

AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** of the Parish Council held at Halmer End Institute on Thursday 21st December 2023 at 7.00pm

Present:

Chair: Mr N Hayes (NH)

Councillors: Mr Philip Cole (PC), Mr Deane Jervis (DJ), Mr Kelvin Chell (KC), Mr Andy Howell (AH), Mr Ron Garlick (RG), Mr Brian Billings (BB), Mr Ian Rowley (IR), Mrs Michelle Toft (MT), Mr Stephen Johnson (SJ) Mr M Joynson (MJ), Mr C Cooper (CC)

Clerk – Mrs C Withington (CW)

Mr S Taylor from STBH was in attendance. Cllr Grocott attended on behalf of Cllr Lewis

Parish Council Meeting

1.	To receive apologies - PCSO Wright, Tom Cork, Cllr Lewis	
2.	To consider approving and signing the Full Council meeting minutes on 16th November 2023 RESOLVED to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. The minutes were signed by the Chair at the meeting.	
3.	Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda <i>To note dispensation granted for Parish Councillor Ian Rowley (Audley Allotments Chair) and Parish Councillor Chris Cooper, Michelle Toft and Stephen Johnson (Audley Allotment Tenants) – Noted that due to the rent discussion they would leave the room at that point. RG and DJ payment schedule.</i>	
4.	Public Participation: . None	
5.	Police, Borough and County Council update (if available) PCSO Wright provided the following report before the meeting: Anti-Social behaviour is down -21% and crime is also down -21% for the last months. A total of 177 incidents have been dealt with for the area over the last month. NH circulated a letter received from Mr Aaron Bell MP. Cllr Grocott was invited to provide a report on behalf of Cllr Lewis for the Borough. It was noted that the Local Plan development is ongoing with a report expected to Cabinet on 16 th January. The Chief Executive has resigned from the Borough Council so a successor will be sought. Potholes and parking issues are ongoing problem in both wards. DG noted that Highways respond more people that report then they will then act. DJ noted that 11,000,000 backlog of reports. All to report and take photos to report the issues. Noted that Borough Council website is difficult to report but must be reported. CC – asked that we report the recent email received regarding statutory functions. DJ also asked the way local funds are being used should also be included. Regarding the potholes it was felt that the quality of repair is not good enough due to the lack of seal applied to stop water from getting into the repair.	
6.	To receive a report back from Sir Thomas Boughey Academy students (Standing item) Mr Taylor and the students reported that bulbs have been planted at Minnie Pit site by school today approx. 500 bulbs. The awards evening had been held and there were a number of winners from KS3 and KS4. The motivational speech on overcoming resistance was well received. All were invited to attend next year. Mr Taylor reported that a Christmas tree has been put up in Audley St James. From 1 st Jan STBH join the Windsor Academy Trust along with Newcastle and Clayton Hall to become part of much larger trust.	

