

**Minutes of the Aston Clinton Parish Council Meeting  
Held on; Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7.30pm  
At Aston Clinton Parish Council Meeting Room**

Councillors present:

Richard Maskell (Chairman)  
John Watson (Vice Chairman)  
Mrs T Kirtland  
Mrs M Richards  
Brian Harrison  
Martin Watson  
Dave Wallis  
Paul Crook  
District Cllr Carole Paternoster

Clerk: Ms Claire Hill

Members of the Public: 4

**13.163 Apologies for absence**

Cllrs Geoff Plowman

**13.164 Declarations of interests**

For Councillors to declare any personal and/or prejudicial interests.

None

**13.165 Minutes**

The minutes of the Meeting of the Parish Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2013 were unanimously approved.

The leaseholder of The Hub informed the council that due to an increase in visitors to the park that the cost of cleaning, supplying sanitary items, water and electric is costing The Hub a significant amount of money per month. Park visitors, who are not customers, still enter the building to use the toilet facilities as there are currently no public toilets.

The council will look at a management system to open-up the changing-room toilets for public use and apply for funding to have a purpose-built toilet block for the future.

The members felt that a public toilet facility for the park is essential and that they appreciate The Hub toilets should be used for customers only and the leaseholder should place signs advising the facilities are for *customer use only*.

Clerk to write to clubs requesting they use the changing-room toilets once they are available for wider use.

Co-option of Parish Councillor; Applicant, Tony Winterbottom.

Proposer John Watson, seconded by Brian Harrison, and approved unanimously.

Tony Winterbottom was welcomed as a new member of the council.

**13.166 Chairman's report for November 2013**

Councillor Lindy Mooney has resigned due to her failing eye sight.

I must thank her for her input into the council and the life of the village over the last three years. She participated on two of the council's committees and was one of the core organisers for the Party in the Park.

Annual inspection of the Children's Play Area, skateboard park, and fitness trail.

This was carried out on 6<sup>th</sup> October by Combined Playground Services Ltd. A site risk assessment is a legal requirement.

There are five grades from Low risk to Unacceptable.  
All the equipment in the play area and the skateboard park were denoted as low risk.

The main problem with the fitness trail was loose posts which have been corrected by the installer.

### **13.167 Clerks Report**

The Clerk advised that further to a meeting with the insurance broker Came and Company, a LTA agreement at a cost of £1,500 pa was reached.

Christmas float; Cllr Dave Wallis asked members if they wished to donate to the same charities as last year. Member agreed to split funds collected into 3 equal donations; AC Scouts, AC Guides and Iain Rennie Hospice at Home.

Play in the Parishes for 2014; the Clerk advised the revised costs for the holiday activity; AVDC are no longer able to subsidise the cost per session. New rate is £130.00 per 2 hour session. Members agreed that during the summer months of 2013 there were several hundred parents and children who attended each session.

Cllr Teresa Kirtland proposed and seconded by Cllr Paul Crook and agreed unanimously to fund four x2 hourly sessions in the summer holidays. Total cost £520.00.

The Clerk advised the Council of a long-standing issue with Trupath Services who, without authority, placed a container in the park some 3 years ago. Despite over 18<sup>th</sup> months of emails and phone calls to the charity RSPCA and the owner of the container (Trupath), it has not been removed. The Clerk has also sent 21 day and 7 day notices by recorded mail to no avail. The container has been removed to a secure location. The Clerk proposed that a final notice of intention to scrap the container should be sent and inform the owner of the cost. This motion was passed and agreed unanimously.

The Clerk advised members she had received a number of emails requesting a salt bin to be located at the entrance of Long Plough. Three salt bins are located in the village but only near places that have a particular problem in the winter with ice and snow. Long Plough does not meet the criteria. Therefore the request was not approved by members. (A dog waste bin was requested and installed in Long Plough in the summer; this was due to a number of residents concerned with the dog foul on footpaths.)

### 13.168 Finances for November

The sum of £10,308.54 proposer Cllr Marion Richards, seconded by Cllr Brian Harrison, and approved unanimously.

