

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 12th January, 2011.

Present: Cllrs. R. Armitage, D. Beechey, G. Crossley, P. Gibbons (in the Chair), P. Hetherington, J. Knight and P. Rooksby. Also present; D/Cllr. D. Brown .

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllr. D. Beechey (family bereavement) and C/Cllr. R. Belson.
Members expressed their condolences to Cllr. Beechey.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** - None
3. **MINUTES of the meeting held on 8th December, 2010, were approved and signed.**
4. **MATTERS ARISING** - None
5. **OPEN FORUM** – No members of the public were present.
6. **PLANNING**
 - a) **Application** as follows was confirmed/discussed:
P10/E1932 Conversion of the old barn from a storage area into a dwelling. To include a new floor in the living area, thermal upgrades to the building fabric and other additional alterations at Copcourt Manor, Thame Road, for Mrs. Kent. Circulating.
 - b) **Decision of S.O.D.C.** as follows was noted:
P10/E1672 Remove an existing single storey bay window and porch roof. Return the wall to a single plane, flush with the rest of the side of the house and replace the window with a single sash window to match the original on the other side of the front door. Relocate the access to the property from the High Street to the side road, Stert Road. *Planning Permission granted.*
 - c) South Oxfordshire Proposed Submission Core Strategy – to be passed to Cllr. Beechey.
 - d) Cllr. Knight has arranged to meet Mr. Small, S.O.D.C., re alleged breach of planning at Aston Stud.
7. **FINANCE**
 - a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk – November salary		
J. Beechey – acting Clerk – salary and stamps		
OPFA membership subscription	35.00	
SLCC membership subscription 2011	72.00	
Simon Coulon - planting of tubs	108.45	
S.O.D.C. – dog hygiene bin emptying	167.76	
South and Vale Carers (grant)	58.00	
 - b) The following payments were approved

Clerk – December salary		
Mike Henson Presentations Ltd. – website	17.63	
P. Hetherington – token of thanks to parishioner for her work on flower tubs	6.39	
P. Gibbons – bags of salt for road	23.15	
 - c) Receipts as follows were noted

Hillwerke Trust – loan repayment	20.00	
Interest on Business Saver Account	0.63	
 - d) The current financial situation as at 30/12/2010 was noted:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	13976.79	
Barclays Bank – Business Premium Account	5084.14	
National Savings	10491.42	
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(4810.75)	
Play Area Sinking Fund – main.	(599.50)	

Play Area Sinking Fund – capital	(4215.65)	
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000.00)	
Ditches Sinking Fund	(880.00)	
Trees and Maintenance SF	(1307.70)	
Traffic and Environmental Fund	(5524.69)	
VAS Maintenance SF	(2000.00)	
Cash		6.00

- e) 7e Quote for Surface Improvements for the first section of the Moors Footpath AR7 from Kingston Blount to the far end of the cricket ground of £1490 was discussed. County Council Countryside Services offered £490 and a contribution of £500 from Kingston Estates was noted. The parish has earmarked a further £1000. This is towards completing the work all the way through from Kingston Blount to Aston Rowant School.

The clerk is to write a letter of thanks to Kingston Blount Estates and Mrs A. Murray.

D/Cllr. Brown joined the meeting.

- f) It was confirmed the Council has allocated £500.00 in next year's budget towards the possible cost of elections.

8. HIGHWAYS

- a) M40 Thame signage, Junction 6. – It has been noted the Highways Agency has agreed to remove 'Thame' from the sign at junction 6.
b) Ditch, dangerous bend, Aston Rowant. – It was agreed to have a meeting with Matthew Denham regarding work on the ditch. Cllr. Knight confirmed a salt bin has been ordered.

9. HILLOCK GARDENS – No report.

10 HILLWERKE TRUST

- a) Problems of a culvert which needs clearing out and a blocked pipe were discussed. The Council agreed (5 for, 1 abstention) with the proposal that the Hillwerke Trust Management Committee should, as tenants, carry out maintenance to deal with these problems.
b) It was noted Cllr. Crossley will be a member of a committee which will discuss providing equipment for older children and teenagers on the Playing Field.
c) Cllr. Gibbons reported each cut of the Playing Field will cost £100.00 for the next three years.

11 ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL – no report.

12 FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES – See item 7e

13 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Invitation to Oxfordshire Branch Conference of S.L.C.C. on 16th February. No member of the Council is able to attend.

14 WEBSITE

- a) Cllr. Armitage and the Clerk had had a training session.

15 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

D/Cllr. Brown reported on District Council matters (report attached). She is to look into the continuation of the 40 bus service.

16 OTHER URGENT MATTERS

- a) Proposed boundary changes were discussed; a letter has been sent stating the Council would like to go back to being within Chinnor area.
b) Cllr. Hetherington stated that Tony Clark, the Ramblers area representative, is putting together a report on the very bad state of rights of way in the Parish and in Sydenham Parish. Cllr. Hetherington has emailed Jon Beale, O.C.C., and Tony Clark, on this matter.
c) A proposal that the July meeting of the Parish Council should be held in Kingston Blount Village Hall instead of Aston Rowant School was proposed by Cllr. Crossley and seconded by Cllr. Gibbons. The proposal was carried unanimously.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 9th February, 2011, at Kingston Blount Village Hall, at 7.45pm.

CHAIRMAN