	<p>It was agreed that the Chair and Vice Chair will attend the STBH school council to inform the pupils on what their role is in the community and how a Parish council works. Mr Taylor to contact the Chair and Vice Chair outside of the meeting.</p> <p>Other School Council reps to be invited to the Parish Council meetings – Mr T Cork – Next agenda.</p>	<p>DJ NH Mr Taylor Next Agenda</p>
7.	<p>Local Plan update – None to date</p> <p>As noted earlier by Cllr Grocott a Cabinet report is due on 18th January which will have an update and the results of the consultation are expected to be presented to the meeting.</p> <p>The Clerk noted that the new Neighbourhood Planning Policy Framework is now out and the impact on the Local Plan will need to be assessed for both housing in terms of numbers (which requires them now to have a 4 year housing land supply annually not 5 years) and the Green Belt implications. Noted the NPPF also offers 5 years of protection to Neighbourhood Plans where there is a 4 year Housing land supply in place. It was suggested that Councillors look at the Local Plan pages on NBC website for the duty to co-operate statements with respects to other Councils and their views on the Local Plan.</p>	
8.	<p>Neighbourhood Plan update – To note the completion of Regulation 14 consultation on 27th November and review of representations (11 Statutory consultees and 18 resident responses), redrafting of policies etc where applicable and consideration of a quote to redraft as necessary – see Appendix A</p> <p>A quote was circulated to respond to the consultation representations. It was estimated that the time required would be between 6.5 and 8.5 days at £550.00 = £3,575.00 - £4,675.00 +VAT. This is honouring the current day rate and not the new Locality day rate of £579 per day to try and help keep costs down.</p> <p>For this Urban Vision would respond to each representation in the table, suggest modifications and then modifying the Neighbourhood Plan. Providing a complete table to add into the consultation statement and a clearly marked amended plan for Councillors to consider. Work to be undertaken to meet the requirements of planning legislation and also consultation case law.</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve the quote for the consultants to respond to the representations and redraft the Plan where necessary.</p> <p>The Draft Plan will come back to Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group before going to the Parish Council for final sign off. All responses to be addressed through each of the table and responses will be put online for all to see.</p> <p>PC asked that enough time be allowed to consider the changes before submission. PC also asked for the details of the Statutory consultees, and the Clerk confirmed these were the likes of the Statutory Utilities, Sports England, Parish Councils, Wildlife Trusts etc and other bodies provided by Newcastle BC Planning Policy.</p> <p>PC queried if the number of responses were considered good enough considering how many are in the Parish. It was noted that leaflets, banners and other ways to promote the plan were carried out. PC had a concern regarding the referendum and the potential low turnout.</p> <p>PC noted that there are still concerns about Local Plan and how it will impact on the Parish. There are also concerns regarding the proposed housing numbers by the</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	<p>Borough Council and the evidence within the Technical report for the Local Housing Needs assessment.</p> <p>Cllr Grocott was invited to speak and noted that limited comments were received in Kidsgrove but there is no minimum and no maximum.</p>	
9.	<p>To further consider budget for next year 2024/25 and the precept - see Appendix A1 – Draft budget to be circulated along with precept scenarios for approval in January</p> <p>To further consider a proposed Precept increase of 10% (which would equate to an increase of 14p per week £7.17 per year on the precept for a Band D property). This will be a total payable for Band D property of £78.82 per annum (currently £71.65 per annum).</p> <p><i>(*Noted for the minutes that the last audit noted that the reserves should be in line with the JPAG recommendations “Para 5.34. ... In practice, any authority with income and expenditure in excess of £200,000 should plan towards 3 months equivalent general reserve”. This would equate to £50k of unearmarked reserves. General reserves should be set aside for contingency funds to cover unexpected inflation, unforeseen events and unusual circumstances).</i></p> <p>The Council tax base has increased to 2631 from 2606. Noted that the Council Tax support grant remains for next year but it is not guaranteed for the future.</p> <p>RESOLVED to propose that the Precept is increased to £78.82 per annum for Band D property from £71.65 due to increasing costs overall and the projects that are planned. This would be a total of £207,375.42.</p> <p>Summary of Draft budget approved -</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Bus shelter project – £10k (to note other options for external funding being sought) 2. Neighbourhood Plan £3k (may increase so unknown costs plus potential funding for Legal challenge required) 3. Community Activity inc Remembrance Day £4k 4. CCTV maintenance and upgrade £7.2k 5. Car park x 2 – Church £70k (reserves £45k and £25k budget) and Bignall End £50k (note Bignall End Road to be delivered nearer to end of financial year £25k (24/25) and £25k (25/26) - Audley Football Club driveway improvements for the school to be included in this funding if agreed) 6. Xmas decs – installation £4k, replacements £2k (2 x dentist trees) and new if needed £3k (total £9k) (note further spend may be required if decorations are rolled out to Bignall End lamp posts) 7. Bus Subsidy £31.5k (Note below) 8. Grant apps £4k 9. Annual Maintenance Contract approx £18k estimated subject to tender for Grass <p>Note - Miles Green double yellow lines £9k NOT BUDGETED FOR 24/25</p> <p>RESOLVED to approve the Precept and Draft budget.</p> <p><u>Other projects to include for consideration:</u> Audley Football Club driveway (car park for school children) – to note outcome of 3 quotes and consider request for assistance (Commercially confidential* may be moved to Closed Agenda) – This was considered on the closed agenda.</p>	
10.	<p>To consider and agree the arrangements for the tendering of bus subsidy from April 2024</p>	

