

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the above Council held on Wednesday, 11th September, 2013.

Present: Cllrs.P. Hetherington (in the Chair), R. Armitage, P. Rooksby, G.Crossley and M. Day. Also present was D/ Cllr D. Brown

1) **APOLOGIES:** Cllrs. P. Gibbons (Holiday), J. Knight (Holiday) & C/Cllr David Wilmshurst

2) **DECLARATION OF INTEREST** - None.

3) **MINUTES of the meeting held on 10th July, 2013, were approved and signed.**

4) **MATTERS ARISING**

5) **OPEN FORUM**

- a) Fiona Mantle, First responder for Chinnor (Covering Aston Rowant Parish) presented what Chinnor did in their scheme to obtain 3 defibrillators for Chinnor. She also demonstrated the simplicity of its use. Clerk is to write to David Wilmshurst and the Grants Officer to find out whether there is a possibility of getting a grant for the purchase of at least one defibrillator. The Parish Councillors agreed to this being discussed at the next meeting.

6) **PLANNING**

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

P13/S2401/D Demolition of existing two storey building at 1-5 Bakers Piece House, Bakers Piece, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SN – *Currently being considered. Cllr. Day confirmed that the application P13/S2132/FUL had been rejected by The Parish Council for overdevelopment and sustainability as previously documented.*

P13/S2639/CC Application to consolidate the existing school facilities for the current pupils: The permanent retention of the existing modular buildings, erection of an additional building to allow the existing old school room to be used as an assembly hall, construction of a multi use games area, re-organisation of existing hard play area to allow for staff parking on the site, and the erection of a polytunnel. OCC Ref: R3.0110/13 at Aston Rowant C of E Primary School, School Lane, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SU – *This is a County Court application so The Parish Council are not consulted though anyone is free to comment on the application. The Councillors will study the plans and give their thoughts to Cllr. Day who will comment on behalf of the Parish.*

P13/S2166/FUL Demolition of Stable block and erection of two storey 4 bedroom dwelling and refurbishment of courtyard building at Aston Park Stud, Aston Rowant, OX49 5SR – *Should be approved*

P13/S2054/HH Proposed single storey side extension at Beacon Cottage, The Green, Kingston Blount, OX39 4SE – *Should be approved.*

- b) **Decisions of S.O.D.C.** as follows were noted:

P13/S1625/LB Replacement windows and back door at Chiltern Cottage, Pleck lane, Kingston Blount, OX39 4RU – **Listed Building Consent granted** - *Noted*

P13/S2081/HH Erection of first floor Extension at 2 Aston Park Aston Rowant Oxon OX49 5SW – **Planning Permission granted** - *Noted*

- c) Local plan – This was discussed and agreed that the full Council should be in attendance for a vote to be taken. Proposed that it is to be on the November agenda.

7) **FINANCE**

a) The following payments were noted:	£	p
S. Johns – Mileage	51.57	
Clerk – June Salary		
Shelley Signs (Discovery Trail)	3702.00	
Diane Malley MAAT (Payroll Services)	12.50	
BDO Audit Fee	240.00	
Green Gardens (Repainting Play Area facilities)	1200.00	
Mh-p Internet Ltd	23.87	
Spirehead Properties Ltd (Materials for KB play area painting)	60.00	
Buryhook Countryside Management	696.00	
Green Gardens (weeding & tidy of play area)	30.00	
M.K. Watts Ground Maintenance	240.00	

Jack Brown (Litter Picker) 49.52

b) The following payments were approved:

Clerk July Salary	
Clerk August Salary	
Post Office Ltd (HMRC)	67.20
Green Gardens (General tidy of play area)	30.00
Simon Coulon (Flower tub planting)	216.71
Complete Weed Control	259.20
Buryhook Countryside Management	468.00
MK Watts Ground Maintenance (Jul)	240.00
SODC (Dog Bin emptying)	76.44
The Chiltern Society	25.00
P.Gibbons (mileage)	22.75
MK Watts Ground Maintenance (Aug)	240.00
Jack Brown (Litter Picker)	37.14
ICO (Data Protection Registration fee)	35.00

c) Receipts as follows were noted:

None

d) The current financial situation as at 30th July, 2013:

Barclays Bank – Community Account	6166.84
Barclays Bank – Business Saver Account	1088.50
National Savings	10917.05
Village Hall Sinking Fund	(1555.41)
Play Area Sinking Fund – main.	(2915.42)
Play Area Sinking Fund – capital	(2704.95)
Parish Notes Sinking Fund	(1000.00)
Trees, Footpaths & Environment Fund	(2311.38)
VAS Maintenance Fund	(538.00)
Poors Hillock Admin. Sinking Fund	(250.00)
Cash	1.19

e) Requested donation from Home Start, Southern Oxfordshire rejected as this year's grants have already been allocated. Clerk to write with apologies.

f) NS&I – Authorised signatories to be approved – This will be on the agenda for November when a full Council is expected

8) HIGHWAYS

a) Salt Bins – The positions for the newly acquired salt bins were agreed:

- i. Under the Brook Street Sign on the Junction of Brook Street and the Stert Road
- ii. At the Junction of Pleck Lane & Old Croft Close
- iii. At the Junction of The Rise and Brook Street at the site of the old litter bin.

b) Litter Picker – One application has been received from Alice Surman in Kingston Blount. Cllr. Hetherington proposed to offer the role to her and Cllr. Crossley seconded. Clerk to write to Alice and request that she obtains a work permit from school due to her age (13).

