

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING of the above Council held on Wednesday, 8th May, 2013

Present: Cllrs. P. Gibbons, J. Knight, M. Day, G. Crossley, P. Hetherington and P. Rooksby. Also present C/Cllr. D Wilmshurst and Brenda Wilson (Retiring Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES: Cllrs. R. Armitage (illness and C/Cllr D. Brown.

New County Councillor David Wilmshurst was welcomed to the meeting.

2. DECLARATION OF INTEREST – None

3. ELECTIONS OF CHAIRMAN, VICE CHAIRMAN

Cllr. Gibbons took the Chair.

Chairman – P. Gibbons

proposed by P. Hetherington

seconded by J. Knight

Cllr. Gibbons was unanimously elected as Chairman.

Cllr. Gibbons took the Chair.

Vice-Chairman – P. Hetherington proposed by G. Crossley

seconded by J. Knight

Cllr. Hetherington was unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

4. MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th April 2013, were approved and signed.

5. MATTERS ARISING

- a) 2012/13 Performance Assessment sent on behalf of Superintendent Andy Boyd - *Noted*
- b) New clerk handover (Brenda Wilson to Stephanie Johns) – 1st April 2013 - *Noted*

6. OPEN FORUM

Four members of the public were present, in order to discuss the Planning at Bakers Piece House, (See below).

7. APPOINTMENTS TO PARISH AND OTHER ORGANISATIONS

- | | |
|--|---|
| a) Hillwerke Trust | Cllr. G. Crossley |
| b) Voting member on OALC | Cllr. P Rooksby |
| c) Planning Committee | All members with the exception
of Cllr. P. Gibbons** |
| d) Transport Representative | Cllr. G. Crossley |
| e) Footpaths and Amenities Group | Cllrs. P. Hetherington, J. Knight and
P. Rooksby |
| f) Play Area Committee | Cllr. P. Hetherington |
| g) St. Andrews Village Centre, Chinnor | Cllr. P. Gibbons |
| h) M40 group | Cllr. P. Rooksby |

**Cllr. Matthew Day was elected as Chairman of the Planning Committee having been proposed by Cllr. Hetherington and seconded by Cllr. Crossley.

8. PLANNING

- a) **Applications** as follows were confirmed / discussed:

P12/S2796/FUL Demolition of existing **15** Flats and erection of 6 flats (4 x 2 bed & 2 x 1 bed) & 4 semi-detached houses (3 x 3 bed & 1 x 2 bed) and 1 x 3 bed detached house with associated parking,

bin/bicycle store & garden sheds (amended plans received 26/04/13) at Bakers Piece House, Bakers Piece, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SN

Members of the public present stressed that they felt none of their previous objections had been addressed and once again put forward their objections.- *Should be refused for the following reasons:*

- Overdevelopment
- Design
- Overlooking issues
- Sustainability
- Open space & Trees
- Transport & Highways
- Drainage

Parishioner Andrew Spiller will circulate a letter to the rest of Kingston Blount in order to summarise the proposals & highlight the concerns.

A report will be submitted on behalf of The Parish Council by Cllr. Day to South Oxfordshire District Council by 15/05/13.

P13/S1232/HH Demolition of the existing outbuilding/store and construction of a new garage, utility snug / office, shower & wc at 2 Icknield Close, Kingston Blount OX39 4SRS – *Should be approved*

b) **Decisions of S.O.D.C.** as follows were noted:

P13/S0609/HH Erection of single and two storey rear and side extensions, new entrance porch, loft conversion with roof lights and dormer. New front gate and front driveway (Amendment to planning permission P12/S1446/HH) at Wychelm, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant. – *Planning Approved*

c) South Oxfordshire District Council's Proposed Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report for the Local Plan: Sites and General Policies - *Noted*

9. FINANCE

) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk – March salary		
Stephanie Johns – March salary		
S. Johns – stationery expenses	8.65	
S.O.D.C. – dog bin emptying Oct 12-March 13	170.78	
P. Hetherington – mileage	22.10	
M.K. Watts – March grounds maintenance	240.00	
HM Revenue & Customs	121.60	

