

AYLESBEARE PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of Aylesbeare Parish Council held in the Foxwell Room at Aylesbeare Village Hall on **Thursday 13th November 2025** at 7:15pm.

PRESENT

Cllr Anna Thompson (Chair)
Cllr Mark Branson (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Nick Warren
Cllr Jacky Owen

ABSENT

Cllr Tracie Cooke
Cllr Debbie Banks

IN ATTENDANCE: Three members of the public
County & District Cllr Jess Bailey *[from 7:32pm]*
Jim Roberts (Clerk and RFO)

1 Chair's remarks

Cllr Thompson opened the meeting welcoming all attendees and gave the following report:

Thank you all for attending, and I'm sorry that we had to postpone the meeting due to unforeseen unavailability.

On the 30th October I attended a meeting with Matt Young, the Chief Exec of Grantscape, (the company distributing the funds of the Solar Park), and representatives from Rockbeare PC (Carolyn May, Clerk and Phil Franklin, Chair).

It was agreed in principle that Aylesbeare will receive 1/3 of the £90k + funds, (a smaller proportion than Rockbeare/Marsh Green because Aylesbeare is mainly affected during the build) to be split equally between the PC (for enhancing the play park), Save our Church and the Village Hall (approximately £10k per organisation)

Matt Young has contact details for 2 representatives from each organisation.

Obviously, a lot of work will be required from us all in the future to prepare the bids for each scheme, but I hope you agree this is good news, and a fair allocation given that the impact on Aylesbeare is limited to the actual build, as the site is not within our boundaries.

Reports received by the PC about transport and other issues are being forwarded to Infini for action.

A reminder that Colette Flynn from Infinis can be contacted via email Colette.flynn@infinis.com, or email communityengagement@infinis.com or call 07767341264

Further information about the project can be found here [https://fordoakssolarpark.co.uk/Read the traffic management plan here](https://fordoakssolarpark.co.uk/Read%20the%20traffic%20management%20plan%20here)

I was pleased to see that Alison Pearson is once again running Operation Bramble to provide shoeboxes full of goodies for families with children on Bramble children's ward and the neonatal unit over Christmas. There will be various drop-off points. Please let Alison know if you are able to help.

The PC will again be taking part in the St Mary's Church Window Wonderland event from the 12/13th December through to the new year. Please do come along and see all the displays.

2 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Cooke is away and Cllr Banks is working. Council **RESOLVED** to accept the reasons given.

3 Declarations of Interests in items on the agenda

None.

.....
Chair
Initials

4 Open Public Forum

The first speaker came to introduce herself as the applicant for planning permission at Leats Farm (item 8.2.1). She was happy to answer any questions, confirming that the rebuild was required as some elements of the existing were likely to collapse very soon. The second speaker offered to help with advice on the potential dog field that the Council is considering for the Play Area. Council was very grateful for the offer. Council will need to consider how the grass can be cut and how the mess will be cleaned up.

The second speaker also offered to help with education for youngsters with pet care. He also asked about the end of the landline telephone service, BT are advising that the date may be delayed by up to two years. BT may rely on customers using the wifi calling options. This will be a problem if the internet is down and given the poor mobile signal in the village. There are some options for battery back-up and additional equipment for better mobile signal.

5 Minutes

Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meetings of 3rd Sept 2025 and 1st October 2025. The Chair duly signed them.

6 Report of the County and District Councillor

County & District Cllr Jess reported:

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR) – DCC are meeting tomorrow to gain the views of Council Members for the proposed a single Unitary Council with area committees. C & D/Cllr Bailey is worried about the powers of the area committees and how representation will work. As Chair of the Adult Health Scrutiny Cttee (which spends 49% of the budget £383m) C & D/Cllr Bailey is concerned about it being disaggregated. Other proposals concern her with the 5-4-1 proposal as there are no details of the need or demand for services in the proposed Unitaries and one of them may have greater demand than can be covered with the Council Tax for that area. The various Districts and County Council can't agree in Devon but it will be the central Government's decision. Any plans for a Mayoral strategic body will need a population of 1.5m which is bigger than Devon.

C & D/Cllr Bailey advised that EDDC will soon meet to discuss the Local Plan and there will be a report on water supply and drainage. Despite LGR it is better to have a local plan than not. Administrations without a 5-year land supply will be vulnerable. The papers and agenda will be on the EDDC website by the end of the week.

