



MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE **CITTASLOW** AYLSHAM COMMITTEE HELD AT DRILL HALL, ON TUESDAY 17th MARCH 2026 AT 11am.

PRESENT: Pat Prekopp (Chair) - Aylsham Slow Food, Town Council
David Anderson – Aylsham Town Council
Kevin Cunnane - Aylsham Town Council
Mary Evans – Aylsham Town Council
Giles Margaron - Aylsham Community Partnership
Wendy Sadler – Aylsham in Bloom
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, Mike Downes, Graham Peers, Jo Tuttle and Grizelda Tyler.

2. To Receive Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None raised.

3. To Agree the Minutes of the Cittaslow Aylsham Committee held on 24th February 2026

The minutes from the meeting held on the 24th February 2026 had been circulated. Subject to correction of a typographical error, 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

Mo had provided a written report.

Cittaslow UK – Mo will be compiling an annual report to present to the June Assembly. This will be circulated to the towns.

Giles will follow up with Mo about arranging the annual UK meeting.

Cittaslow International - A save the date notice and details of various packages of

accommodation for the April Co-ordinating Committee in Canada have been received.

7. To Receive Market Updates

a) Food and Craft Market

The Clerk and Facilities Officer continue to book in entertainment for the food and craft market. When the programme is finalised, it will be sent to Patrick.

b) General Markets on Monday and Friday

Monday markets remain very buoyant, however Fridays are still not as popular.

c) Country Markets

Mo had provided a written report. The Annual Meeting was held on 6 March. Overall 2025, the 50th anniversary year, was a good one. The group took part in several town events, celebrated the 50th anniversary with customers in August, interviewed for Radio Norfolk in September.

The group has decided not to continue with Food & Craft Markets in 2026. They have been staunch supporters since the re-launch in June 2023, but with gradually decreasing number of stalls and declining customer numbers, they felt it was no longer viable, given the time needed to set up and clear down at the end. They will continue to support town events, e.g. Healthy Town etc, the Food Festival, Christmas Lights/Tree Festival.

On 24th March they are booked to speak about the markets to u3a.

8. Visit Aylsham

The draft minutes from the meeting of 24th February were had been circulated.

a) To receive update on Heritage Snail Trail

A picture of the stone plaques in progress had been circulated.

Giles requires more information on the artistry for the snails to be placed on listed buildings that haven't been selected for a stone plaque.

Jayne and Mitchell are in the process of agreeing the wording for the plaques.

Giles raised concerns about the time it is currently taking to validate planning applications.

9. Town of Culture

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

This will be submitted by 31st March 2026.

10. To Note the Minutes from the Aylsham Climate Emergency Working Group (2nd March 2026)

The draft minutes had been circulated to the committee and were *noted*.

11. To Note the Minutes from the Aylsham Community Events Committee (18th February 2026)

The draft minutes had been circulated to the committee and were *noted*. It was noted that the fund raiser for the church memorial garden will be on Saturday 9th May.

12. To Receive the Following Group Reports

a) Slow Food Aylsham

Patrick reported that Slow Food met on 10th March. The group is now up to 24 members with the most recent member having a talent for social media which will aid with the promotion of the group.

A 'seasonal veg' quiz was trialled at the March Food and Craft market.

The group is co-sponsoring the Family Learning Day on 20th June.

b) Aylsham High School

Jo Tuttle had provided apologies for the meeting.

c) Aylsham in Bloom

Wendy advised that that the Open Gardens recruitment is going well, with 16 gardens signed up so far.

The group will attend the Paupers' Graveyard this week, with a view to tidying it up ready for re-opening on 1st April.

They will be joining in with the fundraiser for the church memorial garden, and also with the Family Learning Day where they have 100 French marigolds to pot up and give away.

d) Aylsham Business Consortium (ABC)

Patrick reported that at the next meeting there will be a presentation of the updated Visit Aylsham website.

e) Aylsham Parish Church

It was requested that the minutes of the Churchyard committee be added to the Cittaslow pack. Progress is being made on the church wall repair project and the memorial garden project can move forwards thanks to a Ward Members' grant from Broadland District Council.

f) Aylsham Rotary Club

Mike Downes had provided his apologies for the meeting.

g) Aylsham U3A

Jean reported that the Family History Group were continuing to work with the Heritage Centre to find more information out about those who were buried in the Paupers' Graveyard.

The group visited Gressenhall Museum, receiving a private tour of the premises.

As reserves for the group are good, members will receive a free membership year.

Jean will send the Clerk details of the U3A for the Visit Aylsham website.

h) Aylsham WI

Mo had provided a written report. The craft day is 21st March, not 21st February as previously reported. At the March meeting, the speaker was Cora Mullenger, an artist with a talent for pastels. Using chalk and oil pastels members had the opportunity to produce their own masterpieces which were 'judged' by the speaker. Usual business followed, including planned attendance at Norfolk

Federation Annual Meeting, correspondence, ideas for outings, Bluebell Walk, and subs due in April. Advance notice of charity stall at the September Food and Craft Market.

13. To Note any Items for the Next Agenda

No matters raised.

14. To Agree the Date of the next Meeting

This was agreed as Tuesday 28th April 2026, 11am at the Drill Hall.

There being no further business the meeting was closed at 11.45pm