

# Minutes of the Meeting of Aston Clinton Parish Council, held on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014 at 7.30pm at Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room

Present:

Councillors: -

R Maskell (Chairman)

J Hoinville

G Plowman

J Savigar

C Read

T Kirkland

D Wallis

P Crook

Clerks: G Merry, C Jensen (overseeing)

15 members of the public

## 14.203 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs M Watson, M Richards, T Winterbottom

## 14.204 Declarations of Interest:

Declarations of interest were noted from Cllr Maskell with regard to the Turpin Charity of which he is a Trustee

*Due to the confidential nature of item 14.217, the Chairman requested a motion that the public and press be excluded for that section of the meeting. PROPOSED by Cllrs Hoinville and Crook SECONDED by Cllrs Plowman and Savigar and PASSED.*

## 14.205 To Approve the Minutes the Parish Council Meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2014.

Cllr Plowman stated that the Budget Headings he had proposed at that meeting were not included in the minutes but it was important to have that detail. It was discussed whether to include the headings as an annexe to the minutes and this was PROPOSED by Cllr Crook, SECONDED by Cllr Savigar and AGREED. The minutes were then APPROVED with the above proviso, PROPOSED BY Cllr Savigar and SECONDED BY Cllr Read.

## 14.206 Matters Arising

Cllr Savigar reported that pupils of Aston Clinton School had submitted their entries for the street naming competition re. Stablebridge Road. She read out some examples and offered to check for duplication before submitting to AVDC. Cllr Plowman brought up from the previous meeting the matter of PAT testing for the Youth Club. He pointed out that the Parish Council is only responsible for the electrical infrastructure and not for the appliances. It would be necessary to retract offers made to the Youth Club to do PAT testing.

## 14.207 Chairman's Report

- Christmas Float - 21<sup>st</sup> December: We have a street collection permit. Ian Rennie Hospice will provide tabards and collection containers. Cllr Maskell asked for volunteers on Saturday 20th December from 9am to help assemble the sleigh and Cllr Crook volunteered. The event will also need a generator and members were asked to enquire locally to see if one could be borrowed. The event itself will start at 2.30pm with the same route as last year and volunteers were requested to collect donations.
- Re. Neighbourhood Plan, other villages have already started this process and it may be worth getting Jean Fox of Community Impact Bucks to come and give us a talk. Cllr Read stated that he has researched this and feels it would be a vital tool in order to work towards reducing housing developments. It will cost in the region of £10,000 but may well be worth it. He also explained the timescale and process of preparing a Plan. It was then PROPOSED by Cllr Hoinville and SECONDED by Cllr Crook to invite Jean Fox to be consulted on this matter and this was APPROVED.

## 14.208 Clerk's Report

The Clerk stated that her office hours would broadly be Monday & Wednesday mornings, and Tuesday & Thursday afternoons. She then circulated a list of dates of meetings for 2015 to be agreed. It was decided not to hold a regular Council Meeting on May 6<sup>th</sup> as this was the night before the Elections. The Statutory meetings that must be held to establish the new Council will instead be held on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May. All other dates were agreed (Appendix 1)

## 14.209 Correspondence Received

Cllr Paternoster of AVDC had circulated an email regarding what S106 money can be used for and also the New Homes Bonus. Copies were circulated to members. It was decided to place an article in the Parish Magazine to ask villagers what projects they would like to see funded.

- Play Around the Parishes – it was noted that although the cost of this event had increased it was always well-attended and worth supporting for the village. Making a small charge to the public to help offset the cost was discussed but felt to be inappropriate. It was then PROPOSED BY Cllr Read to reduce the number of these events to 3, SECONDED by Cllr Wallis and AGREED.
- A donation of £33 to the British Legion was agreed unanimously.

