

Ansty Parish Council

Draft Minutes

Parish Council Meeting at 6.30pm Thursday 6th February 2025 at Ansty Farm Shop

The PC meeting followed the May Committee meeting, and a short period of time was set aside prior to the start of the meeting for questions or statements from members of the public on any matter concerning the civil parish, however no issues were raised. We were grateful to Ansty Farm Shop for allowing us to use their facilities.

1. Councillors present were Mark Norris (MN, Chairman), Louise Gooding (LG), Tom Rowley (TR) and Paul Greenhalgh (PG), Heather Lockley (HL) sending her apologies. Cllr Nabil Najjar (NN), and several members of the public were also in attendance, plus Cllr Nabil Najjar.
2. There were no declarations of Interest.
3. MN welcomed everyone present and thanked them for attending.
4. The minutes of our meeting on 7th November 2024 were approved and signed.
5. MN advised that so far there continues to be no interest in the current Clerk vacancy. NN offered to let us have some names to approach (other village Clerks and/ or PC Chairs). MN needs to follow up where we got to with Wiltshire Association of Local Clerks and/ or some of the other options that HL had in mind. It was also agreed unanimously that we should consider paying a higher salary to a Clerk who had greater capability and could undertake more tasks. MN reported that £130 had been paid DM Payroll Services for outstanding payroll issues relating to our previous Clerk and all matters are now paid up as far as our previous clerk is concerned (P45 etc. as well.)

PS: DM will continue to advise us regarding any payroll/ HMRC related issues until a new Clerk is in place.

6. Planning issues mainly related to continuing tree works at Ansty Manor willow trees to which there was no objection, nor was there any to the proposed roofing work.
7. Current balance for the PC & Maypole accounts stands at £17,255.22 and £7,351 respectively. As agreed at the last meeting, MN reported that he had tried to move to an interest-bearing account but without success. The precept for 2024/26 has been set at £2450, with no increase on the previous year.

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8. Road Safety

- The 20-mph consultation period is due to start this month with the works scheduled for April/May. Gates (the picket fence style being preferred) will be part of the scheme. It was also agreed that we should now go ahead with the purchase of our new SID which PG will action.



- The condition of the roadway known as Ansty Narrows remains of concern, as does the road edge heading up Kings Lane as you go over the stream. MN will send a further note of concern to NN with pictures, so that he can escalate our case although all this has already been reported on MyWilts app and raised with Highways.
- NN once again raised the possibility of calming measures for the Ansty High Street junction with the A30, however it was generally thought we should focus on Ansty Narrows, both sorting out the surface as well as the consideration of a priority right of way scheme.

9. No comments regarding the Parish Steward whose priorities are mainly taking care of the gullies. However, MN mentioned the owners of Pear Tree Cottage plan to fell the cherry tree which currently has its roots in the Ansty Coombe stream, so this will improve water flow.

10. No further update on the website or the .gov domain.

11. TR reported the footpaths are generally in good condition with a major session planned on Sunday 9th Feb for the ones south of the A30. It was suggested that it would be helpful to know who the various landowners were where the footpaths run. TR will contact Rob Wilkinson and hopes to provide a Who's Who of landowners in due course, bearing in mind data protection requirements.

12. The March Litter Pick will be on Sunday 30th March. Rendezvous at Frog Pond Farm where the equipment, gloves etc. are stored.

13. May Day Committee meetings are underway which Caroline Plumptre (CP) will kindly minute in terms of action.

14. It was proposed that a WhatsApp group for the village be set up to be known as the "Ansty Bulletin". This will be for essential notifications only such as traffic problems etc. CP offered to manage the process.

15. Matters arising for the next agenda: A STORAGE facility is needed for the Village – particularly with May Day paraphernalia in mind. Update following the meeting – we have been advised that a solution may be in hand thanks to the Daltons who are in contact with Lesley Simm.

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16. Date of next meeting. TBA in May which will include the Village Meeting/ ***today's meeting closed at 7.30pm with a thank you to those who attended.***