

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 9th March, 2011.

Present: Cllrs, D. Beechey, G. Crossley, P. Gibbons (in the Chair) and P. Hetherington.

1. **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. R. Armitage (family reasons), J. Knight (personal business) and P. Rooksby (illness). Also D/Cllr. D. Brown and C/Cllr. R. Belson
2. **DECLARATION OF INTEREST – Cllr. Gibbons, Planning Application P11/E0244**
3. **MINUTES of the meeting held on 9th February, 2011, were approved and signed.**
4. **MATTERS ARISING** - None.
5. **OPEN FORUM** No members of the public were present.
6. **PLANNING**

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

P11/E0244 Change of use of approximately 6 acres of pasture land to form a second cricket pitch to the north of the existing cricket ground at Land adjacent to Aston Rowant Cricket Club, Chinnor Road, A.R. for Mr. C. Wright, A.R. Cricket Club. **Cllr. Gibbons declared an interest in this application.** *Should be approved subject to conditions in letter sent to S.O.D.C.*

P11/E0225/AG Erection of general purpose agricultural storage building at Hill Farm, Stokenchurch, for Mr. Robert Holmes. *Should be approved.*

b) **Decision of S.O.D.C.** as follows was noted:

P10/E1930 Two storey extension (as amended) at 1 Aston Park, A.R. *Planning Permission granted.*

c) **P11/E0064** Single and two-storey extensions, and front porch at 3 Plowden Park, A.R. **Application withdrawn by the applicant.** Noted.

7. FINANCE

a) The following payments were noted:

	£	p
Clerk – January salary		
S.O.D.C. – dog hygiene bin emptying	57.09	
Bucks. Recycling Ltd. – skip for allotments	192.00	
The Chilterns Conservation Board – conference fee	13.50	
J. Carter – for litter pick expenses	25.00	

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk – February salary		
Roman Cart – skip	147.00	
Mike Henson Publications Ltd. (website)	120.00	
Natalie Nash – litter picking	48.00	
Nicholsons – trees for play area	577.88	
Playsafety Ltd. – safety inspection, play area	95.18	
B.L. Wilson – travel, postage, Broadband, sundries.	205.00	
P. Gibbons – expenses	10.00	

c) Receipts as follows were noted

Aston, Kingston & Crowell Parish Notes	1000.00
Mrs. A. Murray (Kingston Blount Estates)	500.00
Mr. and Mrs. A. Chapman (Aston House Stud)	500.00

d) The current financial situation as at 25th February 2011

Barclays Bank – Community Account	13932.61
Barclays Bank – Business Premium Account	5084.14
National Savings	10895.26
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(4688.25)
Play Area Sinking Fund – main.	(518.50)
Play Area Sinking Fund – capital	(3734.08)

Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000.00)	
Ditches Sinking Fund	(880.00)	
Trees and Footpaths Main. SF	(2307.70)	
Traffic and Environmental Fund	(5524.69)	
VAS Maintenance SF	(2000.00)	
Cash		6.00

It was agreed that the Trees and Footpaths maintenance sinking fund, and the Traffic and Environment Fund should be amalgamated as from 1st April, 2011 as the Trees, Footpaths and Environmental Fund. Any monies left in the Ditches S.F. on 31st March will be added to this new Fund.

- e) The quote from Kavan Ring of £3860 plus VAT for AR7 footpath improvements across Aston Rowant Village Green (section 3 of the programme) was approved. Cllr. Hetherington is to produce an article for publication in the Thame Gazette.
- f) The Clerk is to send an invoice and letter of thanks to Aston House Stud for their generous contribution of £500.00 towards the cost of improvements to the Moors Footpath.
- g) The possibility of Crowell Parish joining with Aston Rowant Parish was discussed. The Clerk is to write to Mrs. Susie Drummond-Brady informing her she would need to carry out a poll of house holders in Crowell Parish to see if they wish to do this. If the majority are in favour, a formal request should be made to Aston Rowant Parish Council to join with us.
- h) The Clerk informed the Council that Parish Councils and Community Councils are legally required to register as employers and implement PAYE procedures for Clerks. The Clerk has registered Aston Rowant Parish Council as an employer with HMRC and the Clerk will be taxed under PAYE as from April 2011.
- i) Cllr. Gibbons informed members there will be two extra posts outside Baytree House, Aston Rowant, making a total of 14 posts to be erected. The owner of Baytree House will make a donation of £200.00 towards the cost of the posts. Jasmin Cottage owners are to make a donation of £150.00. This means the Parish Council will pay £500.00, the remainder of the total cost of £850.00.

8. HIGHWAYS

- a) HGV on local roads – consultation. It was agreed the Clerk should write an official letter stating the Parish Council does not want HGVs using the B4009 in the Parish.
- b) Email from Complete Weed Control was discussed. It was agreed to ask the company to clear Baker's Piece free of charge (one street was offered) and to give a quote for treating Icknield Close.

9. HILLOCK GARDENS

10 HILLWERKE TRUST

- a) The planting of trees in the Play Area was approved.
- b) The Clerk is to request copy of agenda and Minutes of meetings of the Management Committee.

11 ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL

- a) The Council is to ask Aston Rowant School for £1500.00 towards the cost of upgrading Footpath AR7 across Aston Rowant Green, the payments to be spread over five years. It is hoped the improved footpath will alleviate parking problems and encourage children to walk to school.

12 FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

- a) Barry Hutton is to be asked to wash the white gates at Butts Way and to tidy the chicane at Kingston Blount.
- b) Cllr. Hetherington is to request the grass paths in the centre of the village are cut by O.C.C.
- c) Cllr. Hetherington reported on the Chilterns Access Conference he attended, which was both interesting and useful.

13 CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Revised Household Waste Recycling Centre Strategy for Oxfordshire – noted.
- b) Chiltern News issue 199 March 2011 – to be circulated.

c) Electoral Review of Oxfordshire – it was confirmed a letter expressing the Council’s views has been sent..

d) Letter from Thames Valley Police re Community Policing Awards 2011 was noted.

14 WEBSITE

a) Updating contract – document from Mike Henson. To be discussed at April meeting.

15 REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS - No reports received.

16 OTHER URGENT MATTERS

a) Chinnor Library – Cllr. Gibbons reported on the recent meeting re the proposed closure of the library.

b) Information on the Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Weekend, 2nd-5th June, 2012, is to be put in the Parish Notes.

c) It was agreed the next meeting of the Council will be at 6.30pm on 13th April, followed by the Assembly at 7.30pm.

d) Information on the Parish Council election is to be put in the Parish Notes and on notice boards, as well as the Council website.

17 DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 13th April, 2011, at 6.30pm at Kingston Blount Village Hall, followed by the Parish Assembly at 7.30pm.

CHAIRMAN