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk – April salary		
B. Wilson – April salary		
B. Wilson – expenses	66.55	
Jack Brown – Litter Picker	24.76	
S. Johns – mileage (includes VAT course)	48.75	
S. Johns – Minutes & Meetings Course (25/06/13)	42.00	
Chinnor Village Centre annual grant	555.00	
Chinnor United Benefice – churchyard maintenance	896.00	
– Chairman's allowance	95.00	
– Vice-Chairman's allowance	80.00	
Thame and District C.A.B. annual grant	115.00	
M40 group grant	200.00	
Thames Valley Air Ambulance annual grant	110.00	
South & Vale Carers annual grant	58.00	
Zurich Insurance – annual premium	645.80	
HM Revenue & Customs	47.80	
MK Watts – April Grounds Maintenance	240.00	

c) Receipts received.

S.O.D.C. Precept – 1 st instalment	8750.00
S.O.D.C. Grant re Council Tax reduction fee	172.48

d) The current financial situation as at 26th April, 2013 was noted:

Barclays Bank - Community Account	14196.19
Barclays Bank – Business Premium Account	1088.36
National Savings	10917.05
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(1555.41)
Play Area Sinking Fund – main.	(4476.90)
Play Area sinking Fund – capital	(2704.95)
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000.00)
Trees, Footpaths and Environment Fund	(5376.38)
VAS Maintenance S. Fund	(538.00)
Poors Hillock administrative sinking fund	(250.00)
Cash	1.19

e) The Statement of Accounts for year ended 31/03/2013 was approved.

f) The Annual Governance Statement for the year ended 31/03/2013 was approved.

g) It was agreed for £25.00 to be given as a retirement gift to Brenda Wilson.

10. HIGHWAYS

- Dog mess & bins – Education – Cllr. Knight to produce a document for submission to the Parish notes, Website and Facebook.
- Tourism signage application from The Cherry Tree Pub, Kingston Blount – The Parish Council are in favour of supporting local businesses but the view is that there are too many signs in too close proximity to the pub. Clerk to write to the Senior Traffic Technician informing that the Parish Council will be happy to review once the location of signs is reconsidered.

11. POORS HILLOCK CHARITY

- Appointment of Trustees – Confirmation of resignation is need from Alex Green before a replacement Trustee can be elected.
- Finances Discrepancy – Cllr. Knight to draft a letter to be sent to Alex Green addressing issues relating to the Sinking Fund discrepancy.

12. HILLWERKE TRUST

13. ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL

14. FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

- Report from Cllr. Hetherington – Johnathan Beale (Countryside Officer of OCC) has said that a grass cut will take place before the end of June. This will be the footpaths in Kingston Blount, the centre of the village and The Moors Footpath.
- Letter from Toni-Jane Whittock re Yew Cottage & Allotment trees and bushes - *Noted*
- Email from Philippa Watt regarding the overhanging branches from the land on the corner of Pleck Lane and Brook Street into the garden of Yew Cottage – Clerk to write a letter explaining that the land concerned belongs to OCC so the Parish Council have no influence, Toni-Jane Whittock to be copied on the letter.

15. CORRESPONDENCE was circulated:

- Clerks and Councils Direct – May 2013 issue
- The Clerk magazine May 2013 issue
- Aston Rowant Discovery trail

16. WEBSITE

- Clerk to advise Webmaster of changes to council and update to the Allotments text.

17. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

18. OTHER URGENT MATTERS

- a) Cllr. Rooksby explained that there had been a meeting with OALC. Clerk to contact the Zurich Insurers and ask whether what we are doing is enough in terms of risk assessment. Clerk also to speak to Jo Gent to find out how often it is currently done at the Playground.
- b) Cllr. Rooksby presented information regarding the M40 group.
- c) Brenda Wilson officially retired as of 1st April 2013. Thanks was given to Brenda and a card was presented. It was agreed to give Brenda £25.00 as a retirement gift.

19. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 12th June, 2012, at Aston Rowant Church Meeting space, at 7.45pm.

CHAIRMAN