

**AIRMYN PARISH COUNCIL
15 JANUARY 2025 AT 7PM
AIRMYN MEMORIAL HALL**

PRESENT: - Councillors M Nundy (Chair), F Stones (Vice Chair), P Batten, C Goddard, R Lowe, H Matthews, B Rodger and K Staward.

A Hirst (Parish Clerk) was also in attendance.

Seven members of the public were also in attendance.

212/2024 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished all those in attendance a Happy New Year (**Closed**).

213/2024 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None were received. (**Closed**)

214/2024 MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 13 NOVEMBER 2024 AND 11 DECEMBER 2024 - Resolved – (a) That the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Airmyn Parish Council, held on 13 November 2024 be amended to incorporate the agreed changes, and (b) that the proceedings of the monthly meeting of Airmyn Parish Council, held on 11 December 2024 be agreed as a true record and be signed by the Chair. (**Closed**)

Resident Participation Time

215/2024 RESIDENT PARTICIPATION TIME – The Chair invited the members of the public in attendance to address the council. Those in attendance respectfully requested that they be allowed to address the council as part of its consideration of minute 216/2024 titled ‘flood incident – 5 and 6 January 2025’.

Resolved – That standing orders be suspended in order that the members of the public in attendance could contribute to the discussion on minute 216/2024.

Matters to Discuss

216/2024 FLOOD INCIDENT – 5 AND 6 JANUARY 2025 – The Chair invited the members of the public in attendance to address the council. Several residents spoke passionately about the recent flood incident that occurred on 5/6 January, and the impact it had had on their property. The residents also eloquently shared their concerns that similar incidents may happen in the future if the village water removal infrastructure is not resolved. Particular concern was expressed about the capacity and reliability of the Yorkshire Water pumping station, as well as the ownership, management and capacity of the various ditches, dykes and watercourses in and around the village. The Chair then facilitated a discussion between the council and local residents on the remedial measures that could be implemented to minimise the likelihood of and property or land being flooded in the future.

Resolved – (a) That the Clerk contact Yorkshire Water and respectfully request sight of their investigation findings following the flood incident in the village on 5/6 January 2025; (b) That following the receipt of the report, the Clerk invite representatives of Yorkshire Water to attend a parish council

meeting to discuss the incident; (c) That the Clerk contact East Riding of Yorkshire Council Chief Executive, respectfully requesting that a drainage engineer attend the village and meet councillors to explore the areas of concern in the parish; (d) That the Clerk write to all parish landowners who have responsibility for the management and maintenance of a water course to inspect their land as a matter of urgency and implement immediate measures should it be necessary to rectify any accessibility issues; (e) That the Clerk write to the Environment Agency, respectfully requesting that they inspect the visible 'sandbanks' in the River Aire to ensure they were not affecting the capacity of the river, and (f) that the Clerk utilise the council's social media channels to inform residents of the respective emergency contact numbers for Yorkshire Water.

217/2024 **PRECEPT** - Further to Minute 210/2024, the Clerk presented to the council the amended budget calculations for the financial year 2025-26 which were requested following the adjourned meeting held on 11 December 2024. Council reviewed each budget line in turn and considered the projected spend against the priorities for the parish.

The council had again experienced an increase in the costs associated with employing the Parish Clerk, as well as making additional resources available to employ a Caretaker. Insurance costs continued to increase as well as the cost of things like utilities, office supplies and fuel.

The council had proactively looked at ways it could reduce its expenditure or generate income. The partnership between the Probation Service and the council should hopefully see a substantial reduction in the cost of managing and maintaining our green spaces. The same partnership should also see our valuable volunteers at St David's Church receive additional support with maintaining the church yard. The Events Team had a hugely successful year. Not only did they plan and implement several community events that were enjoyed by hundreds of people, but the volunteers also managed to generate over £600 in income for the council. This was on top of the money that was also distributed to Airmyn Park Primary School and other charity or voluntary groups.

There may also be an opportunity for the council to generate income by agreeing a lease with a new tenant who will operate from, as well as manage and maintain the former Airmyn Bowls Club site.

The council reluctantly agreed to a reduction in the number of editions of the Airmyn News produced each year, as well as the document in future being printed in black and white instead of colour. However, each edition of the Airmyn News would be available on the council's website in colour, where it could be read online or downloaded and printed in colour.

Through prudent financial management, the council continued to maintain very healthy level of reserves. Some of which would be used to improve the availability and accessibility of parish council information, as well as modernising the IT software the Clerk had access to.

Following a lengthy discussion, the council was able to set a balanced budget, thus allowing it to unanimously agree that the parish precept be

frozen for the financial year 2025-26. This would mean that Airmyn residents won't pay anymore for its services than it did during the financial year 2024-25.

218/2024 **AIRMYN PARISH COUNCIL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES** - The parish council considered the following Human Resources policies and procedures –

- Anti-Bullying and Harassment Policy
- Data Protection and Privacy Policy
- Disciplinary Policy
- Drugs and Alcohol Policy
- Email and Internet Usage Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy
- Flexible Working Policy
- Grievance Policy
- Home Working Policy
- Lone Working Policy
- Maternity Leave and Pay Policy
- Paternity Leave and Pay Policy
- Performance Improvement Policy and Procedure
- Sickness Absence Policy
- Social Media Policy
- Whistleblowing Policy

The Chair facilitated a discussion on the policies, with councillors commenting on each policy in turn.

Resolved – (a) That all the HR policies listed above be agreed in principle, and (b) that councillors consider any amendments to the policies, for consideration at the next meeting.

Date of Next Meeting: 12th February 2025 at 7pm

The Chair thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting at 9.45pm.