

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 14th November 2018 in Kingston Blount Village Hall.

PRESENT: Cllrs. M.Day, S.Sowerby, P.Tinson (in the chair), M Wodzynski, D/Cllr. L.Lloyd and 9 members of public. .

- 1) **APOLOGIES** – Cllrs. Hill & Hetherington.
- 2) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** – Cllr Hetherington declared an interest by email in item 8.a) (P18/S3538/O).
- 3) **CO-OPTION OF NEW COUNCILLOR** - The Chairman welcomed Adam Bernstein to the meeting, having been co-opted onto the council following the recent Casual Vacancy Notice. The Acceptance of Office was signed in the presence of the Clerk, and Register of Members Interests received for recording into public record.
- 4) **MINUTES** of the Parish Council Meeting held on 10th October 2018, were approved and signed.
- 5) **MATTERS ARISING.**
 - i. Re Minute 8iv – correction to Trees and Footpaths reserve fund figure - £3,500 2018/9 top up had not been applied.
 - ii. Re Minute 13ii, see minute 13ii below.
- 6) **REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS** – No communication from our County Councillor. The District Councillor report for November was circulated to all councillors by email on 3/Nov. No queries or comments.
- 7) **OPEN FORUM.**
 - i. Branches are hanging over the path behind the houses at the top of Shoulder of Mutton Lane making the footpath difficult to negotiate. Cllr.Sowerby undertook to raise the matter at the Footpath & Amenities meeting on Nov 19th.
 - ii. Three parishioners spoke separately against the revised plans for the old Cherry Tree pub (P18/S3392/FUL) with specific concerns regarding extra capacity in the café and an increase in the number of beds (while losing a disabled facility), without adequate parking and highway safety provision. Concern was raised as to the suitability of the proposed conservatory across the front of the building in a conservation area with probability of year-round light pollution, and provision for commercial waste bins directly adjacent to a neighbouring property. The issue of windows directly overlooking adjacent properties leading to loss of privacy was also a significant concern. All these points will be fully considered in our response.
 - iii. Cllr. Bernstein raised as query regarding the recently approved Planning Procedure document which implies he would not be able to participate in planning matters. This was confirmed, until such time as the requisite training had been completed, although his comments would be considered along with other councillors. The training will be arranged as soon as practicably possible.
- 8) **PLANNING**
 - i. **Applications as follows were confirmed/discussed:**
 - P18/S3392/FUL** – Revision of application P17/S4443/FUL with new amendments at The Cherry Tree, Park Lane, Kingston Blount. See also Open Forum above. If this revision is refused, the original (P17/S4443/FUL) reverts.
 - P18/S3538/O** - Outline application for erection of detached “chalet-style” dwelling, access and landscaping at Town Farm Cottage, Brook Street, Kingston Blount.
 - P18/S1357/FUL** – Erection of three dwellings at Orchard House, High Street, Kingston Blount, WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT.
 - P18/S3637/LDP** – Certificate of lawful Development for erection of detached outbuilding at Windrush, Chinnor Road, Aston Rowant. Permitted development under the allowances of the Town & Country Planning Order 1995, not requiring a planning application
 - NOT ON AGENDA - P18/S3159/PIP** - Demolition of existing house and buildings and replacement with four dwellings at Wayside, Kingston Stert, WITHDRAWN BY APPLICANT.
 - ii. **Decisions of S.O.D.C. as follows were noted:**
 - P18/S2629/HH & P18/S2630/LB** – Single storey extension and improvement works to house and garage at Ferndale House, High Street, Kingston Blount - **GRANTED.**
 - iii. **Appeal** – **P17/S3661/FUL** Appeal by Rectory Homes re: Planning Refusal by SODC. Appeal reference APP/Q3115/W/18/3204462, the PC have not altered the original Should be Refused response.

