

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Alstonefield Parish Council was held on Wednesday 5th February 2025 at 7.00 pm in Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Chair: R Hignett, Vice Chair: G Campbell (GC), A Hayes (AH) and R Longdon (RL) together with the Clerk, S Dartnell (SD). There were no members of the public present.

05.02.1 Apologies: M Newman, C McIlroy and S Jeffery, District Councillor, Edwin Wain (EW).

05.02.2 Minutes of the previous meeting

The draft minutes of the previous meeting had been published and forwarded to members of the Council in advance of the meeting. These were confirmed as a true record of proceedings and signed by RH.

05.02.3 Declarations of personal and prejudicial interest of councillors related to published agenda

None declared.

05.02.4 Clerk's Report and matters arising

The Clerk reported back on the actions taken following the previous meeting: Draft budget prepared and circulated and permission gained from Local Authority to delaying submission of precept request form until after this meeting. End of year audit has been arranged for 11th April. A review of the risk register must be completed ahead of this and will be added to the agenda for the March meeting. No update from the Land Registry query.

05.02.5 Items to/from the District Councillor

EW was not in attendance. He had responded to clerk that he had no update on District Precept levels. EW had also responded to an enquiry from GC about the Local Authority reorganisation but had no update at this time.

05.02.6 Planning matters, decision notices and appeals

[NP/SM/1124/1172](#) - The Croft, Hope Dale Hollow, Mill Dale, Alstonefield - Proposal: S.73 application for the removal of condition 3 on NP/SM/0322/0326. Removing the condition about occupation of the barn portion so that it could be a separate dwelling. Councillors discussed and had no objections or observations.

NP/SM/0225/0103 - Dovecliff, Milldale, Alstonefield - Proposal: S.73 application for the variation of condition 2 on NP/SM/0123/005. Received on the day of this meeting so not included on published agenda, however, Councillors agreed to discuss given the 28-day response deadline. No objections or observations recorded.

There were no decision notices or appeals to consider.

05.02.7 Financial matters - items of expenditure and income

2025/6 Budget and Precept Requirement – The Clerk had previously shared a draft budget and the latest update from Peak Local Authority for Parish tax base. Councillors reviewed the budget line by line. Given forecast deficit budget, Councillors decided to increase the precept requirement, which has remained unchanged for a number of years, to £10,250. Whilst this precept is forecast to still require the additional use of some Parish reserves, the portion was felt to be a balanced level requiring a manageable increase of 4.74 % for parishioners.

During budget discussions, responsibility for machinery, maintenance and storage resulted in AH agreeing to arrange the sale of unused parish machinery in local auction sale.

Car park monies had kindly been collected by AH in the sum of £20.18. There were no other receipts in the period.

The following payments were approved:

January Clerk Salary and Expenses	£299.70
February Clerk Salary and Expenses	£299.70
Repayment to GC for MS365 licence fees for FY 2024/2025	£148.32

After taking into account the above transactions, the Council had balances of £ 440.31 in the current account and £20,496.63 in the deposit account (*including interest of £23.52 for December and £25.83 for January*).

The Clerk was advised an invoice from the Alstonefield lengthsmen is expected for the March meeting.

05.02.8 Items for Community Magazine

Clerk has updated Parish Council details and website link.

Following correspondence from a resident, Clerk use information from RH to submit an article to raise awareness of the requirements and restrictions in the Conservation Area in relation to Tree pruning and felling.

Clerk to submit an article with input from GC in relation to updating Parish website for clubs and societies.

Clerk to submit a short item about self-reporting of potholes.

05.02.9 Highways Issues

No specific issues, but Potholes continue to be of concern. Councillors agreed Clerk should add a link to the website to help residents report potholes of concern direct and a short item for the Community Magazine.

05.02.10 Village Green Registration Status – GC had chased an update with no outcome and has therefore prepared an email to John Tradewell, Responsible Executive Officer at SCC.

05.02.11 Correspondence

Kath Williamson had supplied a list of dates for the 2025 Car Boot Sales. Councillors agreed that dates are acceptable subject to ground conditions.

A local resident had contacted the Clerk in relation to tree felling without appropriate planning permission in the Conservation Area. All discussed. An article explaining legislation will be submitted to the Community newsletter along with a link to the website which will include the same information and a map of the Conservation Area. This issue will be added to the March PC meeting agenda for fuller discussion.

Peak Park Parishes Forum had contacted all local Parishes requesting support. Clerk to share email with Councillors.

05.02.12 Any other business

One item discussed confidentially.

Date of next meeting

Wednesday, 19th March 2025 7pm in the Village Hall.

The meeting was declared closed at 20:38

These Minutes remain draft until ratified at the next meeting