

# ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 11<sup>th</sup> January, 2012.**

**Present:** Cllrs. D. Beechey, G. Crossley, P. Gibbons (in the Chair), P. Hetherington, J. Knight and P. Rooksby. Also C/Cllr. D. Wilmshurst.

1. **APOLOGIES:** None received.
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – Cllr. Crossley declared an interest in item 9.
3. **MINUTES of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2011, were approved and signed.**

## 4. **MATTERS ARISING**

a) Re item 7e, it was agreed an advance of £500 could be provided to the United Parish of Chinnor when work on improvements to the churchyard was started.

5. **OPEN FORUM** – No members of the public were present.

## 6. **PLANNING**

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

**P11/E2005** Agricultural grain storage building at Hill Farm, Christmas Common Road, Stokenchurch, for Mr. Robert Holmes. *Should be approved.*

**P11/E2059** Single storey rear extension at Hillside Cottage, Aston Hill, Lewknor, for Mr. S. Schneekloth *Should be approved.*

b) **Decisions of S.O.D.C.** Cllr. Beechey reported that since the agenda was finalised, approvals have been received by email for 10 Icknield Close (P11/E1887) and Aston Rowant Cricket Club (P11/E1816).

c) A letter to S.O.D.C. re planning application P11/E1495, Hester Cottage was approved, subject to it being depersonalised.

## 7. **FINANCE**

a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk – November salary		
P. Rooksby – meeting expenses		14.35
B.G. Hutton – repairs, Play Area	613.60	
P. Gibbons – travel to S.O.D.C. Offices		15.66
S.L.C.C. – annual subscription		72.20
Mh-p Upload Trustees Ad		18.00

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk – salary		
Post Office Ltd. (HM Revenue & Customs)	131.40	
OPFA Membership renewal		35.00
Mh-p – Updating Plan K, Live News, Planning, website.	612.00	
P. Gibbons – stationery, etc.		25.00
P. Hetherington – gift (cash payment)		7.49
O.A.L.C. – course fee		66.00

c) Receipts as follows were noted:

Business Saver Account – interest		0.63
Walks booklet sales		10.00

d) The current financial situation as at 30<sup>th</sup> December, 2011 was noted:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	8004.79	
Barclays Bank – Business Premium Account	5086.66	
National Savings	10895.26	
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(6035.41)	
Play Area Sinking Fund – main.	(1252.90)	
Play Area Sinking Fund – capital	(3856.75)	
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000.00)	
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Fund	(2913.74)	
VAS Maintenance S. Fund	(1000.00)	
Cash		4.47

- e) Damage to flower tub in Aston Rowant was discussed. It was agreed to ask Kavan Ring to clear the debris; Cllr. Hetherington to organise this and the purchase of a new tub.

## **8. HIGHWAYS**

- a) Service 275 (Oxford – High Wycombe) timetable has been circulated by the Clerk

## **9. HILLOCK GARDENS**

- a) Trustees – Cllr. Gibbons has had a meeting with two persons who have put themselves forward as Trustees of Poors Hillock. These two persons will meet again on 4<sup>th</sup> February. A third person will be active from the end of February. At the February meeting of the Parish Council the three new Trustees of Poors Hillock will be appointed.
- b) Cllr. Gibbons informed members that the archives and relevant paper work for Poors Hillock have been passed to two of the proposed Trustees.
- c) An invoice for the annual rent of a part of Poors Hillock is to be sent to Mr. J. Clark from the Parish Council.

## **10 HILLWERKE TRUST**

- a) Cllr. Gibbons reported copies of leases will be given to the relevant parties. It was agreed original copies of leases will be given to Lightfoots, Solicitors, for safe keeping.
- b) Cllr. Crossley reported repairs to the roof should be done within the next month. Rubbish at the bottom of the field is to be cleared. Money will be spent on a new fence.

## **11 ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL – no report,**

## **12 FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES**

- a) Cllr. Hetherington reported 32 people had taken part in the recent Parish walk.
- b) Aston Wood. Cllr. Hetherington has met the N.T. ranger to discuss Aston Wood. A seat will be installed and a vision splay made. At the layby on Aston Hill the hedge will be lowered and some replanting carried out. A National Trust notice board will be installed. Regarding N.T. land on the other side of the A40, a permissive path may be opened up by the N.T.
- c) Footpath from M40 to Chinnor – Cllr. Hetherington will meet with Sustrans to discuss the feasibility of creating such a path.
- d) Streams – it was noticed the streams and lake in Kingston Blount are dry. It was agreed to contact Thames Water asking if they are pumping too much water from a bore hole on Kingston Hill, resulting in the drying up of these streams.

## **13 CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) Letter from O.C.C. re the late C/Cllr. Roger Belson and the Watlington Division was noted. The Council expressed its sadness at the death of County Councillor Roger Belson. C/Cllr. Wilmshurst will advise the date of the Memorial Service.
- b) An email from Sydenham Parish Council was read; it was agreed to endorse reports of potholes which need attention by O.C.C.

## **14 WEBSITE – No report.**

## **15 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR.**

- C/Cllr. Wilmshurst informed members there are to be cuts in all areas of O.C.C., except for children's services. There is re-organisation across the County.
- Cllr. Wilmshurst mentioned the Area Stewards Fund which operates in the Thame area. Thanks were expressed to C/Cllr. Wilmshurst for attending the meeting.

## **16 OTHER URGENT MATTERS**

- a) It was reported the Cherry Tree public house in Kingston Blount is closed. It is understood that Brakspears Brewery will seek new tenants.
- b) It was noted fallen trees in Plowden Park have been cleared; a road sweeper is to be requested for the Parish.

## **17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> February, 2012, at Kingston Blount Village Hall, at 7.45pm.**

## **CHAIRMAN**

18/01/2012

Aston Rowant Parish Council

Brenda Wilson

2

Clerk to the Council