<b>Direct Debits</b>		
EON	Street Lighting	£566.81
AVDC	Hire of park Euro bins July to Sept 2013	£953.79
British Gas	Parish office electricity– payment	£318.99
<b>Total DD's</b>		<b>£1,839.59</b>
<b>All other payments</b>		
Advanced labelling	Labels for label printer	£33.60 (dc)
Almar printers	Binding of document	£3.64
BAS	Quarterly Payroll services	£54.00
Bucks CC	Professional Services	£2,959.20
Combined playground services ltd	Annual play park / trim trail inspection	£360.00
Dyno-rod	Call out for blocked drain	£156.00 (dc)
Ken Brooker – RBL.	Rem Sunday wreath	£17.00 plus donation = £50.00
Eventbrite	Course for Clerk	£31.40
Fire FM	Annual fire risk assessment for all parish council owned buildings	£600.00
HMRC	NI/PAYE for September/ October	£669.65, £187.31 = £856.96
E Sharp Electrical	Re-set car park timer and repair faulty socket	£36.00
E Sharp Electrical	Local street lighting	£449.20
Total Garden care	September mow and strim churchyard	£576.00
Viking direct	Stationery	£126.04
C Hill	October salary	£993.21
C Watson	Empty bins and litter pick in Aston park	£100.00
C Jensen- 103867	Locum clerking	£175.00
Evett Agriculture	Park contractor	£619.70
D Evett - 103866	Mowing of park / repair punctures on mower	£189.00
Dial a ride – 103865	137 donation to registered charity	£100.00 (sent in Oct)
<b>Total of BACS/DC/CHQ</b>		<b>£8,468.95</b>
<b>Total to Pay:</b>		<b>£10,308.54</b>
<b>Receipts</b>		
HMRC	Vat claim July/Aug 2013	£1,652.20 (DC)
Heritage and Sons - 100336	Internment - Taylor	£620.00
KY Green - 100337	Burial of ashes – Chilton	£310.00
The Hub - 100338	Rent	£1,034.00
Aston Clinton FC	August/September fixtures	£165.00 (DC)
<b>Total</b>		<b>£3, 781.20</b>

### Precept 2014/2015:

The members were shown the budget recommendations from the Finance and Staff committee meeting held in October. Staff costs have been reduced, however, an increase for *Park costs* due to the work now being done by a contractor. Cllr Dave Wallis requested a minimum cost of £2k to cover footpaths. The Clerk will provide the exact sum spent during this year at the December meeting so the funds can then be agreed for 2014/15. The Council have also been approached by the disabled community to have a toilet facility in The Hub. The members will review the cost of this.

The entire precept document will be for approval at the December meeting once the Council knows what grants will be coming from the Government.

The Chairman informed the meeting that a considerable sum of money has been received from HMRC following a project by the Clerk to recover previously unclaimed Value Added Tax. (VAT that occurred prior to the clerk's appointment) The Clerk was thanked by the Council for her work on this project.

### **13.169 Allotments**

None at present

### **13.170 Transportation**

None at present

### **13.171 Environment**

None at present

### **13.172 Park & Recreation**

Further to October's meeting, the contractor has suggested that some bins in the park need replacing; the Clerk produced samples of dual bins; recycle bottles and general rubbish. The members agreed to request a large recycle bin and an additional household recycle bin to be located near the playpark.

### **13.173 Football**

An additional meeting is to be held with AC Colts to finalise the new contract. The minutes of this meeting to be reported at Parish Council meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> of December.

### **13.174 Churchyard**

Part of the wall around the churchyard was beginning to topple over. A quote is to be obtained for it to be rebuilt (using the present bricks) together with the top being put back on one of the pillars. Awaiting additional quotes; one already received.

### **13.175 Correspondence**

Aston Clinton Parish Council owns two-thirds of the chalk pits which are located at the junction of the Upper Icknield Way and Aston Hill.

A letter has been received from BBOWT (Berks/Bucks/Oxfordshire Wildlife Trust) who manage the site suggesting that the Parish transfers its ownership to them. The members agreed unanimously that they would **not** relinquish the council land to BBOWT.

Letter from a resident of Chestnut Close; request to relocate lamp post from the verge (verge belongs to owner of property). Clerk is awaiting a quote to produce to members.

Dial-a-Ride thank you letter received and duly noted.

**Planning;**

No comment; all plans are available to view during office hours.

**13.176 Matters arising**

Cllr Teresa Kirtland updated members on the preparations for Remembrance Sunday. Both Cllr Kirtland and Vice Chair John Watson requested that all members to attend if possible.

Cllr Dave Wallis requested clarification on what rights The Hub have with regards to commercial activity in the park? Cllr Brian Harrison stated that any use of the park is by permission of the Parish Council. The Vice Chairman pointed out that it is in the Parish Council's interest to support The Hub to make sure it thrives in order to receive rent to keep down annual precept. (Bye-laws of 1976; *no business can sell items or carry out the act of a commercial business, without the written agreement of the Parish Council*).

Vice Chair John Watson requested the contractor to be instructed to clear the leaves from the drive of the park.

Cllr Carole Paternoster advised that the letter from the Clerk in relation to the on-going problems outside Car2Go (London Road) will be responded to by Bucks CC; in the meantime, Cllr Paternoster requested any photographic evidence of car parking inappropriately to be sent to her.

**13.177 Public participation**

For members of the public to ask questions, raise any issues on items included on the agenda. Items not included on the agenda requiring decisions will be included on the next agenda.

Please note; this section of the meeting is not required by law to be minuted.

Peter Sharp asked if 106 funds could be used for a toilet facility in the park; Council to enquire whether this is feasible?

Bushes and trees to be cut back from footpath opposite the Royal Siam to the Anthony Hall. Clerk to report to Transport for Bucks. (TFB)

Mrs Lyon advised that in the same area a build-up of leaves and conifer twigs have made the pavement and road slippery. Clerk to report to TFB for London Road to be swept.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20.55

**13.178 Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> December in the Parish Meeting Room, Aston Clinton Park, London Road, Aston Clinton, at 7.30pm.

Signed by.....

Date.....