

AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Aylesbeare Parish Council held in the Foxwell Room at Aylesbeare Village Hall on **Monday 20th January 2025** at 7:15pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Anna Thompson (Chair)
Cllr Mark Branson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Tracie Cooke
Cllr Nick Warren

ABSENT

Cllr Debbie Banks
Cllr Jacky Owen

IN ATTENDANCE: Six members of the public, Jim Roberts (Clerk & RFO)

1 Chair's remarks

Cllr Thompson welcomed everyone to the meeting and gave the following report: Cllr Thompson hoped everyone had a very good Christmas and a peaceful New Year and had recovered from the widespread colds and flu virus that nearly everyone seems to have caught this winter.

She explained that the meeting had been postponed because of the weather.

There had been two vehicle accidents in the village and she hoped the changes the Council is seeking would ensure no repetition.

The Chair reminded the Parish that should anyone use a grit bin (and they are welcome so to do) please advise EDDC via their webpage should the grit supplies run low.

2 Apologies for Absence

Cllrs Banks and Owen could not attend due to work commitments. Council **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons given.

3 Declarations of Interests

There were no declarations of interests for items on the agenda.

4 Open Public Forum

A member of the public asked the Council about making the village more presentable and getting the verges & banks cleared. She understood from a conversation with the Chair that all this work needed to be funded. The meeting felt that the best way forward is to organise a Tidy-Up Day and encourage as many people as possible to volunteer to help tidy, even if only outside their own homes.

The first speaker also asked about SpeedWatch and Cllr Branson outlined the details of the online course (see item 8,2 below).

A second speaker explained that she was on a nearby Parish Council until recently and that Council still had a speed gun. There may be scope for this item to be borrowed.

The second speaker explained that she & her partner ran a Community Interest Company helping wildlife (which they had also operated in a Parish nearby) and they hope to launch themselves this year. They hope to obtain Community Investment if there is any available in the area. They will be predominantly rehab for wild animals working with local vets. This helps avoid injured wildlife being put down as vets try to alleviate suffering. The Council thanked the couple for attending and explaining their exciting plans.

A third speaker explained that they lived a few miles away and hoped to move to Aylesbeare soon.

The fourth speaker asked about the process for being included in the meeting and this was explained.

..... Chair Initials

5 Minutes

Council **RESOLVED** to approve minutes of [4th December 2024](#).

6 Report of the County and District Councillor

No report this month.

7 Planning Application

7.1 [24/2547/FUL](#) Glebe Farmhouse, Harp Lane Extension and solar panels
Council **RESOLVED** to support this application.

8 Village Matters

8.1 The Nightjar

No update at this meeting and Council will consider registering the pub as an Asset of Community Value in April wishing not to jeopardise any potential sales in the meantime.

8.2 Speedwatch

If anyone is interested in volunteering to monitor vehicle speeds please contact Cllr Owen for the login details for online training. Once this is completed individuals can take part in SpeedWatch Sessions.

8.3 First Responder

As this primarily involves Cllr Banks this will be dealt with at the next meeting.

8.4 Digital Voice Events

Council is concerned that there are many parts of Aylesbeare where homes do not have a mobile signal indoors. In the event of a power cut everyone will rely on mobile phones for help or to offer assistance. Council will investigate further.

8.5 Play Area Inspection

Council discussed the options for Play Area Inspections and **RESOLVED** to accept the 5-year quote that will keep the price fixed until 2030.

8.6 Noticeboards and Rec Work

The Chair has organised a contractor to quote for the installation of the noticeboards and work to replace the stile & turn the bench. Cllr Warren will meet the contractor to facilitate the quote.

8.7 Defib Spares and Batteries

Council noted the purchases specified by a member of the public who kindly helps with the Defib. The clerk will purchase the items. *[Six members of the public left at 8:06pm]*

9 Finance

9.1 Current balances

Council **NOTED** the current balances of £ 13,166.66 (£7,462.73, £4,988.87 & £714.76)

9.2 Donation Request from Citizens Advice

Council **RESOLVED** that unfortunately they were unable to donate this year as there are no funds in the donations budget left.

9.3 Internal Auditor for 2024-25

Council **RESOLVED** to appoint P Clapham as the Internal Auditor

9.4 Budget Review for Quarter 3, 2024-25

Council considered the budget performance line-by-line and is confident that the budget can be met at the end of the 2024-25 financial year, appendix A refers.

9.5 Budget 2025-26 and Parish Precept

Council considered the budget line-by-line ensuring that all financial commitments could be met given anticipated increases due to inflation and other matters. The cash reserves are still well below the recommended level (£16,000) although they have recovered from £2,394 in 2019 to £6,752. Council also needs to meet all its financial commitments and be aware of increased costs next year.

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Chair
Initials

Council **RESOLVED** to set the precept at £16,896 which, for the average (Band D) home is £8.73 more than last year, an increase of 73p per month per household. Due to the small figures involved this does mean an increase of 16%, which is lower than last year's. This will put the Council in a much healthier financial position and more activities can be funded in the village, such as tidying up verges etc.

