Aymestrey Parish Council.

Budget notes for meeting 25 November 2026.

1. Elections. Electorate 307, in category 301 to 400. Estimated costs for uncontested elections, contested elections held alongside the Herefordshire Council elections, and standalone contested parish elections.
   Uncontested £200. Contested 50% £2230, if at 100% it would be £4460. APC has £1k ringfenced.
2. Tax Base for 2027/28 – not yet received. Figures will be calculated on this year's tax base.
3. Admin – member of HALC or not? Consider Norfolk Parish Training & Support. See below.
4. For interest – clerk averaging over the agreed 7 hrs a week.
5. Lengthsman. Asked Josh re gates/hedging 15.11.26
6. Projects – additional SID location and Commons.
7. PFO: Parish Footpaths Officer
8. Neighbourhood Development Plan. Advice circulated.

Ref. No. 3.
An annual subscription to **Norfolk Parish Training and Support (NPTS)** acts as an **on-call safety net for the council and clerk**, providing direct access to specialist advice, peer networks, and emergency staffing cover.

Subscribing provides the council with four main benefits:

- **On-Call Specialist Advice.** Unlimited phone and email access to experienced Norfolk clerks for rapid answers on council law, finance, employment, FOI requests, planning, and assets (such as playgrounds or burial grounds).
- **Risk & Audit Protection.** Guidance on code of conduct issues, risk management, and independent internal audits to keep the council legally compliant.
- **Emergency Staffing & Recruitment.** Access to temporary locum clerks to cover sickness or vacancies, alongside practical support and advertising when recruiting a new clerk.
- **Clerk Retention & Networking.** Regular peer networking sessions that prevent the clerk from working in isolation, supporting staff wellbeing and professional development.
  (Note: While NPTS training courses are open to all councils, subscribing ensures the council has continuous backup when applying legal and financial rules to day-to-day decisions.)

clerk@aymestrey.org
19 November 2026