MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of the Parish Council held at Audley Pensioners Hall, on Thursday 20th August 2026 at 7pm

Present:

Chairman: Mr N Hayes (NH)

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

Borough Cllr Harrison

2 member of public

Parish Council Meeting

1.	**To receive apologies –** Mr P Johnson, Mr T Cork	
2.	**To consider approving and signing the Full Council meeting minutes on 30 July 2026** **RESOLVED** to sign the minutes as a true and accurate record.	
3.	**Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda** (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) *Dispensation granted for Parish Councillor Ian Rowley, Michelle Toft, Stephen Johnson, Sarah Williams (Audley Allotment Tenants)* *NG for Item 9 - Community grants (library).*	
4.	**Public Participation:** A member of public raised concerns around the pavement conditions and also parking on pavements which blocks access for vulnerable users. Member of public will report the pavement condition to Staffordshire County Highways and copy to Cllr Machin. Details of obstructions to be passed to the police for action. Noted that the double yellow lines fall to Staffordshire County Council outsourced to Stoke on Trent City Council. White zig zag lines and zebra crossing are for the Police to enforce. There was also a query regarding tree roots and TPOs in the area.	
5.	**Police, Borough, County Council and MP update (if available)** • Police update – stats were circulated after the meeting as attached. • County Councillor Machin Update – Highways consultation Old Road/Peggys Bank one way – An update was read out at the meeting by Cllr Harrison. There is no further update on Peggys Bank or Station Road. Bignall Hill/Boon Hill they are looking at the missed grids and are adding them to the schedule. Alsager Road towards the A500 slip road is being considered in terms of speed limit, and also potholes to be repaired. • Borough Councillor Update - An outcome on Marrion Platts Way is outstanding. It was requested that the Parish Council have input into the future repair and a meeting be held to discuss this. Cllr Machin to meet with Cllr Tift. • MP update - none.	
6.	**To receive a report back from Sir Thomas Boughey Academy students (Standing item) – NIL** To receive an update on the bus shelter painting project from the school (materials supplied)- boards now painted and to be fixed over the next few weeks – Noted.	
7.	**To note an amendment made to the asset value for the AGAR for 24/25 due to the war memorials being reduced in value to comply with the new JPAG guidance – see Appendix A** **RESOLVED** to note and approve the amendment to last year's asset valuation which has been restated.	**Clerk**

8.	**Planning – To consider any planning applications received, including:-** **1.** To agree delegated authority to Chair/Vice Chair and Clerk for comments on planning applications where the deadline falls before the next meeting – Approved. **2. Proposed porch & utility extension to front with external and internal alterations and solar panels; together with new outbuilding to rear with solar panels 66 High Street Wood Lane Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8PB Ref. No: 26/00534/FUL (Village env/Delegated)** **RESOLVED** to support. **3. Proposed single storey extensions and dropped kerb. 15 Boyles Hall Road Bignall End Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8QG Ref. No: 26/00514/FUL (Village env/Delegated)** **RESOLVED** to support. 4. Agricultural livestock building Waste Farm High Street Alsagers Bank Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8BP Ref. No: 26/00410/FUL (Green Belt/Delegated) **RESOLVED** to support. 5. FYI - Application for approval of details of all hard and soft landscaping, including replacement trees as required by condition 04 of planning permission reference 23/00087/FUL for 1 No. new sustainable infill dwelling. The Dingle Boyles Hall Road Bignall End Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8QG Ref. No: 23/00087/CN04 – Noted. 6. FYI - Application for approval of all external facing materials including the door/fenestration appearance and colour and all rainwater/fascia goods; and boundary treatments and hard landscaping for the driveway as required by condition 03 of planning permission reference 23/00087/FUL for 1 No. new sustainable infill dwelling. The Dingle Boyles Hall Road Bignall End Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8QG Ref. No: 23/00087/CN03 – Noted. 7. FYI - Application for approval of full and precise details of all boundary treatments as required by condition 03 of planning permission reference 26/00226/FUL for Erection of 1no. self-build dwelling and associated works. Land Adjacent To 129 Leycett Road Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire Ref. No: 26/00226/2CN03 – Noted. 8. FYI ONLY NO NEW INFO AS YET 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) Land South East Adjacent Junction 16 M6 At Cheshire Boundary Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire Ref. No: 25/00346/OUT – Ongoing 9. To comment on NBC Self and Custom Build Register Consultation - https://www.newcastle-staffs.gov.uk/planning-policy/building-property/2 Deadline Friday 25 September 2026 – Noted that comments are requested.	**All**
9.	**To consider Grant applications (£1224 remaining overall/£300 per application, constituted parish groups)** Audley Library Community Group grant application – External socket £300 – **see Appendix B RESOLVED** to approve. Audley Library Community Group grant application – Xmas lights £300 – **see Appendix B1 RESOLVED** to approve.	**Clerk** **Clerk**
10.	**Footpaths (Budget £1,133.00/£583 remaining)** 1. To note the working party held on 30 July to complete FP37 and FP39 – **RESOLVED** to note. 2. Next date to be agreed with all.	**Clerk** **All**

