

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 11th February 2015.

Present: Cllrs. A. Green, G. Crossley, M. Day, P. Gibbons (in the Chair), P. Hetherington & P. Rooksby

APOLOGIES: Cllr. J Knight & C/Cllr. D. Wilmshurst

1) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – None

2) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 14th January 2015, were approved and signed.**

3) **MATTERS ARISING** –

a) High Sheriff Award – Cllr. P. Hetherington was congratulated by all for his recent High Sheriff's award for contribution to the Community over the last 35 years.

4) **OPEN FORUM** – 1 member of the public was present – Brian Hutton.

5) **PLANNING**

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

P15/S0001/HH Demolition of existing garage. New 2 bay garage with annexe space above and basement storage room at 14 Aston Park, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SW – *Should be approved*

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

None - Noted

6) **FINANCE**

a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk December Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)		69.20
S Johns (Chalk Spray for Dog Foul Deterrent)		15.19
P. Hetherington mileage Expenses		33.15
Ridgeway Woodlands		138.00
Alice Surman (Litter)		24.76
Parish Notes (Received from the Lambert Arms)		100.00

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk January Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)		69.40
Alice Surman (Litter)		24.76

c) Receipts as follows were noted:

Walk Booklets (Leathern Bottel)		20.00
Lambert Arms (Paid on to the Parish Notes)		100.00
Interest (National Savings Investment Account)		82.94

d) The current financial situation as at 30th January 2015:

Barclays Bank – Community Account		6874.67
Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account		1089.35
National Savings		11141.06
Village Hall Reserve fund	(1230)	
Play Area Reserve Fund	(5250)	
Parish Notes Reserve Fund	(1000)	
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Reserve Fund	(2085)	

Cash

1.19

e) Budget 2014/2015 – v9 January 2015 – *Noted*

f) Costs for Village Grass Cutting – Cllr. Gibbons reported that MK Watts will continue to cut the village Hall playing field for £100 per cut. Kavan of Buryhook Countryside Management has resigned. Cllr. Gibbons explained all the different cuts that Kavan has been doing to the Councillors and suggested that a local gardener be given the opportunity to quote and carry out the work for 6 months on a trial basis. The Clerk is to ask Lewknor Parish Council who they use.

8) **HIGHWAYS**

a) Drainage works under B4009, Aston Rowant & Aston Park Lake – Cllr. Gibbons has met with David Baldwin who explained the new drainage works under the B4009 and the effects that it will have on the village.

b) The No 40 Bus – Cllr. Crossley will provide an update on the Number 40 bus service by 15th March 2015. This will go into the Parish Notes (For April / May), the Parish Website and the Kingston Blount / Aston Rowant Facebook page.

9) **POORS HILLOCK CHARITY** – None - *Noted*

10) **HILLWERKE TRUST** – None - *Noted*

11) ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL – None - Noted

12) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

a) Report from Cllr. P. Hetherington:

i. Progress of planting at Fiveways (FAAG) –

1. *Planting is continuing. The next wild plants to be introduced will be primroses and after this year's flowering, bluebells will be planted (only the indigenous strain not Spanish). Mike Eaton has advertised on site for volunteers to help with the work and three new people offered their time.*
2. *There has been no reply from Aston Rowant School as to whether they will participate in the project.*
3. *Hazards have continued to be removed from the site, mainly remains of old metal fencing which could have caused accidents.*
4. *County Council Countryside Services dug out the stream and introduced new drainage pipes under the bridleway in December which are working well and the better flow has flushed out a lot of silt. We now have to find a way of allowing fish to travel up the culverts and pipes.*
5. *Research by the Eatons on old maps has revealed that the area used to be called Crossways not Five Ways. This is a more accurate description of the six paths and bridleways that converge near this point.*
6. *Councillor Hetherington will write an article for the next Parish Notes on the project.*
7. *SSEB have still not been contacted about them paying for a sign dedicating the recent tree and shrub planting to those Parishoners that gave their lives in the First World War. The trees and shrubs were provided by Scottish and Southern and the Parish Council planned and paid for the planting.*
8. *It was suggested that the commemorative sign be installed by the War Memorial in the Churchyard rather than at Fiveways. This was thought to be a suggestion worth further consideration, and we will consult the Church and British Legion as to what might be appropriate.*

ii. Cycle Path to Chinnor – *A Parishoner has written to the Parish Council, proposing a cycle path between Kingston Blount and Chinnor. Cllr. Hetherington is investigating this.*

13) Damage to Aston Green Footpath - Cllr Gibbons has written to the local stables requesting that they ask riders not to ride their horses along this footpath.

14) CORRESPONDENCE

a) Oil Buying Club - *Noted*

15) WEBSITE

a) Item for amendment on the website – *Update of the Village hall Page - Noted.*

16) REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

a) *An email from C/Cllr Wilmshurst was read out informing the Council that he had met with 2 parties with regards to the traffic through the village and a 24/7 traffic review will be undertaken. He suggested that any possible available funding should be discussed with one person representing each Parish to look at local priorities. So far Chinnor and Sydenham have signed up to this. The Clerk is to advise C/Cllr Wilmshurst that Cllr. Day is the representative from the parish Council and that he should be included in all communication on this matter.*

17) OTHER URGENT MATTERS at the discretion of the Chairman – None - Noted

18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 11th March 2015 at Kingston Blount Village Hall at 7.45pm.

CHAIRMAN