9) POORS HILLOCK CHARITY

a) Report from Cllr. Paul Rooksby

b) Trustees Indemnity Insurance – It was agreed to support the request from the Trustees of The Poors Hillock Charity to release all the funds from their sinking fund. This decision was proposed by Cllr. Rooksby and seconded by Cllr. Hetherington. The Clerk is to confirm in writing to Lavinia Martins that the Parish Council are not paying the insurance and that she should contact the Trustees should she have any queries.

10) HILLWERKE TRUST – The Clerk is to write to David Wilmshurst and the Grants Officer to find out whether there is a possibility of getting a grant for the purchase of Outdoor fitness equipment for Kingston Blount playing fields.

11) ASTON ROWANT SCHOOL

Nothing to report

12) FOOTPATHS AND AMENITIES

- a) Report from Cllr. Hetherington – The boards are going up in mid-September for The Discovery Trail. All that remains is the continuity signing. Cllr. Hetherington has agreed the design with Natural England and leaflets are to be made.
- b) Weed Control – It was agreed that a second treatment is not necessary as a ‘Deep Clean’ is scheduled for December.
- c) Protecting Aston Rowant’s Village Pubs – Cllr. Day agreed to review this and report back at the next meeting in October.

13) CORRESPONDENCE was circulated

- a) Chiltern Society Magazine
- b) SODC – Byelaws to regulate skin piercing

14) WEBSITE

15) REPORTS FROM DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

- a) Report from D/Cllr. D. Brown (Available to view on the Parish Council Website or by request to the Clerk)

16) OTHER URGENT MATTERS at the discretion of the Chairman

- b) It was reported that Cllr. Gibbons archived Parish Minutes on 6th August 2013 (Accession 6195). The record of archived minutes is available to view on the Parish Council Website or by request to the Clerk).

17) DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Wednesday, 9th October, 2013, at Kingston Blount Village Hall, at 7.45pm.

CHAIRMAN

ASTON ROWANT WARD

Aston Rowant and surrounding areas
Tetsworth - Towersey - Sydenham

September 2013

The summer period has been fairly quiet but the Autumn period is getting off to a brisk start.

The area of planning is required to do and to update regularly - SHLAA - Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment.

This is of course tied into the Local Plan which was passed by the Inspectorate last year.

SHLAA – aim is to identify as many sites as possible with housing potential in and around settlements in the study area. It does not determine whether a site should be allocated for housing development. IT IS A TECHNICAL DOCUMENT which gives information to CONSIDER the possible options in relation to Housing Development. The Government require that we carry this study out and we have to follow the guidance.

If a site is assessed as suitable in the study - THIS DOES NOT MEAN THE COUNCIL WILL ALLOCATE IT FOR DEVELOPMENT.

Only a certain number of sites are necessary to meet our housing targets and all sites will have to comply with the overall strategy we have set in the CORE STRATEGY.

The New Local Plan has brought up questions recently.

Infill Strategy

Infill development is defined as the filling of a small gap in an otherwise built up frontage or on other sites within settlements where the site is closely surrounded by buildings.

(I would add that each case it will be looked at as an individual planning application) and considerations regarding conservation area etc taken into account.)

Some villages which previously would not have been allowed any development now have the possibility of development on small sites of 2/3 houses (Core Strategy document page 93).

The aim in relaxing the definition, is to accept some development in our smaller settlements which helps communities to continue to develop and evolve.

If you have any questions please contact. Phil.moule@southandvale.gov.uk

Work is ongoing with the County regarding Broad Band and the identification of areas that need assistance, the work is with BT, at present it is not clear which areas are in need of help.

SODC has put aside a certain amount of money to help areas that do not come under the radar of BT/OCC for upgrading and it awaits further information before acting. I am aware that a group in A/R Ward have been involved and SODC would ask if you have any information that this is passed onto the Cabinet Member dealing with this area

Cllr Anna Badcock - or myself and I will forward.

CIF Community Investment Grants

For a grant under £15,000, contact jayne.bolton@southandvale.gov.uk

These are now under

Big Clean up is underway moving to Nuffield and on to Wallingford

Please contact the Waste Team by email with details if there is anywhere in particular, your parish would like to be cleaned.

Waste.team@southandvale.gov.uk

Fly tipping – A large number of on-going cases working closely with Thames Valley Police and the Environmental Agency and neighbouring councils for incidents across the district, there are examples that indicate clearly that prosecution is working.

At the end of August officers were involved in a joint operation with the Police targeting waste carriers throughout the district. In total 9 vehicles were stopped and questioned and officers collected vital intelligence on waste movements. 2 individuals were given Fixed Penalty Notices of £300 for carrying waste without being a registered Waste Carrier.

Please if you see an incident try and get photographic evidence.

Food Hygiene – Important with the hot summer we have experienced.

Currently 95.2% of food premises in South Oxfordshire have a rating of 3 or above for the Food Hygiene Rating Scheme. This compares with 90.7% in England and 92.3% in the South East Region.

Housing Needs - At the end of August there were a total of 19 households in Temporary Accommodation which is below the performance target of 23 households. The effects of the bedroom tax upon SODC residents is now fully quantified. 402 households are affected in South of which 314 face a 1 bedroom cut (14% of their entitlement) and the remainder 2 beds (25%)

I would add that this does not mean that the resident has to move - but a higher rent would be charged. Please contact SOHA Housing if you have a local query or Housing Dept at SODC.

Dorothy Brown – Cllr