

# ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 12th April 2017.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs. L.French, T. Hill, P. Hetherington & P.Tinson (In the Chair), D/Cllr Lynn Lloyd

**APOLOGIES:** Cllr. M. Day.

- 1) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – *None.*
- 2) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 8th March 2017, were approved and signed.**
- 3) **MATTERS ARISING:** – *The Spring Deep Clean of the villages, including a street-sweeper, is still to be arranged through BIFFA. The clerk to book-in via SODC web-site.*
- 4) **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS** - *The District Councillors report has not been completed yet, due to illness, but will be attached to these minutes when received. No report received from the County Councillor.*
- 5) **OPEN FORUM** – *No matters raised.*
- 6) **PLANNING**
  - i. **Applications as follows were confirmed/discussed:**
    - P17/S0667/HH** Erection of garden shed onto slab base in back garden at Chiltern Cottage, Pleck Lane (listed building consent). **Should be approved.**
    - P17/S1082/HH** Erection of detached garage with home office and sun-room at Oxford Lodge, London Rd, Lewknor. **Should be Approved.**
    - P17/S0494/HH (amended details).** Erection of two-storey side and front extensions and single-storey rear extension at The Park Cottage, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant, per additional details received 23/Mar/17. **Should be approved.**
  - ii. **Decisions of S.O.D.C. as follows were noted:**
    - P17/S0577/HH** 2 The Rise, Kingston Blount. Erection of a replacement front porch. **GRANTED.**

### 7) FINANCE

- i. The following payments were noted (Costs include VAT):

	£	p
Clerk February Salary		
HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: clerk February salary		
S. Johns (Final Training Session with clerk)	25.43	
T. Lambourne (Stationery)	14.98	
Get Mapping PLC (Annual Subscription)	33.60	
OALC (Annual Subscription)	148.67	
Oxon Playing Fields Assoc. (Annual Subscription)	40.00	
WEL Medical (Defibrillator Pads)	44.88	
- ii. Receipts as follows to be noted:

Walks Booklets	27.00	
VAT Reclaim (Nov'15 – Feb'17)	2094.93	
- iii. The following payments were approved (Costs include VAT):

Clerk March Salary		
HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: clerk March salary		
M.Day (Printing Costs)	12.88	
T.Lambourne (Annual Home Working Allowance)	200.00	
T.Lambourne (smartwheelie.co.uk – reimbursement for speed stickers)	160.00	
Community First Oxfordshire (Annual Subscription)	55.00	
SODC (Dog-bin emptying)	87.91	
MK Watts Grounds Maintenance	154.28	
Robyn Leinster (Litter Picker), March	25.32	
George Stevens (Hedge Maintenance/Grass Cutting)	270.00	

- iv. The current financial situation as at 31st March 2017:
 

Barclays Bank – Community Account	15824.69
Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account	1090.47
National Savings	11224.62
Village Hall Reserve fund	(690)
Play Area Reserve Fund	(5636)
Parish Notes Reserve Fund	(1000)
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Reserve Fund	(7069)
- v. Budget 2016/2017 v11 – *Noted.*

**8) HIGHWAYS: -**

- i. *Traffic Calming –No report as Cllr. Day absent.*
- ii. *The clerk has written to OCC Highways regarding signage for horses and riders on Kingston Hill Road, but has yet to receive a reply. The originator has been kept informed.*
- iii. *Speed awareness stickers for wheelie bins have now been received, although only 2 households have registered interest so far following the chairman’s report in the Parish Notes. To be advertised more extensively on ARPC web-site KBAR Facebook page.*

**9) HILLWERKE TRUST: -**

- i. *The Trust acknowledged the need to find a replacement chairman soon. Someone has taken over temporarily but cannot continue permanently.*
- ii. *No one was sure who was responsible for ensuring the grass is cut on the playing field as Cllr. Crossley was the liaison; however, MK Watts have already performed the first cut on 23rd March and as they should be done every two weeks another one is overdue - the Clerk to obtain a cutting-schedule.*

