

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 11th January 2017.

Present: Cllrs. G Crossley, M. Day, P. Hetherington & P. Tinson (In the Chair).

APOLOGIES: Cllrs. A Green, L French, T Hill and D/Cllr Lynn Lloyd.

- 1) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – *None*.
- 2) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 14th December 2016, were approved and signed.**
- 3) **MATTERS ARISING** – *None*.
- 4) **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS** - *The District Councillors report is attached to these minutes.*
- 5) **OPEN FORUM** – *No Members of the public attended the meeting.*
- 6) **PLANNING**
 - a) **Applications as follows were confirmed/discussed:**
 - P16/S4104/HH** Proposed removal of roof canopy and construction of new porch at 1 Icknield Close, Kingston Blount. Should be approved.
 - P16/S3567/HH** CERTIFICATE OF LAWFUL DEVELOPMENT FOR: loft conversion and garage conversion of existing extension at 2 Icknield Close, Kingston Blount. No decision required, notification only.
 - P/S4065/FUL** Retention of existing roof tiles for flats 1–6 and houses 3-4, Bakers Piece, Kingston Blount. Should be approved.
 - b) **Decisions of S.O.D.C. as follows were noted:**
 - P16/S3572/AG** Erection of general agricultural store for hay and machinery at Parkwood Stud, London Road, Lewknor, OX49 5RZ – *GRANTED/No Formal Application for Planning Permission Required.*
 - P16/S3393/HH** Infill existing carport wall openings with new wall/door construction to create an enclosed garage. Construct a new detached Summerhouse at Apsley Cottage, High Street, Kingston Blount. Erect a new boundary wall fronting the High Street, with a pedestrian gate and bin stores. *GRANTED*
 - P16/S3717/HH** Erection of detached garage in front of existing dwelling house and window in side wall of dwelling house to match existing windows at Icknield Cottage, Butts Way, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SZ. *GRANTED.*

7) FINANCE

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

	£	p
Clerk November Salary		
HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: clerk October/November salary		
G Stevens (grass cutting and extra strimming in lanes)	245.00	
MH-P (invoice for renewal of domain name astonrowant.org.uk)	19.18	
T.Lambourne – Initial stationery expenses	70.03	
G Stevens (Footpaths & Shrub Maintenance)	140.00	
Diane Malley (Payroll Services for H2 2016)	34.00	
- b) Receipts as follows to be noted: NONE
- c) The following payments were approved (Costs include VAT):

Clerk December Salary		
HMRC/PAYE Re: clerk Dec salary		
P.Hetherington (Wine for Simon Coulon/Xmas)	16.80	
Ridgeway Woodlands (work, as pre-approved, at Fiveways)	350.00	
Mike Eaton (Plants for Fiveways)	42.12	
Robyn Leinster (Litter Picker, December)	25.32	
- d) The current financial situation as at 30th December 2016:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	16722.23	
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)	

e) Budget 2016/2017 v8 – Noted.

8) HIGHWAYS

Traffic Calming – Cllr Day reported that there was now a need to document the feedback received so far, in particular concerns raised generally regarding speed bumps – pollution, damage to vehicles, noise etc.

2 or 3 villagers have expressed an interest in training to become camera operators to monitor speed through the villages and the council is awaiting a response from D.Cllr Lynn Lloyd as we are looking to Chinnor PC to take the lead in investing in the equipment that other villages can use. The camera should be able to be used discretely (e.g. from behind a hedge) to minimise the possibility of abuse from motorists and ideally one with Automatic Number Plate Recognition to reduce the number of people required to operate it, although that would be a more expensive option.

9) HILLWERKE TRUST – The Christmas Fair held in the village hall on 1st December raised a total of £350. 2 new signs are being installed during w/c 16th January (weather dependant), to replace worn wooden signs and prominently display the Hillwerke Trust logo. One will be on the approach fence, the other on the wall of the hall. A question was raised regarding the proposed wi-fi connection in the hall, and the council were advised that progress is now in the hands of the Montessori School who requested the installation in the first place.

10) NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – The latest meeting was held on Tuesday 10th January, at which the new SODC representative Ricardo Rios was present, together with 3 NP committee, 3 Parish Councillors and 2 observers from the general public. Mr Rios talked through and confirmed the next steps: collating the information from the core strategy and formulating the local plan, encouraging further local participation (it was anticipated a report would be in the next edition of the Parish Notes to promote this), getting the council web-site upgraded to include an exclusive area for NP news (see point 18 below) and whether to include Crowell Parish within the plan (lower Crowell only). It was reported that all actions so far were on target by Christmas. The need for further housing was acknowledged but agreed that it should be tempered by wanting to stop over-development and the imposition of housing targets that may ruin the rural character of our villages. Any further requirements (i.e.: affordable local housing) should be evidence-based to provide proof of need, and may require surveys to confirm. There is a Neighbourhood Planning Conference with MP John Howell on 20th January which will be attended by two of the NP committee.

11) KINGSTON BLOUNT PLAYGROUND – The Clerk reported that there has still been no contact from the Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company and will now liaise with the previous clerk regarding this, and a new rota for 2017 for playground inspection and safety.

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

13) GRASS CUTTING & GENERAL PARISH MAINTENANCE – Nothing to report this month as both councillors involved were absent from this meeting.

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

15) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES GROUP (FAAG) - Report from Cllr. P. Hetherington:

- I. A parishioner has donated the sum of £250 towards the provision of a bench/seat at Fiveways and the style and design has already been chosen, with the donation covering this and some of the installation cost. It is proposed to engrave the seat with the word "FIVEWAYS" to discourage its theft and installation is planned for Spring.
- II. All work previously minuted has now been completed and paid for. The next proposed expenditure is signage to explain the historical significance of the site and provide a guide as to what is at Fiveways.
- III. The annual "Snowdrops and Teas" event is planned for 5th February with teas being served in the church. Currently, there is insufficient water in the stream for the duck race to take place, but discussions with a landowner may allow for the opening of sluice gates from the lake for a 24h period to facilitate this.
- IV. Funds for the renewal of the Moors footpath continue to accrue, with a £1,000 personal donation being received. The Weston Foundation does not fund Parish Councils, so the Hillwerke Trust could be utilised in this respect.

16) OTHER MATTERS & WRITTEN REPORTS – None.

17) CLERK'S REPORT – Information has been obtained regarding posters displaying speed limits for attaching to wheelie bins, but it seems we can only buy singly or in packs of 100 which will be too expensive and too many for our needs as will they only be needed for households with wheelie bins on the B4009 or Pleck Lane/Stert Road. The clerk will investigate other suppliers and calculate the possible number required. Barclays Bank has now confirmed the change of address to the new clerk, but in view of the delay in receipt of the December statement, it has been agreed to

investigate Internet Banking as an option for viewing purposes only to avoid delay in posting future agendas/minutes. Further to Decembers minutes, information regarding our web-site package has been obtained and the clerk and chairman are to examine the details and report at future meetings. Similarly, information has also been obtained from a couple of suppliers of parish noticeboards, for comparison.

18) CORRESPONDENCE – None.

19) WEBSITE – See point 17. *A new area is required on the Parish Web-Site for Neighbourhood Planning and a number of minor amendments are also required re: traffic calming and new councillors, all of which would be extra to our allowance under the current package. While the council is not unhappy with the current service provider, we may need to investigate other providers when the contract period expires*

20) OTHER URGENT MATTERS at the discretion of the Chairman – *The chairman is unable to be at either the February or March meeting due to work commitments. It was agreed that Vice-Chairman Hetherington would chair the February meeting, but March would be deferred for one week and take place on Wednesday 15th instead of Wednesday 8th.*

21) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 8th February 2017 at Kingston Blount Village Hall at 7.30pm.

CHAIRMAN