	RPI figure for October 2023 is 6.1% proposed to increase the annual contract price from £29,776.56 to £31,566.13 RESOLVED to accept the increase and continue as it is planned.	Clerk
11.	Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:- 1. 2, 3 bed semi detached houses Land Adj 43 Vernon Avenue Audley Stoke-on-trent Staffordshire ST7 8EF Ref. No: 23/00914/FUL (Village Env/Delegated) RESOLVED that this be supported. 2. Proposed Outbuilding The Byre Oaklea Court Bignall End Road Bignall End Stoke-on-trent Staffordshire ST7 8NU Ref. No: 23/00916/FUL (Green belt/Delegated) RESOLVED that this be supported. 3. Proposed detached dwelling 135 High Street Alsagers Bank Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8BQ Ref. No: 23/00876/FUL (Village env/delegated) Note that there have been some objections. It was previously refused by the Borough due to being dominant over the other surrounding properties. RESOLVED that this be supported.	
12.	Request from residents to install their own bollard and signs on private/unadopted lane at Co operative Lane – Mr M Joynson MJ had been approached by residents who live on the unadopted lane. They are prepared to repair the road providing that cut through traffic is stopped at one end from the main road. It was considered that it is difficult to egress from the road. Noted that this land was considered private access land although it's not registered with Land Registry so ownership may fall to a number of properties who all use the land to access their property – this would however be a private matter for them to confirm in line with deeds etc. Whilst it is unadopted other individuals have used this for a number of years so there may be some rights in place. Noted that there is public access for pedestrians as it is Audley FP 40. Therefore Highways may have concerns if they put a bollard to obstruct use. It was also noted that there is a liability issue associated with a bollard and this is outside of the Parish Council's remit. Noted that they could repair the potholes but again it would be a matter for them.	
13.	To consider Grant applications (£2000 remaining (T2)/£300 per application, constituted parish groups To consider a grant for parish children (in greatest need) to receive school uniform at Sir Thomas Boughy School – see attached Appendix B RESOLVED to approve the grant for £300.	Clerk
14.	Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Car park/Assets inc: 1. To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for Dec (Appendix C) and approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority – To note action taken as per report – Noted and approved. 2. Goal posts at Bignall End Road update – It was suggested that the goal posts are put in sockets to allow them to be lifted out, Clerk to look into this if possible pending the type of posts that are being used. RESOLVED to approve the suggested location and the donation of the posts from the Audley Football Club. 3. Leddys Field Support Group – Feedback – Information Sign - Mr I Rowley There has been no recent activity due to the weather. A mock up of the final public information boards x 2 was circulated to all in advance. A grant application has been made to the Community Foundation of Staffs for help towards the wooden steps refurb. A meeting was held with SWT regarding the Newt partnership and an update is awaited regarding the potential request to increase the pond size. Clerk to chase up. It was noted that Leddys Field provided a Christmas tree for the Audley St James Church display with wood used from Leddys Field. Revised maintenance plan to be agreed at the next meeting. The price has already been agreed for grass cutting next year. 4. Scot Hay play area – trimming of conifers – to consider the quotes received and approve (Commercially Confidential may be moved to Closed agenda)	TC Clerk Clerk