**10) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN –** *The Neighbourhood Plan section of the Parish Council Web-Site is now in place, and all future updates will be posted directly by the NP Committee to keep parishioners advised.*

- i. *The meeting held on Tuesday 11th April was attended by the chairman who reported 3 open evenings will be held in the parish on 20th-22nd June at which feedback will be sought on potential sites for housing and areas which should be preserved as green space. There will be a leaflet drop two weeks before to remind parishioners as well as on the web-site and KBAR Facebook page.*
- ii. *The committee will be engaging in dialogue with local land-owners to ensure they are engaged in the development of the plan.*
- iii. *Regarding the SODC Local Plan, consultation is open until mid-May and any comments should be made to SODC directly, or to Cllr. Day to take forward. Under the proposals, housing quotas will not be imposed as each village has different circumstances and those within the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty will have less while others could take more. Our parish is not within the AONB, but can be viewed from the hills which may affect the number we would need to build.*
- iv. *Cala Homes have applied to build in the field opposite the existing approved Bellway Homes site on the south-western edge of Chinnor which will have further significant traffic implications for Aston Rowant Parish if approved, but a condition of approval may be the introduction of a roundabout to slow traffic. A recently proposed development in Princes Risborough was refused due to cumulative effect on surrounding villages. There are also questions whether the infrastructure in Chinnor can cope with the resultant population increase.*

**11) KINGSTON BLOUNT PLAYGROUND**

- i. *The vacancy on the inspection rota was publicised in the Apr/May Parish Notes, and will be placed on KBAR Facebook page if no response is received.*
- ii. *There was a report of a small tree growing between the two sets of swings and the Clerk will arrange its removal.*
- iii. *We also need to follow up once more on the rotavation of the compacted bark, but there is a waiting time for the services of the Thames Valley Community Payback Scheme.*

**12) ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL –** *No report received this month.*

**13) GRASS CUTTING & GENERAL PARISH MAINTENANCE –** *Cllr. Hill has now read the file handed over from Cllr. Green but not yet discussed the contents. A comment was made regarding clearing the grips on Kingston Hill and Cllr.*

*Hetherington will walk along Kingston Hill road to ascertain what work is needed. See point 9ii re: KB playing field.*

**14) ASTON ROWANT CRICKET CLUB (ARCC) –** *No report received.*

**15) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES GROUP (FAAG): -**

- i. Fly-tipping has been reported along the Lower Icknield Way and Cllr. Hetherington and a local farmer have undertaken to remove the offending items. It is believed that the number-plate of the vehicle concerned has been recorded and will be reported to Thames Valley Police.*
- ii. Receipt of the Hillwerke Trust application to the Weston Foundation for funds to upgrade the Moors Footpath has been acknowledged and we hope to know shortly how much funding has been secured so we can assess if any private donations are still required.*

**16) OTHER MATTERS & WRITTEN REPORTS –** *The chairman advised that following the resignation of Cllr. Green, there are now two vacancies on the council and plans will be put in place to elect or co-opt replacements as soon as possible.*

**17) CLERK'S REPORT –** *No report.*

**18) CORRESPONDENCE –** *None.*

**19) WEBSITE –** *The corrections detailed in the March minutes have now been made.*

**20) OTHER URGENT MATTERS at the discretion of the Chairman –** *The Chairman is unable to attend the May meeting due to work commitments. It was agreed that Vice-Chairman Hetherington would chair the meeting, as well as over-seeing the annual elections to the posts of Chairman and Vice-Chairman. Both existing incumbents have indicated they would be happy to stand for re-election and continue, if re-elected.*

**21) DATE OF NEXT MEETING –** **Wednesday 10th May 2017 at Kingston Blount Village Hall at 7.30pm.**

**CHAIRMAN**