

**Minutes of the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee of Aston Clinton Parish  
Council, held on Friday 5th June 2015 at 7pm  
At Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room**

**Present:**

S Beaumont	J Savigar
A Mooney	C Birch
L Tubb	
L Ronson (Co-opted)	K Loxley (co-opted)

Clerk: G Merry

**15.01 Election of Chairman and Vice Chair**

Cllr J Savigar was PROPOSED as Chairman by Cllr Mooney, SECONDED by Cllr Beaumont and AGREED. Cllr Savigar took the chair and asked for nominations for vice chair. Cllr Mooney was PROPOSED by Cllr Tubb, SECONDED by Cllr Birch and AGREED. Cllr J Savigar then PROPOSED the co-option of Mrs L Ronson and Mr K Loxley, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and AGREED.

**15.02 Apologies:**

There were no apologies

**15.03 Declarations of Interest:**

There were no declarations of interest

**15.04 Culvert**

A Planning application has been submitted. BCC's flood management office is waiting on a report from a geomorphologist but has given verbal assurance that there will be no encroachment onto the fitness equipment or football pitch. Pegging out of the designated area for the bund is due to take place in July and BCC have requested that the football pitch is marked out for this. They are still not sure where the bund will go but its purpose is to act as barrier in case of future flooding.

**15.05 Repairs to goal mouths and damaged area adjacent to the S.W. corner of the Pavilion:**

Buckland Landscapes had quoted to build-up, re-seed and straighten out these areas. The Clerk agreed to action this work and Cllr J Savigar stated that she is keeping a tally of grounds expenditure for future budgeting purposes.

**15.06 Clearance of Groundman's compound and equipment**

Most of the equipment is now redundant except for possible use on the allotments, and possible future use following devolution of grass cutting services, in the event the parish were to take this over e.g. a community enterprise group. Cllr Mooney stated it would not be worth keeping for this reason as equipment could be hired for a day rate as and when necessary. Only the wide rake would be kept for clearing the stream. Mr Loxley suggested using a specialist auction house as they will do everything required for a small fee, thus freeing up the Clerk's time. Cllr J Savigar reported that the Scouts and the Football club had requested use of the shed and compound in future and that an agreement may be reached whereby the 2 groups share the space. Cllr Tubb offered to draw up a simple agreement. There was general agreement that the Scouts would get use of the shed and the gate would be reconfigured to allow the football club ease of access with large equipment. Mr Ronson would be the only other person with access to the compound. Mr Loxley offered to research suitable auction houses whilst Cllrs N and J Savigar would continue working on the inventory.

**15.07 Devolution situation**

Cllr J Savigar explained that for now, grass and hedge-cutting services for Aston Clinton remain with Transport for Bucks but the funding available would gradually decrease over the coming years so there was a need to address this matter and allow for reduced funding availability in the precept for next year. There would be a need to disseminate information as to why this has happened. The following was agreed:

- To hold a meeting with Paul Hodson of BCC to understand the situation better
- To meet with other neighbouring parishes to discover their solution to the problem.
- To discuss with Keith Gray of Aylesbury T.C. how the cluster is working out
- To have the above meetings before the next Grounds Maintenance meeting

**Motion:** To agree to the above course of action to resolve the devolution situation, PROPOSED by Cllr J Savigar, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and AGREED.

**15.08 Update on safety inspection of water area in Park by RoSPA**

Cllr Savigar explained where the pond is located and the fact that there is no signage or fence. Cllr Mooney enquired why it is even there as it is no longer required for its original purpose of pumping water to the Rothschild Mansion. It was agreed to request a safety inspection/assessment from ROSPA.

Cllr Tubb left the meeting at 7.55pm

**15.09 Any Other Business**

The matter of a defibrillator had been suggested as a joint purchase between the P.C. and the school. It was decided to bring this matter to the next Finance and Staff meeting with a view to the school applying to the Gibb Lane fund.

**15.10 Date and time of next meeting.**

Meetings will be approx. every 2-3 months on an as-needs basis dictated by the Facilities Committee agenda.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm

..... Chairman ..... Date