#### 14.210 Finances

Report and Recommendations of the Finance and Staff Committee: -

- Cllr Plowman reported that he would attend the meeting on 4/12/14 re. Devolution of Services. He also reminded members that credit checks may now be carried out.
- Precept: Cllr Plowman reported that at the Finance and Staff Meeting of 26/11/14, initial precept figures had been reached. He explained his method and how risk factors had been applied. He also announced his intention to hold a public meeting to answer resident's questions. Cllr Crook expressed concern that the size of the meeting could be uncontrollable and also asked how the opinions of the participants would be measured. It was suggested that the meeting be held in Anthony Hall and that a 'post-it note' comment/feedback system be used. The intention to hold the meeting was PROPOSED by Cllr Wallis, SECONDED by Cllr Read and AGREED.
- Cllr Plowman presented the monthly payments schedule (below) and it was PROPOSED By Cllr Plowman that the Clerk make the payments, SECONDED by Cllr Wallis and APPROVED.

PAYMENTS DECEMBER 2015: -

<u>Date Paid</u>	<u>To whom</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>
17 October 2014	Just Host	Weebly Pro	£ 80.72
05 November 2014	British Gas	Electricity for Parish Office	£ 40.00
05 November 2014	Wilko retail	Ink cartridge for printer	£ 18.00
11 November 2014	EON	Street lighting	£ 568.68
21 November 2014	British Gas	Parish Council electricity	£ 25.56
25 November 2014	Royal British Legion	Wreath	£ 17.00
28 November 2014	Gill Merry	November Salary	£ 506.12
	Total Garden Care	Churchyard maintenance - Aug	£ 576.00
	BT	Internet Services	£ 65.76
	Lewis Watson	Litter Picking - November	£ 112.50
	Sign Wizard	Deep Water sign	£ 26.71
	Evetts Agriculture	Mowing with ride-on tractor	£ 168.00
	Bucks CC	Legal Fees - period 7	£ 97.20
	E. Sharp Electrical	Maintenance of street lights - 86a Green End Street	£ 78.71
	E Goldrick	Toilet Maintenance - November	£ 100.00
			£ 2,480.96

*At this point, the matter of the use of Parish Council insurers to defend actions by individuals was raised. Visiting Clerk C Jensen advised that this matter must be discussed in a closed session to protect the Council and that the Council's Standing Orders in this regard could not be over-ridden by the Law. It was decided to leave the matter until the closed session*

#### 14.211 Planning

Cllr Read outlined the method the Committee is now using to report back on local applications and to report back to the full Council.

#### 14.212 Facilities

Cllr Savigar explained the new structure as adopted at the Extraordinary meeting of 19/11/14. Concern was expressed that this would add more delay in decision-making. It was explained that there would be working parties for each facility and these would be able to respond quickly, would not need agendas or Minutes and would then feedback to the main committee.

- i. Park: Cllr Wallis felt it better to await the formulation of the new Facilities Committee before discussing new plans
- ii. Football: The new venture Kiddikicks is to be encouraged. The Clerk asked that she could go ahead and devise and issue permits based on her research into the matter. It was agreed to retain the cost of permits at £150 for 6 months (£25 PCM), when it would be reviewed. The Clerk agreed to review and where necessary re-issue all permits.
- iii. Allotments: There was no report from the Allotments Committee
- iv. The following members volunteered to serve on the new Facilities Committee: Cllrs Kirtland, Hoinville, Savigar, Wallis, Read and all were UNOPPOSED.

*It should be noted that the current sub-committees and working parties still stand until at least the next meeting*

**14.213 Communication and Engagement**

- Current Relationship between ACPC and Turpin’s Charity: Cllr Maskell outlined the history of the Charity and Cllr Plowman asked for these notes to be circulated (Appendix 2). Cllr Read asked who the Trustees were and how the accounts are lodged. Cllr Maskell is Chair of the Trustees. Cllr Plowman questioned why the Parish Council office is listed as the charity’s address by the Charity’s Commission. Cllr Maskell explained that the Parish Council cannot nominate trustees and that he does have his connection with the charity listed on his Parish Council disclosure documents.
- Communications and Engagement Strategy: The Council should consider what it can do to increase and improve communication. Cllr Plowman will be working with the Clerk to establish a Facebook page. It was decided to continue this discussion at the next meeting.

