

Minutes of the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee of Aston Clinton Parish Council, held on 18th October 2016 at 10am at the Parish Meeting Room

Present:

Councillors: -

L Ronson – Chairman

L Tubb

C Read

K Loxley (Co-opted member)

Absent: J Eggesfield

Clerk: G Merry

0 members of the public

16.013 Apologies:

There were no apologies

16.014 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations.

16.015 Updates

- i. **Park:** The weeding and feeding of the football pitches is now finished. The Colts had played 2 matches in very wet conditions on the lower pitch and it was agreed that they should probably have cancelled. The football clubs have a duty of care toward the condition of the pitches and incidents such as this will need to be kept note of. Mr Ronson has all but finished the seeding of the damaged park areas but has been hampered by the amount of stone-picking required. The contractors had rough cut the perimeters and Cllr Read stated that the early and late cuts for the season must be 'long' cuts.
- ii. **Bridges:** The committee had checked the bridge adjacent to Old Rectory Farm and assessed that due to over-use it would need some remedial shoring-up. Further erosion may result in the path crumbling away. The clerk advised that approx. £2300 remained in the ad hoc budget and it was agreed this work was necessary and would need to take place before winter. Cllr Read offered to prepare a spec. so that quotes could be obtained. It was also discussed that the supports from the bridge adjacent to the skate park, had been pulled out and thrown in the brook. Repair work for this would need to be costed into next year's budget. The old concrete would need to be dug out and the job may be costly.
- iii. **Drain Repairs:** The clerk requested clarification on what quotes were needed. The assessment received, had identified both the collapsed drain chamber behind the PC office but also that the pipe under the building was gathering water due to insufficient sloping. There would be no point addressing one and not the other and it was decided to cost both into the budget for 2017-18 with a view to having the work done in spring 2017. Replacement/making-good of the block paving would need to be included.
- iv. **Churchyard:** Cllr Read had met the contractor re. the Lime trees and it had been agreed to pollard half this year and the other half in February/March, starting with the tallest.
- v. **Allotments:** The clerk stated that the S106 money assigned to the allotments was not yet available (Chapel Drive - 'Orchard' development), and may be some time. It was agreed that it was desirable to still try to install the new fencing and this year's budget would be monitored in case it was possible to do it before the end of the year. The clerk would also look for other funding sources.

16.016 Footpaths

Mr Loxley had assessed which footpaths needed to be added into the annual grounds contracts: AC 3,7,8,10,28,31,32,34 and 37. These would need a spring cut and a later cut. It was agreed to adopt

