

**AUST PARISH COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF A COUNCIL MEETING**

Held on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023 @ 7:30pm at Elberton Village Hall

**Present:** Councillors Steve Meredith (chairman), Heather Bayston, Jeremy Warren

**In attendance:** none

**Clerk:** Emma Pattullo

Approved at the subsequent meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> August 2023

Signed copy held by the Clerk.

**1 To receive apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Ian Jenkins, Anne Wiseman & David Spratt, also from SGC Ward Cllrs Matthew Riddle and Tony Williams.

**2 To receive declarations of Interest and requests for dispensations**

There were no declarations of interest or dispensation requests.

**3 Public Forum**

No members of the public were present.

**4 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023**

It was resolved that the minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be approved as a correct record. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

**5 To consider co-option to the vacant council seat**

No-one has yet come forward for co-option.

**6 To review ongoing matters and agree action required, if any:**

**6.1 Greenacres planning – to receive update**

No new information.

**6.2 Meeting with National Highways – to note arrangements and agree issues to be raised**

The meeting will be held at Aust Village Hall on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July.

It was RESOLVED that the clerk should contact National Highways in advance and raise the key points which the councillors believe need to be addressed, namely:

- Poor signage/road markings around the motorway junction;
- Traffic management during periods of disruption (eg. high winds, incidents on one of the bridges, high traffic volume events in South Wales);
- Ongoing closure of Sandy Lane underpass.

**6.3 Speeding in Littleton and Aust – to consider issues and possible actions**

Cllr Warren presented a report on perceived issues in Littleton and the evidence for/against a need for action. He concluded that the imposition of a speed limit would make very little difference and would lead to more visual clutter signage, and recommended that council should take no further action.

It was noted that parking on Littleton main street, particularly around the village hall / Rushen Lane junction, can make it difficult for other traffic to get past. Whilst this obviously helps reduce speeding, it causes other problems. Cllr Warren agreed to speak to nearby residents to request considerate parking.

Vehicle speeds on the A403, specifically the entrance to/exit from Aust roundabout, will be raised at the meeting with National Highways (item 6.2 above.)

As none of the Aust councillors were present, it was agreed that the issue of speeding on Main Road, Aust should be postponed until the next meeting.

## 7 New items of business

### 7.1 To consider report of dangerous dead trees on Stock Hill

Several elm trees around the junction of Stock Hill & Field Lane appear to be in a dangerous condition and present a risk to passing traffic. As they are in the field and/or field boundary, they would be the responsibility of the landowner. It was RESOLVED that Cllr Warren should speak to the suspected landowner to confirm ownership and request that they are made safe.

## 8 Planning

### 8.1 To note applications received and resolve response

The following applications were noted and responses resolved as recorded:

- i. P23/01818/F - Aust Motorway Services - Installation of 12no. Electric Vehicle (EV) charging points, with associated equipment and works (Part retrospective). *RESOLVED: No objection.*

### 8.2 To note the following SGC planning decisions

The following planning decisions were noted:

- i. P23/00320/F - Redhill Farm Marshacre Lane Elberton - Erection of an agricultural building for general storage. *Approved with conditions.*
- ii. P23/01326/F - Land at Villa Farm Main Road Aust - Erection of 1 no. agricultural building for the storage of fodder and machinery. *Approved with conditions.*

## 9 Council administration

### 9.1 To consider adoption of a revised Code of Conduct based on that adopted by South Glos. Council

It was RESOLVED that the proposed Code of Conduct should be adopted with no amendments.

### 9.2 To agree arrangements for the clerk's annual review

It was RESOLVED that the clerk and Cllr Meredith should meet to discuss. The outcome will be reported to the September meeting.

## 10 Finance

### 10.1 To receive the quarterly finance report & budget statement

The finance report was noted. The bank reconciliation was checked and signed by Cllrs Warren and Bayston.

### 10.2 To note receipts

The following receipt was noted:

Item	Amount
Bank interest on reserve account, April to June 2023	£61.78

### 10.3 To note payments made under prior approval

The following payments, made under the given prior approval, were noted:

Item	Amount	Minute (where applicable)
Clerk's salary & home working allowance for the month to 16 <sup>th</sup> June 2023	£287.12	May 2023 item 12.9
Unity Trust bank charge Q1	£18.00	May 2023 item 12.9

### 10.4 To approve payments

The following payment was resolved to be made. The cheque was signed by Cllrs. Meredith & Warren.

Item	Amount	Cheque #
Aust Village Hall – hire of hall, 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2023 for National Highways meeting	£10.00	300002

**11 To review correspondence received and determine response**

**11.1 Request for beacon lighting as part of D-Day Commemorations (6<sup>th</sup> June 2024)**

It was RESOLVED that this item should be postponed until the next meeting.

**12 Any other minor matters for discussion (no decision required) or items for next agenda**

*Potholes:* a number of potholes in the area have been marked for several months but no repairs have yet been carried out. Cllr Meredith reported that he has raised this with Cllr Matthew Riddle to discuss with SGC highways department.

*Clerk to carry out additional internal audit:* the Clerk has been asked to carry out an internal audit for Cromhall PC. This will be done under the usual small council audit panel arrangements but Aust PC will be reimbursed for the clerk’s time.

**13 Meeting closure**

The meeting closed at 8:36pm.

The next meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

Items for the agenda should be with the Clerk by 5<sup>th</sup> September.

**Signed (Chairman): .....**