**14.214 Public Participation**

- 1. It was asked whether the Turpin Charity uses the Parish Council office and phone, if they are charged a rental fee whether this can be ploughed back to Parish Council income and how often do they meet. Cllr Wallis felt the Charity should ask permission before holding meetings. A second member of the public felt the Charity should be allowed use of the office as a support for its charitable work.
- 2. A white line has been painted on the road in Rothschild Avenue. Parish Council could throw no light on this and suggested the member of the public contact Bucks County Council or Transport for Bucks.

**14.215 Business for the Next Meeting**

This should include: formulation of Facilities sub-committees and working parties, communication strategy/social media, recommendation of the Precept.

**14.216 The next meeting will be held on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> January at 7.30pm**

*At this point members of the public left the meeting.*

**14.217 Report and Recommendations from the Hub Committee.**

Cllrs were informed that the Hub lease is up for sale and is with an Agent. The working party of Cllr Winterbottom, Cllr Read and the Clerk will continue to meet and determine ways of dealing with this issue.

**Additional Matters re. 14.210**

There followed discussion as to whether the recent libel action taken out by the Peile’s was considered an individual matter for Cllr Maskell or a Parish Council matter, since the Action names only Cllr Maskell. Cllrs Plowman, Wallis and Read felt that Cllr Maskell should not have contacted the Insurance Company. There was some confusion as to how this situation has once again arisen. However, it being already past the maximum time possible for the meeting to last, the matter was not resolved.

There being no further business of the Council, the Chairman closed the meeting at 10.05pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

APPENDIX 1

Dates for Council Meetings 2015: Agreed on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2014: -

Wed Jan 7<sup>th</sup>

Wed Feb 4<sup>th</sup>

Wed March 4<sup>th</sup>

Wed April 1<sup>st</sup>

Wed May 13<sup>th</sup>:

NB. Council elections are on May 7<sup>th</sup> following which we must hold 2 meetings: 1. The Annual Parish Council Meeting (a short meeting - mainly a summary of past events), which must precede 2. Annual Meeting of Aston Clinton Parish Council (an important meeting which amongst other things, must elect the Chair). Both meetings must take place between May 11<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. It has been agreed that we hold both meetings on 13<sup>th</sup> May.

Wed June 3<sup>rd</sup>

Wed July 1<sup>st</sup>

Wed August 5<sup>th</sup>

Wed Sept 2<sup>nd</sup>

Wed Oct 7<sup>th</sup>

Wed Nov 4<sup>th</sup>

Wed Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>

Widow Turpin Charity.

In the will of the Widow Turpin 1736 she bequeathed all of her estate to the poor of Aston Clinton for ever, to be administered by the overseers of the poor. Rent from this land was to be spent twice a year on bread for the poor of the parish which at the time included St Leonards. The church wardens were to keep the accounts.

At the time the village was administered by the Vestry Committee, chaired by the Rector. The committee appointed the church wardens, the overseers of the poor and the parish constables. The parish council did not exist until 1894.

The Turpin Charity continues today and consists of the rector of St Michael and all Angels, a nominated trustee appointed for the Parish of St Leonards and three co-opted trustees residing in the parish of Aston Clinton.

In recent years the parish clerk has looked after the accounts in place of the church wardens.

Until recently the Charity has not had a clerk. The trustees met in the chairman's home and one of them wrote up the Minutes in a small book. The Trust has now appointed a clerk who will administer the Trust.

The estate consists of 7 acres of land in College Road North and allotments in London Road, Aston Clinton.

*Future co-opted trustees shall be persons who through residence occupation employment or otherwise have special knowledge of the area of benefit or who otherwise able by virtue of their personal or professional qualification to make a contribution to the pursuit of the objects or management of the Charity*