

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 9th April 2014.

Present: Cllrs.P. Gibbons (in the Chair), P. Hetherington, G. Crossley, J Knight, M. Day, P.Rooksby, D/Cllr. D. Brown & C/Cllr. D. Wilmshurst.

- 1) **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. R. Armitage
- 2) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – Cllr. P. Gibbons declared an interest in Item 10 (Hillwerke Trust)
- 3) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 12th March 2014, were approved and signed.**
- 4) **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) Succession to Aston Rowant Parish Council – *Expressions of interests have been made both ways.*
 - b) Proposed housing figures for South Oxfordshire – *Cllr. M. Day is to compose a letter to SODC expressing concern over the proposal to add 100,000 more houses in Oxfordshire. The Parish Council want to be informed about the consultation process. The proposal is 15,500 will be built by 2031.*
- 5) **OPEN FORUM** – *No members of the public were present*
- 6) **PLANNING**

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

P14/S0835/HH Two storey rear/side entrance to side. Other minor alterations internally and externally at Hill House, High Street, Kingston Blount, Oxon, OX39 4SJ – *Should be approved*

P14/S0775/HH Single storey extension to link main house to office/workshop/garage at Tangley House, Aston Rowant Road, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SN – *Should be approved*

P14/S0721/HH Erection of a shed at Lower Farm Barn, Brook Street, Kingston Blount, Oxon, OX39 4RZ – *Should be approved*

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

P14/S0308/FUL Use of land for the provision of GRP kiosk to protect electrical pump control equipment; standby generator enclosure, upgrade to existing access and internal access with turning area; associated works including vent pipe, protective bollard and hard-standing, as part of pumping station scheme to alleviate flooding of local village properties at Land North East of Stert Road and South East of Kingston Stert Farm, Kingston Stert – *Granted*

c) The Clerk is to scan future responses and distribute to the Planning Committee via email.

7) **FINANCE**

a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk February Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)	67.20	
Parish Online Subscription (Mar 14 – Mar 15)	33.60	
Diane Malley MAAT (Payroll)	12.30	
OALC Annual Subscription (2014/2015)	145.88	
Peter Hetherington	14.87	
Mh-p (Web hosting)	72.00	
Alice Surman (Litter Picker)	24.76	
Stephanie Johns (Mileage Jul 13 – Mar 14)	80.93	
Stephanie Johns (Postage May 13 – Mar 14)	20.07	
Flowers for the funeral of David Beechey	67.99	
MM Denham Construction	96.00	
Parchment (Oxford) Ltd	179.39	

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk March Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)	75.60	
Hazel & Jeffries Ltd	3000.00	
SODC (Dog Bin Emptying)	87.91	
Alice Surman (Litter Picker)	24.76	
MK Watts	120.00	
OPFA (Subscription)	40.00	
Blanchfords	36.49	

c) Receipts as follows were noted:

Chiltern Walk Leaflets	12.00	
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d) The current financial situation as at 28th March 2014:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	6101.67
Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account	1088.64
National Savings	11058.12
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(1555)
Play Area Sinking Fund	(5435)
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000)
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Fund	(3589)
VAS Maintenance Fund	(538)
Cash	1.19

e) Ministerial Statement on Parish Council Payments – The continued need for two signatories – *Noted*

f) Budget 2014/2015 – Updated version 10 distributed to the Councillors - *Noted*

8) HIGHWAYS

- a) **Town Farm Trees in Kingston Blount** – *Cllr. P. Hetherington has spoken to Jamie Clark on the phone. He has softened his approach as long as he doesn't have to pay anything financially. Any planting will have to be maintained by the Parish. He would accept a 2m fence along the existing fence as long as he could oversee the installation. Adrian Noble is to meet with Jamie regarding further discussions. Jamie is prepared to scrape back the bank and spray it but nothing further. He is not keen on the suggestion of a large stone by his gate or sleepers but he will leave the decision to the County Council.*
- b) **Road Closure** – *Clerk to place a note on the Community Facebook page that the Stert Road is to be closed due to Road-works from 23/05/14 – 25/06/14*

9) POORS HILLOCK CHARITY

10) HILLWERKE TRUST

- a) **Playground** – *The Clerk is to raise a cheque for £25 for Joanna Gent as a thank you for the last few years as Chairman of the Playground Committee. All agreed that it has been handed over in excellent condition and the Parish Clerk continue the management of the park unless another volunteer comes forward.*
- b) **Dog Mess** – *The Kingston Blount Field is worse than ever in terms of dogs fouling on the ground. Cllr. G. Crossley is to write to Dogs and Kisses (a local dog walking business) regarding this.*
- c) **Defibrillator** – *Cllr. G. Crossley is to ask the electrician to quote for an electrical supply to the front of the village hall to allow for installation of a defibrillator.*

11) ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL - *None*

12) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

- a) **Quote from Complete Weed Control** – *First treatment scheduled for the 6th May 2014 - Noted*
- b) **Community Right to Bid – Assets of Community Value** – *Deferred to May*
- c) **The Discovery Trail** – *Report from Cllr. Hetherington – The official opening is scheduled for 22nd July 2014 at 10.30am. More to follow in May.*
- d) **WW1 Tree Planting initiative** – *Cllr. P. Hetherington is to speak to the Conservation Board regarding the planting of trees for every person that died during WW1. Clerk to speak to the school regarding getting the children involved.*
- e) **Consultation on the Oxfordshire Rights of Way Management Plan 2014-2024** – *Cllr. P. Hetherington was appointed Footpath warden for the Parish. He is to respond on behalf of the Parish Council.*

13) CORRESPONDENCE

- a) **Letter from Jill Beechey** - *Noted*
- b) **Clerks & Council Direct** – *March 14 - Noted*

14) WEBSITE

- a) **Item for amendment on the website** – *Digital version of the Discovery Trail leaflet to be added.*
- b) **Twitter / Facebook Account** – *It was decided not to have either as the Community Facebook Page posts are working well.*

15) REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS - *None*

- a) **OTHER URGENT MATTERS** at the discretion of the Chairman – *None*

16) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – **Wednesday, 14th May 2014, at Kingston Blount Village Hall, at 7.45pm.**

CHAIRMAN