	<p>The information was circulated at the meeting, with the contractor details removed. The specification was to prune the conifers trees and to reduce by approx 6-8ft. Two quotes had been received and it was RESOLVED to appoint the Contractor who provided the quote for up to £460.</p> <p>5. To note the annual ROSPA inspection of the Play equipment (next agenda)</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Next agenda</p>
15.	<p>Audley and Halmer End Allotments - To consider the rent increase for 2025/2026 IR, SJ, CC, MT spoke on the item (in accordance with the standing orders) but left the room when the voting took place.</p> <p>MT noted that Audley Allotments have subsidised the rent increases in the past to make it more affordable to their tenants.</p> <p>IR, SJ, CC and MT left the room.</p> <p>Consideration was given to other plots across the borough and it was felt that due to increasing costs generally it would be fair to increase the rent by £1 for 2025/26. A vote was taken and it was RESOLVED to support raising by £1 to £17.50 per plot.</p> <p>IR, SJ, CC and MT returned.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
16.	<p>Bus shelter by Station Road Halmer End – update</p> <p>The Clerk provided the information supplied by Borough Councillor Crisp who sought the opinions of neighbours and received a mixed response.</p> <p>“All houses said both bus stops at the very least needed repairing or needed to be replaced with a better looking modern shelter. All apart from one house said they experienced ASB here but that it was mostly restricted to the opening and closing of school, though sometimes youths collect there at the weekends etc. 2 Houses said the shelters should not moved to another location or be removed (leaving just the stops) as they are used by locals a lot at other times. 3 houses said perhaps they should be moved but were unsure to as to where and were concerned that the ASB may just relocate to the new locations. They also said they are used by locals a lot at other times. 2 houses said the shelters absolutely should be removed, and hopefully the bus stop location should be moved as well. They were not as concerned about current users of the shelters and stops. Other comments included: one resident used the shelter herself, that the back of the shelter had a fire started behind it and between their garden wall, one person said (and other residents confirmed this) that youths had picked him out for abuse, also that he had to call the school about a youth in uniform hanging out there all afternoon during the weekday, footballs are often kicked around here.”</p> <p>The Clerk relayed the comments from D&G who stated that in relation to the 600 users recorded who have boarded that bus over the month (October) – this will include the pupils who access the bus from the school ground - D&G’s view was that approx 60% are students (boarding from the school) which leaves 240 passengers (approximately) who are non-students boarding from the bus shelter/stop. Their view was the shelter should remain.</p> <p>It was noted that the Borough are proposing to paint (same colour suggested as the blue we have been using) and to see if ASB improves etc. If the Shelter if further vandalised with paint scratched off etc. then there is an obvious need to remove it. RESOLVED to support the approach. Clerk to relay the support back to the Borough Council officer.</p>	<p>Clerk</p>
17.	<p>Pit tub relocation to Audley – Mr T Cork</p> <p>This was discussed in brief in the absence of Mr Cork. KC stated that a local business is willing to support such a coal tub. It was discussed and it was agreed to look to relocate the tub from Bignall Hill to Audley ideally in front of the Church.</p>	

	<p>A quote will be obtained to refurb the tub and also to relocate it. Clerk to ask Church if this is acceptable to place on the land in front of the Church.</p> <p>Repair costs to be obtained from KMF Gareth Higgins and Nigel Poole.</p> <p>KC to take photos, and to look to obtain costings to bring to next meeting.</p>	Next agenda
18.	<p>GDPR (standing item)</p> <p>Data breaches/Subject Access requests/Information Security – reminder of responsibilities – Noted.</p>	
19.	<p>Car parks :</p> <p>1. Car Park Audley Methodist Church lease progression update and heads of terms for draft Lease – to note request to pay for the Church's solicitor upfront (£2k) to be held in escrow , to note fee estimate for Architect, Structural Engineer (requires half day for digger and car park closed), etc – see attached Appendix D – Topographical Survey to take place on 2nd January – ideally when the car park is at its quietest. RESOLVED to approve the fee quote up to £8700 for the design, procurement, drainage engineer and on site management as per the quote circulated. It was also RESOLVED to pay Sintons £2,400 (inc VAT) for the legal costs of the Church which will not be exceeded (due to the Church funding the difference) and if possible will be refunded if they are less than the estimated amount.</p> <p>2. Bignall End Road lease progression – awaiting further instructions – Noted.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
20.	<p>Audley Bowling Club</p> <p>To receive the annual building inspection of the Audley Bowling Club building – next agenda</p>	Next agenda
21.	<p>Standing item – CCTV /Police - To note any requests for footage from Police – None so far</p>	
22.	<p>Correspondence and circulars -To review other items received not listed for next agenda</p> <p>PCC Crime Commission – Views on increase to Council Tax – as circulated</p> <p>Police:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increase in precept • An extra £5 per year (42p extra a month) This is a 1.92% increase. • An extra £10 per year (83p extra a month) This is a 3.84% increase. • An extra £15 per year (£1.25 extra a month) This is a 5.76% increase. • An extra £20 per year (£1.67 extra a month) This is a 7.68% increase. <p>Fire & Rescue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No increase in precept • An extra £2.50 per year (21p extra a month) This is a 2.97% increase. • An extra £3.75 per year (31p extra a month) This is a 4.45% increase. • An extra £5 per year (42p extra a month) This is a 5.94% increase. <p>RESOLVED to support £10 increase per year for Police. RESOLVED to support £3.75 per year supported for Fire.</p>	Clerk
23.	<p>Clerks Update – see Appendix E</p> <p>To note the National Pay award of additional £1.00 per hour on the Clerk's Salary – see Appendix E1 RESOLVED to note and agreed.</p> <p>Christmas Lights update – The Clerk noted that the Chair and Vice Chair had agreed to the Bignall End shops being included (Londis and Post office) at a cost of £350 approx for lights plus installation (approx £60 TBC). RESOLVED to approve. It was noted that Thriftys were unable to have any icicles this year, as they could not plug them in inside the shop due to the external security shutters, therefore they made their own arrangements. However next year they would like to be included providing the lights can be put across from the Balti.</p>	