9.6 Payments

Council **RESOLVED** to make the following payments:

9.6.1 J P Roberts - clerk pay for December	£ 433.52		
Reimbrsmnt VH Internet Jurassic Fibre (Dec)	£ 17.50		
Reimbrsmnt for pension payment (Dec)	£ 138.71	£	589.73
9.6.2 HMRC - clerk's PAYE for December		£	97.41

10 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 5th February 2025.

There being no other business the Chair closed the meeting at 8:49pm thanking everyone for all their hard work.

Signed Date

Cllr A Thompson, Chair

Appendix A

AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL -- 2024-25 -- Budget Review						
	Budget	Qtr 2 YTD	Qtr 3 YTD	FYF		
Pay, Tax & Pension		£ 3,115	£ 3,979	£ 5,800		
Mileages		£ 61	£ 85	£ 120		
Other Expenses		£ -				
Staff Costs Total	£ 6,850	£ 3,176	£ 4,064	£ 5,920		
Village Hall Broadband	£ 240	£ 123	£ 158	£ 246		
Donations	£ 1,300	£ 1,400	£ 1,400	£ 1,900		
Subs	£ 210	£ 281	£ 281	£ 281		
Playing Field	£ 1,000	£ 177	£ 177	£ 1,000		
Insurance	£ 550	£ 827	£ 827	£ 827		
Training Courses	£ 250	£ -	£ -	£ 250		
Cllr & Clerk Expenses	£ 20	£ -	£ -	£ 20		
Stationery & Postage	£ 100	£ 22	£ 22	£ 100		
Rents	£ 150	£ -	£ -	£ 150		
Website & Email Hosting	£ 250	£ 216	£ 216	£ 300		
Grounds Maintenance	£ 3,500	£ 3,153	£ 4,699	£ 5,700		£545 Noticeboards
Audit	£ 85	£ 70	£ 70	£ 70		
Defib	£ 95	£ -	£ -	£ 80		
Software Subs	£ 10	£ 7	£ 7	£ 7		
Elections	£ 300	£ -	£ -	£ 300		
Non-staff Costs Total	£ 8,060	£ 6,275	£ 7,857	£ 11,231		
Grand Total	£ 14,910	£ 9,451	£ 11,921	£ 17,151		

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Chair
Initials

Aylesbeare Parish Council Budget 2025-26

Detail	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual	Full Year Feast	Budget
Staff Costs	£ 3,068	£ 4,492	£ 4,164	£ 4,915	£ 5,147	£ 4,064	£ 6,300
Village Hall Telephone/Internet	£ 651	£ 355	£ 53	£ 210	£ 158	£ 246	£ 230
Donations	£ 300	£ 1,000	£ 802	£ 1,368	£ 993	£ 1,400	£ 1,500
Subs	£ 136	£ 183	£ 183	£ 188	£ 270	£ 281	£ 320
Playing Field	£ 154	£ 361	£ 156	£ 1,270	£ 46,900	£ 177	£ 1,500
Insurance	£ 375	£ 1,336	£ 1,356	£ 413	£ 437	£ 827	£ 1,000
Training Courses	£ 165	£ 261	£ 108	£ 90	£ 72	£ 250	£ 250
Cllr & Clerk Expenses	£ 545	£ 126	£ 79	£ 29	£ 64	£ 20	£ 20
Stationery & Postage	£ 50	£ 272	£ 50	£ -	£ 22	£ 100	£ 100
Rents	£ 178	£ 178	£ 898	£ 256	£ 645	£ 216	£ 150
Website & Email Hosting	£ 1,359	£ 933	£ 120	£ 63	£ 71	£ 70	£ 320
Grounds Maintenance	£ -	£ 216	£ 663	£ -	£ 144	£ 5,700	£ 4,500
Audit	£ -	£ 237	£ 7	£ 7	£ 300	£ 80	£ 85
Defib	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 95
Software Subs	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 7	£ 10
Elections	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ -	£ 300	£ 300
Totals	£ 6,982	£ 10,663	£ 7,924	£ 11,855	£ 54,989	£ 11,921	£ 17,151
							£ 16,680

Reserves	Forecast	
	31Mar26	31Mar26
Recreation Fund & Youth Club	£ 694	£ -
Neighbourhood Plan	£ 945	£ 945
CIL	£ 568	£ -
Defib funds	£ 187	£ 400
Elections	£ -	£ 400
Rec Ground maintenance	£ -	£ 600
Ringfenced reserves	£ 2,394	£ 3,945
Bank Balance 1st Apr 24	£ 8,097	£ 11,711
General reserves	£ 7,660	£ 2,651

Precept	Total Precept	Tax base households	per Band D Household per year
£ 7,400	£ 7,622	£ 10,258	£ 12,068
271.0	269.0	265.0	261.0
£ 27.31	£ 28.33	£ 38.71	£ 46.24

Precept decision - 2025-26 **£16,896** = an extra **£ 8.73** per year which equals **£ 0.73** per month per band D household.

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Chair
Initials