9) FINANCE

- i. *The following payments were noted (Costs include VAT):* £ p
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|---|-------|
| Clerk September Salary | |
| HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: clerk September salary | |
| Robyn Leinster (Litter – Aug/Sept) | 56.97 |
- ii. *Receipts as follows to be noted:* None
- iii. *The following payments were approved (Costs include VAT):*
- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| Clerk October Salary | |
| HMRC/P.A.Y.E re: clerk October salary | |
| T.Lambourne (Amazon, printer ink) | 22.88 |
| T.Lambourne (Mileage/Expenses Jul – Oct) | 66.41 |
| SODC (dog-bins 1/Jul -30/Sep) | 91.55 |
| BHIB (Annual Insurance Renewal) | 367.70 |
| RBL Poppy Appeal (Remembrance Wreath) | 50.00 |
| Lexis Nexis Publishers | 124.79 |
| Hayley Leinster (Litter October) | 25.32 |
| Hillwerke Trust (NP Meetings) | NOT ON AGENDA 51.00 |
| mh-p Internet (astonrownt.org domain name renewal) | NOT ON AGENDA 19.18 |
- iv. *The current financial situation as at 31st October 2018:*
- | | |
|---|----------|
| Barclays Bank – Community Account | 39085.66 |
| Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account | 1092.28 |
| National Savings | 11345.27 |
| Village Hall Reserve fund | (690) |
| Play Area Reserve Fund | (56) |
| Parish Notes Reserve Fund | (1000) |
| Neighbourhood Plan Reserve | (4465) |
| Traffic Calming | (1840) |
| Trees, Footpaths & Environment Reserve Fund | (5640) |
- v. *Budget 2018/9 v6 - Noted.*
- 9) **HIGHWAYS:** - Cllr. Day reported that 4 objections had been raised following the public consultation on the proposed double chicane at the western end of Kingston Blount. These were all from residents in Chinnor. The final plans will be put before OCC Highways committee at a meeting on 15th November, which he will attend on behalf of the PC.
- 10) **HILLWERKE TRUST** –No report this month. The next Hillwerke Trust meeting is on 26/Nov and a full report will follow. The future of Pleck Wood has been deferred again at the request Cllr.Hetherington who wished to be present.
- 11) **NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN** –
- i. *The Chairman reported that SODC has received legal opinion on the challenge to the validity of the Neighbourhood Plan. That opinion advises that the development of the Plan may proceed subject to the Steering Group taking a number of remedial actions. The recommendations from the SODC Counsel are now being implemented. The Chairman reported that he was in discussions with SODC on who will respond to the complainant.*
- ii. *In terms of the plan itself, the Group are making minor amendments to the current draft to take into account SODC policy on housing density and allocation. The intention is to bring the draft plan to the December Parish Council meeting for approval for the purposes of formal public consultation.*
- 12) **GRASS CUTTING & GENERAL PARISH MAINTENANCE:** No report.
- 13) **FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES GROUP (FAAG)** – (by email in Cllr. Hetherington’s absence)
- i. *Quote from Ridgeway Woodlands for trees to be planted along the Stert Road and Lower Icknield Way @ £70 per tree (6 trees = £420.00). Approval sought for this expenditure and agreed 4/0 by email (no response from 1 Cllr).*
- ii. *Footpath to Crowell: Cllr. Sowerby confirmed rotovation of the unplanted edge of the field ready for sowing of grass seed in the spring, followed by the plastic matting on top once established. Stiles will be present at either end to prevent spoilage of the surface by horses and dog-bins will be installed. A 25-year lease has been agreed with the farmer, with Cllr. Hill to arrange a financial contribution.*

14) PLAY AREA –

- i. *Cllr. Sowerby has installed the donated bird prevention spikes, fitted as a trial and if successful in preventing mess we will purchase more and roll or across all equipment.*
- ii. *Both gate latches are broken and unattended dogs have been entering the play area. George Stephens has been asked to look at these and repair.*

15) CORESPONDENCE –

- i. *Letter from Chinnor Village Centre (dated 30/May) – thanking us for the 2018 grant. Noted.*
- ii. *Email via web-site contact form from a Kingston Blount resident expressing concern at the amount of heavy traffic coming through the village. It was suggested that a weight limit could be applied to the B4009 to prevent this. Such weight limits are caveated – vehicles over the weight limit may enter a restricted area if required for access. The Chairman advised that, during a previous campaign on this issue, the guidance had been that a weight limit was practically unenforceable as it would require police to follow overweight vehicles to determine if entry to the restricted area was required for access. The police do not have the resources to do this. The Clerk to respond.*
- iii. *Potential closure of Bledlow Ridge recycling centre – response from Jeannette Matelot. Oxfordshire residents are not entitled to use this facility, but this has been overlooked in the past. With tightening of budgets, this will no longer be allowed but councils in S.Bucks are all fighting the closure so if it remains open Oxfordshire residents must use their own facilities, or pay a fee to continue to use Bledlow.*
- iv. *Email from SODC to advise change of name for property on Aston Hill – Beacon Hill Farm to Glenmist. Noted.*
- v. *Email from Oxfordshire High Sheriff's Office seeking nominations for 2018/9 award. Noted.*
- vi. *Letter/fact sheet from neighbours of the The Cherry Tree regarding amended plans. See Open Forum.*

16) OTHER MATTERS & WRITTEN REPORTS –

- i. *2019 Elections, 2/May/19. All current councillors must stand down and be nominated for re-election. If more than 7 people are nominated, there will be an election, but if less, the nominees will be returned automatically. SODC will send out election information for councils in March 2019.*
- ii. *2019 Meetings – dates to be confirmed for inclusion on web-site. All dates confirmed as the second Wednesday of each month, except August where there is no meeting and May where it was agreed unanimously to defer one week to the third week to allow for the election results and the possibility of new councillors.*
- iii. *Stationery/Postage Supplies. The clerk to open an account with local stationery supplier to save on costs. Alternative postage options also to be investigated also due to difficulty in reaching a Post Office during opening hours.*
- iv. *Grant Application for new noticeboards. Cllr. Wodzynski will make repairs to the noticeboard in Aston Rowant and the board in Kingston Blount is serviceable so the only one which must be replaced is in Kingston Stert which was damaged in August. The door and glass frontage was broken, either through vandalism or bad weather, and cannot be repaired. This is a single board and it was agreed could be replaced with payment from general reserves and without recourse to grant funds.*
The Clerk to obtain pricings and email details to councillors for consideration in December

17) OTHER URGENT MATTERS at the discretion of the Chairman – Cllr.Sowerby reported Aston Rowant CC AGM will be held on 30/Nov which he will attend and is an attempt by the club to re-engage with the community after the acrimonies of the recent planning application. As reported last month, ARCC trained Linsey Smith played in her debut match for England against Bangladesh, taking her first wicket.

18) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday 12th December 2018 in Kingston Blount Village hall at 7.30pm.