C & D/Cllr Bailey has put a motion to DCC about the rights of rivers which is meeting with push back. She believes the intrinsic ecological value that should underpin all of DCC's plan.

7 Village Matters

7.1 Highways (Marwood Road /Scotchmead water leaks)

No feedback from SWW leads the Council to believe the old springs from the pond that existed before the houses could be responsible.

7.2 Parking in Scotchmead (incl car park)

Chair reported on the state of the car park and C & D/Cllr Bailey promised to follow it up.

7.3 Telephone Kiosk

Cllr Owen has tried several times to contact the owners and Council identified the name and address for better contact.

7.4 Community Infrastructure Levy Receipts

Council believes that the CIL receipts are now just over £10,000. This will be added to the FOSP funds for Council to plan improvements.

..... Chair Initials

Council will get photos of the play area to help Council decide what is needed at the next meeting.

The lack of benches in the village was discussed and Council would welcome suggestions from residents for locations of benches, especially from those willing to site a bench on their property.

Council also considered that the approach to the village could be improved with planters.

7.5 Local Government Reorganisation

This had been adequately discussed in para 6.

7.6 Marwood Road (not Lane)

The main issue will be getting EDDC to change the road signage. Clerk to pursue this matter.

7.7 Barton Farm Development Drainage

The drainage pipe has been put into village way to divert run off from Church Close. The developer has also cleaned the ditch out behind the Church Close properties. The pipe is gradually being used less and residents haven't reported issues with the developer's arrangements. Council will monitor the situation as heavier rainfalls are now imminent.

7.8 Loss of BT Landlines

To be discussed fully at the next meeting.

7.9 SWW Improved Water Treatment Works

Council is concerned that the new attenuation tank is unable to cope with rainfall within months of being installed and overflows are frequent and defended as reasonable by SWW. It had been promised that the new capacity would be sufficient for many decades but three days of rainfall cannot be coped with.

8 Planning and Consultation

8.1 Decisions

8.1.1 25/1545/FUL Beautiport Farm Extension to Livestock Building **APPROVED**

8.1.2 25/0620/FUL Land at Barton Farm Demolish barn, 4 dwellings **APPROVED**

8.2 Applications

8.2.1 25/2192/FUL Leats Farm, Withen Lane Replacement dwelling & outbuildings Council **RESOLVED** to support this application.

8.2.2 25/1228/PIP APPEAL Cherrytrees, 25 Village Way 2 self-builds & outbuildings Council **NOTED** this appeal but had nothing to add to the comments already submitted that the Inspector would see.

8.2.3 Land off B3180 between Tatry & Panorama Shepherd's Hut and associated outbuildings. Application not sent out for consultation by the date of this meeting.

8.2.4 Shutebridge Meadows Application received after the agenda was issued. The December meeting will fall just before the end of the consultation period.

[C/Cllr Bailey & one member of the public left at 8:30]

8.3 Consultation & Events

8.3.1 Woodbury Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Council **RESOLVED** to congratulate Woodbury Parish Council on their excellent plan but has no comments to add at this time

8.3.2 Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Precept

Survey 3rd December Cllrs will fill in individually, residents will be encouraged to respond, clerk will put this on the Buzz.

8.3.3 Rural Transport Poverty Panel Q & A 26th November, Bridestowe Village Hall

Cllrs will individually consider attending this event.

..... Chair Initials

9 Ford Oaks Solar Park

Council is pleased to note that the complaints of lorries not complying with the traffic plan have reduced (but disappointed that they have not completely stopped). The contractors are taking action and residents are encouraged to report contraventions of the plan directly to Colette Flynn.

10 Finance

10.1 Current balances

Council **NOTED** the current balance of **£ 27,178.81** (Current acct £21,427.24 Other accts £5,030.47 + £721.10)

10.2 Payments

Council Resolved to make the following payments:

10.2.1 Clear Insurance Management Ltd	Annual insurance premium	£ 933.62
10.2.2 J P Roberts	- clerk pay, (October)	£ 214.17
	Reimbursements: Pension payment for (October)	£ 99.03
	VH Internet Cuckoo Fibre (October)	£ 17.50
10.2.2 HMRC	Clerk's PAYE Income Tax for October	£ 330.70
		£ 83.80

11 Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7:15pm on Wednesday 3rd December 2025.

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:18pm thanking everyone for their attendance and hard work.

Signed
Cllr A Thompson, Chair

Date