	DJ asked that the costs for the lamp posts for Bignall End from the roundabout to the shops be further considered and to go back onto the agenda. DJ stated that the 3 cherry trees were outstanding.	Future agenda																		
24.	<p>Councillor Reports (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda)</p> <p>MJ reported that he had received a grant from Staffs FA for the work to be done for French Drain to improve pitch playing conditions.</p> <p>KC raised the issue of a recent email received in relation to the arrangements for a site meeting. The Clerk was asked to circulate the email to all for their information. It was agreed follow up the issue with the appropriate body.</p> <p>MT – Nantwich Road bench rededicated to both people – next agenda. IR – Two new trees planted on Nantwich Road, Clerk noted that Cllr Wilkes was able to support the work through the waiver of the Highway Licence fees. RG – Aspire van is always parked by Bignall Hill by cottage which is causing a hazard, Clerk to report this to Aspire. Clerk asked to contact the landowner to ask that they improve land drainage on their land to avoid excessive water run off onto the road which is coming down the access strip at Bignall Hill.</p>	Clerk Next agenda Clerk Clerk																		
25.	<p>To approve payments/orders, receipts and transfers including noting payments made by delegated authority - Appendix F RESOLVED that this be approved as per attached schedule.</p> <p>Budget update and bank reconciliation statement – Appendix F1 and F2 The budget update was circulated in advance of the meeting and noted. It was also noted that at this stage there were still some unknown expenditure but the Clerk had tried to predict the estimated spend to end of year where possible and the resulting impact on the reserves.</p> <table><tr><td>Income received</td><td>£200,252.35</td></tr><tr><td>Budget</td><td>£181,000.00</td></tr><tr><td>Actual spend up to Dec of</td><td>£120,786.89</td></tr><tr><td>Committed spend of</td><td>£112,905.01</td></tr><tr><td>Total Spend forecast to end of year</td><td>£233,691.90</td></tr></table> <p>Reserves:</p> <table><tr><td>Current Reserves</td><td>£174,040</td></tr><tr><td>Expected - VAT reclaim</td><td>£8,000</td></tr><tr><td>Less Committed spend 23/24</td><td>£112,905</td></tr><tr><td>Remaining Reserves 24/25 carried forward</td><td>£69,135*</td></tr></table> <p>*Noted that this does not take into account any shortfall in the budget for next year. Note earlier advice regarding low reserves.</p>	Income received	£200,252.35	Budget	£181,000.00	Actual spend up to Dec of	£120,786.89	Committed spend of	£112,905.01	Total Spend forecast to end of year	£233,691.90	Current Reserves	£174,040	Expected - VAT reclaim	£8,000	Less Committed spend 23/24	£112,905	Remaining Reserves 24/25 carried forward	£69,135*	
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26.	<p>TO RESOLVE UNDER THE 1960 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS ACT) TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE MEETING TO BE DISCUSSED: Audley Football Club driveway (car park for school children) – to consider update following request for 3 quotes – see Appendix G1</p>																			

