

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 8th January 2014.

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

- 1) **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. R. Armitage & P. Rooksby
- 2) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – Cllr. P. Gibbons declared an interest in item 8a (Town Farm Trees in Kingston Blount). Cllr. Hetherington chaired this part of the meeting.
- 3) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 11th December, 2013, were approved and signed.**
- 4) **MATTERS ARISING**
 - a) Litter Picker – Cllr Gibbons reported that the letter picker (Alice Surman) was seen carrying out her duties but without the yellow vest. - *The Clerk is to write to Alice, stressing that this must be worn for her own safety, otherwise it could warrant the insurance invalid.*
 - b) Email from James Williams regarding the ditch and culverts down the village road and Church Lane – Cllrs. P. Gibbons, J. Knight & P. Hetherington have cleared them for now but further work is needed – *Cllr. Knight agreed to draft a letter to Bob Baskerville, emphasising that due to the bad weather, this work must be carried out by the end of January.*
 - c) Email from Julie Wheeler asking if the Parish Council are doing anything to commemorate 100 years since WW1 – *the Clerk is to reply, directing her to the Chinnor British Legion and The Oxford archives.*
- 5) **OPEN FORUM** – *Joanna Noble, Jude Noble & Joanna & Simon Whitfield attended the meeting from the public, with an interest in Item 8a (Town Farm Trees in Kingston Blount).*
- 6) **PLANNING**
 - a) **Applications** as follows were confirmed/discussed:
P13/S3797/LDP CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT FOR:
Certificate of lawfulness for a proposed rear conservatory, at: Woodway Farm House Chinnor Road Aston Rowant WATLINGTON OX49 5SJ – *Should be refused*
 - b) **Decisions of S.O.D.C.** as follows were noted:
None
 - c) **Local Plan** - Should this be considered for our parish? – *Cllr. M. Day to contact an officer and arrange for a meeting to discuss whether a local plan is needed for the Parish.*
- 7) **FINANCE**
 - a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk November Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)		84.00
Alice Surman (Litter Picker)		24.76
MM Denham Construction Ltd	223.26	
SLCC Subscription		101.00
 - b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk December Salary		
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)		71.40
Diane Malley		12.35
OACC Subscription		50.00
Alice Surman (Litter Picker)		24.76
 - a) Receipts as follows were noted:

Interest		0.14
Hillwerke Trust (Standing order – Rent)		20.00
 - c) The current financial situation as at 30th December 2013:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	6522.23	
Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account		1088.64
National Savings		10917.05
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(1555)	
Play Area Sinking Fund	(5435)	
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000)	
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Fund (1658)		

- a) NS&I – Authorised signatories to be approved - *Approved*
- b) Budget 2014/2015 – *Clerk to email the latest version (7) to the Parish Councillors.*
- c) Recipients grants – accounts – *All the Councillors are in agreement to the allocation of funds on the 2014 / 2015 budget.*

HIGHWAYS

- a) Town Farm Trees in Kingston Blount – Simon Whitfield reported that the situation has remained largely unchanged since the last meeting due to the Christmas break and the fact that Theresa Clark has an injury. The bank on the side of the road outside Town Farm is severely damaged and being used as a layby for vehicles. He requested the Parish Council help in representing the views of the village and write to Jamie Clark. - *This was agreed and proposed by Cllr. Day and seconded by Cllr. Hetherington and Cllr Crossley. Cllr. Day agreed to write to Jamie Clark suggesting that the area be replanted with mature 2.5m leylandii spaced every 1m, together with a 2m boarded fence. The Parish Council will consider contributing to the costs of repairing the bank in the Spring. It was made clear that the aim is to reach an amicable solution for all concerned parties. C/Cllr. Wilmshurst agreed to see if the County Council could do anything to contribute to resolving the issue.*

8) POORS HILLOCK CHARITY - *None*

9) HILLWERKE TRUST – *None*

10) ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL - *None*

11) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

- a) Protecting Aston Rowant’s Village Pubs – *Research is underway. To be discussed further at the February meeting.*
- b) The Discovery Trail – Report from Cllr. Hetherington – Cllr. Hetherington showed the Councillors the proposed continuity signs for their opinion. *High res map to be put on the website and the Clerk is to email The Chiltern Society and the Countryside Services the link.*
- c) Chinnor Library – Cllr. Knight and C/Cllr. Wilmshurst reported that a ‘Friends of Chinnor Library Group’ is to be formed and a Chairperson is to be elected at the next meeting (to be held at the library) at 7pm on 28th January 2014. *It was noted that a significant number of people from this Parish do use the library*
- b) Defibrillators – *Costs are estimated to be £1800 each. All the Councillors were in favour that 2 should be installed in the Parish. The Clerk is to write to Lavinia Martin, copying Rob Holt asking permission for a defibrillator to be installed outside the village hall. The second one is proposed to be installed near the church in Aston Rowant.*

12) CORRESPONDENCE was circulated

None

13) WEBSITE

- a) The Discovery Trail Map – Cllr P. Hetherington to confirm to the Clerk whether the version provided at the meeting is the one to be updated on the website.
- b) Item for amendment on the website – *Discovery trail map, once confirmed as above.*

14) REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- a) D/Cllr. D. Wilmshurst reported on Chinnor Library (see above)

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

16) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – **Wednesday, 12th February, 2014, at Kingston Blount Village Hall, at 7.45pm.**

CHAIRMAN