



Astley Village Parish Council

## **NOTICE OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**Notice is hereby given that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Wednesday 5 March 2025 at 6.30 pm at Astley Village Community Centre**

All members of the public are welcome to attend.

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### **'Agenda'**

- 1. Introduction and Welcome.**
- 2. Minutes from the last meeting on 6 March 2024 (Enclosed).**
- 3. Annual Report of the Parish Council 2024/25 by the Chair, Councillor Gillian Sharples**
- 4. To invite the public to raise any matters of interest.**

The Parish Meeting is an opportunity for parishioners on the Electoral Roll for Astley Village to raise any matters of concern to them that relates to their local community. It would be helpful to have written notice of any matters to be raised but it is not essential. Matters can be raised at the meeting without prior notice. For any queries, please contact the Clerk to the Parish Council (Craig Ainsworth at [clerk@avpc.org.uk](mailto:clerk@avpc.org.uk))

**The Parish Council Meeting will follow immediately after this meeting.**

**Councillor Gillian Sharples  
Chair, Astley Village Parish Council  
24 February 2025**



## Astley Village Parish Council

### Annual Parish Meeting

6 March 2024 at 6.30pm

Present

Councillor John McAndrew (Vice-Chair) (in the Chair) and 6 members of the public.

#### **1. Introduction and Welcome**

The Chair welcomed those present to the Annual Parish Meeting and explained that the Parish Meeting was an annual meeting that allowed residents to raise and discuss issues effecting the village and was separate to Parish Council Meetings.

#### **2. Annual Report of the Parish Council 2023/24**

The Vice-Chair of the Parish Council (Councillor John McAndrew) presented the Annual Report of the Parish Council 2023/24 (copies of which had been circulated).

It was noted that the report should read:

“Astley Village Garden of Reflection

The garden of reflection project was finished, with the installation of one new tree, which commemorated the platinum jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II. In addition, three benches were installed to commemorate the diamond jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II and her life and the coronation of King Charles III. There are also plaques commemorating these events too.”

RESOLVED – That the Annual Report be noted.

#### **3. Items Raised by Members of the Public**

The Chair invite the public to raise any matters of interest.

No issues were raised.

The meeting concluded at 6.35pm

Chair



## **Astley Village Parish Council**

### **Annual Report 2024/2025**

#### **Re-elected as Chair**

I was honoured to be re-elected as Chair of Astley Village Parish Council at the Annual Council Meeting which took place on Wednesday 1 May 2024.

#### **Improvements to the Village Centre**

Chorley Borough Council provided an update in relation to the proposed improvements to the village centre. Work undertaken so far includes installing a soft play surface outside the community centre, rendering the external walls, removal of asbestos and refurbishing the interior of the community centre. Around the shops, the proposal is to replace the timber cladding, improve the lighting and possibly repave the area.

I welcome these improvements to our village centre.

#### **Proposed improvements to Chancery Road underpass**

The Parish Council has suggested improvements to the Chancery Road underpass, which includes:

- Upgrading the current lighting to LED.
- Improvements to the brickwork at the access points.
- Clearing the overgrown vegetation.
- Improving the aesthetic look of the railing.
- Installing solar low-level lighting at each entrance to the underpass.

#### **West Way Nature Reserve**

Following the installation of the path which leads to West Way Nature Reserve, Chorley Borough Council have installed some new signage which gives more information as to what type of wildlife can be found in and around the area.

#### **Chorley Flower Show**

Once again, the Parish Council had a stall at the popular, annual Chorley Flower Show event, which took place from 26 – 38 July 2024. Information was available regarding our Village and the plans we have for future improvements. Parish Councillors were also available for a face-to-face chat on the Friday and Saturday to answer queries from residents and other visitors.

### **Remembrance Sunday/Poppies in the Parish**

Parish Councillors attended Chorley's Remembrance Sunday Service on Sunday 10 November 2024. As Chair, I was honoured to lay a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. Poppies were also attached to street signs throughout the village during the week before Armistice Day.

### **Monthly Litter Picks**

Our monthly litter picks have attracted more volunteers over recent months and it's great to see so many people wanting to help keep our village clean and tidy. We meet on the first Saturday of each month at the Astley Village Community Centre at 10am and we split into groups so we can cover as much of the village as possible. Equipment such as litter pickers, gloves and bin bags are provided.

### **Christmas 2024**

The Parish Council held its annual Christmas carol singing event on Friday 6 December 2024. Due to arrival of Storm Desmond earlier in the day, we had to relocate inside the community centre. Once again, we were accompanied by members of the guitar group, 'AKA Acoustic', featuring our very own Parish Councillors John McAndrew and Keith Ashton. We also lit the Christmas tree, which had some new lights installed for the occasion. Refreshments were served in the community centre afterwards.