<p>The Clerk stated that the views of the Football Club committee regarding how much they have available to put to this were awaited. Supportive comments were noted by the Head of Ravensmead School who use the car park every day at start and end of each school day. They also felt that the improvements might help encourage more users in the future. School to be asked to approach Cllr Wilkes to request double yellow lines as this is outside of the Parish Council's remit being a highway function.</p> <p>Three quotes were circulated. The Clerk noted that the budget for the Car park creation would be most appropriate for this scheme if supported which may impact on Bignall End Road being delivered next financial year. It was felt this was a priority over that car park due to the amount of parents who park and also the safety of the school children. The Clerk is to ask what guarantee the Club would be able to put in place to ensure that the car park would always remain in the use of the school for drop off and pick ups. It was also suggested that if the facility is stopped over the next 10 years, then reimbursement is made back to the Parish Council at a sliding scale.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Clerk to contact the Football Club to propose that Keble Heath are appointed and that the Parish Council will fund the first £10k with the Football Club making up the difference as per quote. Conditions to apply as per guarantee and reimbursement if the facility is stopped.</p> <p>CC asked that a policy to use local contractors be put on the next agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider and agree the arrangement for the renewal of the Annual Maintenance Contract and Grass Cutting for next year expires in March 2024 – Quotes for next agenda <p>The Clerk has approached all of the Parish Councils in Staffordshire and also local in Cheshire to obtain contractor details for grass cutting. As a result 12 contractors have been invited to quote so far. To be considered on the next agenda.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Next agenda</p> <p>Next agenda</p>
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Approved Payments schedule – December 2023

Bacs Ref	Payee	Description	Amount £
286	The Sign Shed Limited	Signs for Miles Green play area no flytipping and no horses	60.00
287	Audley Parish Bowman	Donation for Bowman help Remembrance Day parade x 2	100.00
288	Sir Thomas Boughey Academy	Sir Thomas Boughey Awards sponsorship Annual contribution (Respectful)	50.00
289	Survey Monkey via C Withington	NPlan survey one months costs	99.00
290	Steve Hough	AM contract	30.00
290	Steve Hough	AM contract	127.00
290	Steve Hough	AM contract	120.00
290	Steve Hough	AM contract	80.00
290	Steve Hough	AM contract	50.00
291	Steve Hough	ON 93 Butchers Arms Car park leaves	60.00
292	Steve Hough	ON 178 3 x seat repairs - 1 x Alsagers bank, The Plough x 2	220.00

Bacs Ref	Payee	Description	Amount £
293	Steve Hough	ON 186 - poppies and and down plus road closure signs	120.00
294	Steve Hough	ON 87 - Bin queen street play area 6th and 20th Nov	40.00
295	Steve Hough	ON 199 Margarets Garden refit capping stone, graffiti removal	40.00
295	Steve Hough	ON 199 Margarets Garden refit capping stone, graffiti removal	60.00
296	Steve Hough	ON 156 Bus shelter repaint Meadowside and Ravens Lane	350.00
297	Steve Hough	ON 195 Wreaths and poppies tie down cenotaph x 2	70.00
298	Steve Hough	ON 186 bus shelter project boards fitting The Plough	95.00
299	Steve Hough	ON 191 The Plough Grass strimming	60.00
300	Steve Hough	ON 188 Banners x 5 Nplan	30.00
301	Steve Hough	ON 190 Siding Nantwich Road	100.00
302	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Xmas batteries for lights	3.50
303	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Xmas timers for lights	11.00
304	LITE	Xmas lights Bignall End	392.40
305	LITE	Xmas lights Bignall End plugs and leads	28.80
306	SLCC	SLCC membership Clerks	288.00
307	Parish Clerk/RFO	Staff Salary	2,087.01
308	Parish Clerk/RFO	Mileage	0.00
309	Parish Clerk/RFO	Standard office expenses	95.00
310	SCC Pensions	SCC Pension Costs	866.62
311	HMRC	HMRC Tax and NI	831.77
312	O2	O2 mobile costs Halmer End CCTV	40.72
313	Zoom via Clare Withington	Zoom monthly subs	15.59
314	Ionos via C Withington	NPlan website Monthly sub	9.60
316	Parish Clerk/RFO	Postage Allotment notice rec del	2.75
317	Wicksteeds	Play inspection ROSPA Annual x 9 sites and valuation	1,032.96
318	Parish Clerk (KDS Wholesale Ltd)	Gutter hooks Xmas lights Bignall End	6.00
319	Shraleybrook Media Duncan Richardson	Signs for Rileys Field No Dogs	85.00
320	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Xmas lights Bignall End cable ties	7.95
321	Rory Mack	Bowling Club Annual building inspection	360.00
322	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials for Signs fixing	0.35
323	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	Materials for Signs fixing	1.88
324	WM Riley & Sons c/o Brookside Pet Foods	xmas water can for trees	9.99
325	Sintons	Solicitors fees Audley Meth Church car park - escrow	2,400.00
326	Parish Clerk/RFO	Xmas lights for tree Berrys	6.00
327	Potteries Waste	Road plainings supplied to site at Audley	36.00

