



## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **CITTASLOW** AYLSHAM COMMITTEE HELD AT DRILL HALL, ON TUESDAY 28<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2026 AT 11am.

**PRESENT:** Pat Prekopp (Chair) - Aylsham Slow Food, Town Council  
David Anderson – Aylsham Town Council  
Mike Downes – Aylsham Rotary  
Mary Evans – Aylsham Town Council  
Giles Margaron - Aylsham Community Partnership  
Graham Peers – Broadland District Council  
Jean St Clair – U3A

Also in Attendance: Faye LeBon, Clerk to Aylsham Town Council.

### 1. To Receive Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Mo Anderson-Dungar, Jo Tuttle and Wendy Sadler.

### 2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None raised.

### 3. To Agree the Minutes of the Cittaslow Aylsham Committee held on 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026

The minutes from the meeting held on the 17<sup>th</sup> March 2026 had been circulated. These were **agreed** by the committee as a true and accurate record of the meeting and were signed by the Chairman.

### 4. To Note any Matters Arising from the Minutes, not Listed Elsewhere on the Agenda

No matters raised.

### 5. Adjournment of the Meeting to Allow Members of the Public to Speak

No members of the public in attendance.

### 6. Cittaslow UK and Cittaslow International

A Cittaslow UK meeting had yet to be arranged. It was suggested that Mold and Llangollen could become more involved in the administration of Cittaslow UK. Mary suggested that the Senedd elections could be time consuming for the Welsh counterparts and there could be more availability after the elections had concluded.

Patrick advised that another year of hosting had just been paid for the website and this site needs to be more active. Mold originally thought that they had someone who could assist with this, but this is now not the case.

## **7. To Receive Market Updates**

### **a) Food and Craft Market**

The Clerk circulated a poster for the entertainment at the Food and Craft Market, starting this Saturday with AB Princesses.

### **b) General Markets on Monday and Friday**

The Clerk reported that there had been a good uptake of stall holders wishing to pay in advance to take advantage of lower fees.

Patrick will be meeting with the Communications Officer from Wymondham at the end of May to find out what she has done to revitalise the Wymondham Markets. It was also noted that Wymondham had a Food and Drink Market run by Rotary. Mike will endeavour to find out more.

### **c) Country Markets**

Mo had provided a written report.

Country Market has had good and not so good Fridays recently. The Good Friday market include Easter card making for children but there weren't that many about – and it was not as successful as previous Good Friday markets. A talk was given to u3a on 24<sup>th</sup> March which was well received. Country market gained a helper from this event which was also well received. Refreshments were provided (sponsored by Aylsham Dental Practice) at the cafe for the Healthy Towns Event on 21<sup>st</sup> April, which was a successful day for all.

Patrick queried whether there had been further information about the possible event with Charles Hanson. The Clerk advised that there had been no response to recent emails.

## **8. Visit Aylsham**

The draft minutes from the meeting of 8<sup>th</sup> April had been circulated.

### **a) To receive update on Heritage Snail Trail**

The launch of the trail was agreed at 1<sup>st</sup> August, the same day as the Snail Race. The feature snail will be brought to the Family Learning Day, covered with the exception of the head, as part of a competition to name it. It would be ideal if a celebrity would be able to attend on 1<sup>st</sup> August.

The planning applications for the plaques on listed buildings have now been validated. Giles will speak with the planning officer to ensure it relates to all buildings involved, and not just the Black Boys. The predicated determination date is 25<sup>th</sup> May.

### **b) To receive update on Entertainment at the Food and Craft Markets**

The poster had been previously circulated to the meeting. The entertainment consisted of

2nd May- AB enchanted Princess

6th June- Paul Thompson (harp guitarist)

4th July- Phil Cole (Caricatures)

1st August- Anto Morra (Folk Singer)

5th September- Bertie Haggart (Violinist)

**c) To receive update on Visit Aylsham website**

Mitchell Philpott did a presentation of the new website to ABC, which was very well received.

The Clerk updated the group on the recruitment of a Communications Officer, and whether this should be a contracted out position.

**9. Town of Culture**

**a) To receive update on Town of Culture Expression of Interest Project**

The application was submitted in time for the 31<sup>st</sup> March 2026 deadline. The Town of Culture website advises that a decision on which towns progress to the next stage will be made in spring.

**10. To Note the Minutes from the Aylsham Climate Emergency Working Group (8<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**

The draft minutes had been circulated to the committee and were *noted*. Patrick advised that the group is very active at present and there is an increase in enquiries for volunteering. The Clerk updated the group on ACE's recent success with additional Green Infrastructure funding.

**11. To Note the Minutes from the Aylsham Community Events Committee (15<sup>th</sup> April 2026)**

The draft minutes were not yet available. Giles noted that the street party will be delayed from June to August due to the sound company not being available. The Community Fayre will be cancelled.

**12. To Receive the Following Group Reports**

**a) Slow Food Aylsham**

Patrick reported that Slow Food met on 13<sup>th</sup> April. They are continuing with a seasonal theme at the Food and Craft markets, along with a quiz and associated recipes. A social media programme is now in place to promote the markets and Slow Food events.

The International Street Food Fair now has 10 vendors confirmed, with 4 pending. Upon advice, the group has ruled out accepting donations from allotment holders to sell at the monthly market. However offers from private gardeners will be trialled.

**b) Aylsham High School**

Jo Tuttle had provided apologies for the meeting.

**c) Aylsham in Bloom**

Wendy had provided a written report.

The number of gardens participating in the Open Gardens is now 22. This is the most that has ever been submitted. There will not be any more gardens accepted as the map design for the ticket is now complete and it will be going to print soon.

Thanks were provided to Mitchell Philpott who has been very helpful in getting the event information onto the Visit Aylsham site.

Bloom volunteers will be leafleting in the Market Place on 2nd May and 6th June.

Businesses will also be asked if they will put flyers in their windows.

**d) Aylsham Business Consortium (ABC)**

No report.

**e) Aylsham Parish Church**

The draft minutes from the latest Aylsham Town Council Churchyard committee were provided in the pack.

**f) Aylsham Rotary Club**

Mike Downes reported that the latest Community Working Together group will meet on 5<sup>th</sup> May (6.15pm for 6.30pm).

The group is continuing with litter picks and there is a good turnout by volunteers. Clearance work was done on the viewing platform at Weavers Way as it had become overgrown.

Their bi-annual Community Awards were held with 6 awards presented to local people who had made a difference to the local community.

**g) Aylsham U3A**

Jean reported that the group had enjoyed a talk from Country Markets and are currently working on their AGM in June. A trip is being planned to see the seals on the North Norfolk coast, but in a boat that is suitable for disabled people.

**h) Aylsham WI**

Mo had provided a written report. At the April meeting, an interesting talk was received about the many metres of extraordinary embroidery created by a woman who was committed to the Great Yarmouth workhouse; Lorina Bulwer, and others who sought solace in needlework when imprisoned.

Coming up – 9 members had booked for the Norfolk Federation Annual Meeting on 22 April at the Theatre Royal Norwich, a Bluebell Walk at Blickling is planned for 28 April, and the craft day on 21 March was well attended with a further one planned for July. The May Meeting will be at the Friendship Hall due to elections.

**13. To Note any Items for the Next Agenda**

Patrick suggested a Cittaslow bookmark for promotion. Concerns were raised that there was not the budget to allow for this at present.

**14. To Agree the Date of the next Meeting**

This was agreed as Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2026, 11am at the Drill Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 11.40am

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (Chairman) Date \_\_\_\_\_