11.	**Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Car park/Assets inc (£48k budget/£43k committed/£2k remaining (plus £3k contingency)** 1. To consider the Play Area, Margarets Gardens and Car Park Monthly Inspections for August **(Appendix C1)** and approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority – cradle seat replacement purchased for Queen Street, ragwort removal Queen St – **RESOLVED** to note and agree. It was also noted that there was a need to repair picnic benches at Queen Street – to be discussed at the next meeting. 2. To consider quotes to clear and tidy up the entrance to Rileys Field MUGA – see **Appendix C2 - RESOLVED** to appoint contractor A in line with the quotes circulated. 3. To receive an update on Leddys Field and consider next steps for the dam and approval to submit Ordinary Watercourse Consent (OWC) to Staffs County Council Flood Team – IR The issue with the pond leaking was discussed. IR will be making an application for consent to repair at Staffs County Council at a cost of £50. It was expected that the works will cost around £800 to complete following a quote received. The fence near to the life ring will need replacing at a cost of £100. IR to bring back to a future meeting as funding may be available. Dog fouling has increased on the site, signs and poo bags will be put out to help reduce it. 4. To receive an update on the 10 year woodland management plan if available - Not yet available - still in progress. 5. To note the Rileys Field fencing (2 new ends) to be carried out w/c 21st Sept – Noted.	**Next agenda** **Clerk** **Next meeting**
12.	**Civic Pride Day 26 August 2026** – Borough Council Event for Audley – Civic Pride 2025 – Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council – To note and any further volunteers to carry out projects - Available people to meet at the Library at 10am.	**All**
13.	**To consider the insurance renewal due 1st October 2026 with Zurich (last year £3,669.47) this year TBC (note Long Term Agreement ends Oct 2026) –** To be discussed on the next agenda.	**Next meeting**
14.	**Remembrance day parade/services Sunday 8th November 2026** 1. To approve the arrangements for this year (note road closures already approved and booked) – Noted and agreed. 2. To confirm wreath layers at both sites – NH will cover Audley and IR will cover Halmer End. 3. To confirm the arrangements for a PA system at Audley – This was agreed, PM to speak to contractor. 4. To consider a drummer (if available) to lead the parade around Audley – School to be asked. TC to ask. 5. To make arrangements for volunteers to install the 100 plus poppies on lamp posts Ravens Lane/Church Street – Agreed to install as last year. 6. To consider if any further poppies need to be purchased (£5 each and to approve the cost) – 50 extra poppies to be purchased in addition to last years. **AUDLEY** Meet at Maddock Street, Audley at 10 a.m. to proceed along Wereton Road to Queen Street – down Meadowside Avenue – up Vernon Avenue – down Chester Road – to roundabout at Nantwich Road – up Nantwich Road (**BAND TO JOIN PARADE AT PEAK PURSUITS**) – along Church Street to the cenotaph adjacent Wilbrahams House (10.45 a.m.) **ALSAGERS BANK -** Service to take place at the Cenotaph on Church bend, Alsagers Bank at 10.45 a.m. – final arrangements to be confirmed (to make own way safely to the Cenotaph in time for the start of the service)	**NH IR** **PM** **TC** **All** **Clerk**

15.	**Car parks :** 1. **Car Park Audley Methodist Church** (budget £85k/£25k committed/£60k remaining for works –Update at September meeting following option review. 2. **Bignall End Road lease progression** (£50k budget 26/27 financial year) – licence to be issued for temporary works, but not yet received.	**Sept**
16.	**Highways issues (Budget £1400/£700 remaining):** 1. Miles Green (Heathcote Road/Station Road junction) – standing item – County Cllr update on DHP – Noted no further update. 2. Bignall Hill and nearby drains – flooding (Standing item) – to monitor future downpours (reported May 2026 for cleaning out) - Missed drains now to be cleared. Noted that there is a projection of water by Bignall Bank by the gate which occurs regularly. 3. A500 from National Highways – to note 5 reported accidents since temp signs were installed (Nov, Dec, 26 Feb, 5 March, 20 March (Hullocks Pool), 30 March, 23 April) plus reported near misses, awaiting signs to be installed **–** Noted that the signs are still in progress. No formal update. Sat Nav is continuing to direct people off at the slip road**.**	
17.	**Standing item – CCTV /Police** 1. To note any requests for footage from Police– August two (now 3 so far) – Tickets are being issued for the cars being parked on zig zags/zebra crossing at Church Street on a regular basis. 2. To note the current situation with the Local Police team and consider writing to the PCC and others Letter to be sent to PCC and Commander regarding the current levels of policing in the rural areas and to request a face to face meeting. 3. To note the next service is due Weds 2nd and Thurs 3rd Sept – Noted. It was noted that the Chairman is looking at other options to provide CCTV through data centres. Quotes to be brought to a future meeting.	**Clerk** **NH**
18.	**UK GDPR (standing item)** • Data breaches/Subject Access requests/Information Security – reminder of responsibilities – Noted. • See emails for training opportunities- Contact the Clerk for any training requests.	**ALL**
19.	**Communications and PR messages (Standing Item)** To agree PR messages for the next month • Footpath working party photos • How to report Highway and Police issues • Civic Pride Volunteer Day • Remembrance Day • 12th September Community Tea Party	**TC**
20.	**Correspondence and circulars -To review other items received not listed for next agenda –** No items.	
21.	**Clerks Update – Appendix D –** Noted.	
22.	**Councillor Reports (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda – (note Highways/ROW issues to be reported outside of the meeting)** KC – Bus shelter New Road to be refurbished or replaced. DJ - A shooting party had been held at Great Oaks Farm, which was stopped following several complaints. AH - Cllr Seins Reiner is looking at the rights to the car park at Audley Health Centre for the Pensioners Hall. PM – Skateboard ramps damage has been reported and already in progress. NH – Succession plan for staff in future to be considered.	