Bacs Ref	Payee	Description	Amount £
328	N&J Tree Services Ltd	2 trees Nantwich Road replacements	1,026.00
		Total Cost	£11,605.89

Bank Reconciliation Statement

A	Bank Reconciliation at 01/12/2023		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023		96,010.85
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 01/12/2023		200,002.35
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 01/12/2023		122,223.09
	Cash in Hand 01/12/2023 (per Cash Book)		173,790.11
B	Cash in hand per Bank Statements		
	Petty Cash 05/04/2023	0.00	
	Natwest reserves account 30/11/2023	29,765.70	
	Lloyds Current 01/12/2023	5,938.88	
	Lloyds Savings 01/12/2023	142,637.25	
			178,341.83
	Less unrepresented payments		4,551.72
			173,790.11
	Plus unrepresented receipts		
	Adjusted Bank Balance		173,790.11
	A = B Checks out OK		

Approved Draft Budget 2024/25

Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Administration				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
1	Staff Costs inc HMRC				34,000.00
2	Standard office expenses				1,000.00
3	Other office expenses (Clerk reimburs				500.00
4	Office Administration costs				4,000.00
5	Chairs Allowance				1,320.00
6	Comms/Website				550.00
7	Stationery				500.00
11	Staff Costs Mileage				400.00
29	Staff Pension				10,000.00
33	Training				
40	Training and Expenses Cllrs				
51	Insurance				3,500.00
52	Audit				700.00
	Subs				
SUB TOTAL					56,470.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Allotments				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
20	Allotments Audley				825.00
21	Allotments Halmer End				825.00
SUB TOTAL					1,650.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Audley Parish Bowling Club				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
19	Maintenance				2,200.00
SUB TOTAL					2,200.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Bus Subsidy				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
12	Bus Subsidy Contract				31,000.00
SUB TOTAL					31,000.00

SignedDated

Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Car parks				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
16	Car parks maintenance				2,000.00
17	Car park creation inc fees - Church car park 23/24 £45k and 24/25 £25k = budget £70k - Bignall End Rd to be pushed back to 25/26				49,500.00
42	Inspection				660.00
53	Alsagers Bank Car Park				0.00
SUB TOTAL					52,160.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Community Activity				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
22	Grants Programme				4,000.00
23	Donations/Remembrance Day S137 A				4,000.00
23	Bus shelter Project				4,000.00
SUB TOTAL					8,000.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Council Assets				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
18	Bus Shelters, Seats and Noticeboards				4,000.00
28	Leddys Field Maintenance				4,000.00
32	Margarets Garden				550.00
50	Blue bell woods				500.00
55	Leddys Field Tree work phase 1 2023				
55	Leddys Field Tree work phase 2 Autumn 24				5,000.00
SUB TOTAL					14,050.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Highways				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
13	Highways related spend				1,100.00
14	SIDs maintenance				200.00
15	SIDS purchase				
55	Miles Green Double Yellow lines?				0.00
SUB TOTAL					1,300.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Miscellaneous				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
31	Unadopted Land				1,500.00
34	Village Planters				550.00
49	General				1,300.00
SUB TOTAL					3,350.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Neighbourhood Plan				Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
41	Grant activity				
47	Neighbourhood Plan				3,000.00
SUB TOTAL					3,000.00

