	Architects fees -	1st stage up to Planning permission	420.00
584	My Property Survey	Church Car park	Party wall surveyor	840.00
585	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	Leddys Field	Grass cut x 1 March	156.00
586	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	AM Grass cutting	one off March 2026 all sites exc Leddys	1,047.59

	<b>Bank Reconciliation at 10/03/2026</b>		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2025		160,939.08
	<b>ADD</b>		
	Receipts 01/04/2025 - 10/03/2026		244,773.73
			405,712.81
	<b>SUBTRACT</b>		
	Payments 01/04/2025 - 10/03/2026		188,083.92
<b>A</b>	<b>Cash in Hand 10/03/2026</b> (per Cash Book)		<b>217,628.89</b>
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 23/12/2025	0.00	
	Lloyds Savings 10/03/2026	130,190.73	
	Lloyds Current 10/03/2026	16,855.98	
	Natwest reserves account 27/02/2026	81,497.54	
			<b>228,544.25</b>
	Less unrepresented payments		10,915.36
			217,628.89
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
<b>B</b>	<b>Adjusted Bank Balance</b>		<b>217,628.89</b>
	<b>A = B Checks out OK</b>		