23.	**Finance:** 1. To approve payments/orders, receipts and transfers including noting payments made by delegated authority **– (Appendix E)** **RESOLVED** to approve payments as per schedule.	**Clerk**
24.	**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 – No issues.**	

Police Stats - 16th July - 20th August (provided after the meeting)

ASB - 5
Neighbour dispute x3
Kids on Bateswood x2

Public Order - 3
Drunk male in the street
Delivery driver refusing food
Arguing in the street

Theft - 5
Outdoor furniture stolen
Missing parcel
Illegal fishing
Motorbike stolen
Embezzlement of funds

Violence - 5
Delivery driver threating
Neighbour dispute
Assaults x3

Criminal damage - 2
Brick thrown at window
Removing of fence panels

Cannabis grow, Woodlane, 330 plants seized, offender arrest and charged, currently remanded.

Church Street zig zags, 8 tickets issued since last meeting. Royal Mail van parked on zig zags, enquires on going with PC Peake.

Police drop in 26th August, Audley library as part of the civic pride event.

……Signed ……..Dated

Payments:

Voucher	Name	Description	Amount
187	Ionos reimbursed cost	Annual renewal of domain and monthly fee	33.60
217	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Jerry Can for watering new trees	23.00
218	STERLING VENTURES (UK) LTD via PC reimburse	Brazier for conf waste	18.80
219	Playdale	Queen Street Cradle swing legs and bushes inc install, and team swing chains	681.19
220	Lloyds Bank	Bank charge July	4.25
221	Reimburse PC	post stamps x 2 2nd hedges	1.82
222	A I Paints Ltd	Paint for play equip 2 x vinyl red, 2 x vinyl yellow, 1xbus shelter RAL 5008 and 1 x etch primer	422.40
223	LITE	Xmas lights for trees Dentist	3,660.00
224	1st for Fire & Security Ltd	Additional Camera Heron Foods replacement insurance	1,569.60
230	Ionos via PC	NPlan website Monthly sub	14.40
231	Audley OAP Association	Audley Pensioners Hall Room Hire 4 hours meeting	60.00
232	EE	EE Mobile costs Village CCTV and Office	135.78
233	O2	Mobile phone CCTV Halmer End	26.40
234	Glasdon UK Limited	Bench for Wereton Road Station Road Audley	656.91
235	Andrew Johnson	Re-felt of the bus shelter roof Scot Hay (H&S)	665.00
236	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	Grass cut Allotments pathway area and top section Halmer End	48.00
237	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	Strimming around and up to new equip Alsager Rd, Albert St, Halmer End (grass mats) and BMX track	45.00
238	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	Playing field maintenance Grass Cutting contract (15 cuts a year) April to Oct	1,174.49
239	GMS Grounds & Agri Ltd	Grass Cutting Leddys Field	156.00
240	Cllr I Rowley	Pit tub materials H End reimbursed costs bolts for chains	11.29
241	Steve Hough	ON 434 Removal of weeds BMX track	60.00
242	Steve Hough	AM play	410.00
243	Audley OAP Association	Audley Room Hire 1 hr EOM	15.00
244	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials Halmer End pit tub paint	52.50
245	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract - fortnightly until school holidays 26_27	72.00
246	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract - fortnightly until school holidays 26_27	28.80
247	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract - fortnightly until school holidays 26_27	72.00
248	Pet Waste Solutions Ltd	Litter bin contract - fortnightly until school holidays 26_27	72.00
249	Stuarts Gardening Services	AM contract work August	450.00
250	Stuarts Gardening Services	AM Painting of Play area equipment Halmer End, Miles Green, Alsager Road	910.00
251	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 431 Benches x 2 Alsager Road and Cross Lane	200.00
252	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 436 Halmer end notice board repair perspex	40.00
253	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 428 See saw bolts Albert Street	50.00
254	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 426 Water tree Heathcote road	10.00

……Signed ……..Dated

255	Stuarts Gardening Services	ON 427 Rileys Field removal of weeds on perimeter	60.00
256	PME Maintenance Ltd	Cherry Picker hire for replacement camera insurance	216.00
257	Andrew Johnson	Scot Hay bus shelter repair paint work	215.00
258	Virtual Works 360 Ltd reimburse	Wood treatment benches reimburse to PC	32.96
259	Euroffice	Ink and paper	169.17