SignedDated

Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Playing Fields		Receipts		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
8	Playing Fields Maintenance				9,000.00
9	Playing fields Equipment				
10	Playing Fields ASB				1,500.00
30	Grass Cutting Annual Maintenance				8,800.03
43	Play inspection reports				2,300.00
44	Queen Street Bin empty				660.00
45	Queen Street Adhoc				2,000.00
SUB TOTAL					24,260.03
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Public Footpaths		Receipts		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
48	Footpaths				1,100.00
SUB TOTAL					1,100.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Special Projects		Receipts		Receipts	Payments
Code	Title	Actual	Forecast	Budget	Budget
24	CCTV maintenance				2,200.00
25	CCTV install				5,000.00
26	Christmas Decorations				8,800.00
27	Summer Events/Bunting				4,400.00
54	Queen Street CCTV install and equipment				0.00
56	Xmas 2023				
SUB TOTAL					20,400.00
Current Year 2023 - 2024				Next Year 2024-2025	
Summary		Receipts		Receipts	Budget
		Actual	Forecast		
TOTAL		195,412.58		193,100.00	218,940.03
Income		Current Year 23/24		Next Year 2024-2025	
Code	Title	Actual	Budget		
35	Precept	191,117.00	191,000.00	No increase in precept	
36	Allotment rent	30.00	1,100.00		
37	General	3,338.32			
38	Bank Interest	927.26	1,000.00		
39	VAT reclaim				
SUB TOTAL		195,412.58	193,100.00		

Current Reserves

Expected - VAT reclaim

Less Committed spend 23/24

Less Shortfall for next year 24/25

£174,040

£8,000

£112,905

£25,723

Remaining Reserves 24/25**£43,412**

Required Income for Budget 24/25 (23/24 £186719 included a 10% increase in Precept - Council tax base 2606)		Option 1 - 0% increase in Annual Precept (Council tax band D 2631)	Option 2 - 1.99% increase in Precept Annual Precept (Council tax band D 2631)		Option 3 - 3% increase in Precept Annual Precept (Council tax band D 2631)		Option 4 - 5% increase in Precept Annual Precept (Council tax band D 2631)		PROPOSED Option 5 - 10% increase in Precept Annual Precept (Council tax band D 2631)	
Precept reqd (Council tax base 2631)	£ 188,511.15	£ 71.65	£ 192,281	£ 73.08	£ 194,166	£ 73.80	£ 197,937	£ 75.23	£ 207,362	£ 78.82
Council tax support grant (at RISK)	£ 4,397	£1.38 per week Band D	£ 4,397	£1.41 per week (increase from 3p per week) Annual increase of £1.43	£ 4,397	£1.42 per week (increase per week of 4p) Annual increase of £2.15	£ 4,397	£1.45 per week (increase per week of 7p) Annual Increase of £3.58	£ 4,397	£1.52 per week (increase per week of 14p) Annual Increase of £7.17
Other income (Allot rent)	£ 1,100		£ 1,100		£ 1,100		£ 1,100		£ 1,100	
Bank Interest	£ 1,000		£ 1,000		£ 1,000		£ 1,000		£ 1,000	
Total Income	£ 195,008		£ 198,778		£ 200,663		£ 204,434		£ 213,859	
	Shortfall to use from reserves	£ 25,723	Shortfall to use from reserves	£ 20,222	Shortfall to use from reserves	£ 18,337	Shortfall to use from reserves	£ 14,566	Shortfall to use from reserves	£ 5,141
	Remaining reserves	£ 43,412	Remaining reserves	£ 48,913	Remaining reserves	£ 50,799	Remaining reserves	£ 54,569	Remaining reserves	£ 63,994