

**Minutes of the Meeting of Aston Clinton Parish Council - held on 2nd March
2016 at 7.30pm
at Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room**

Present:

Councillors: -

C Read (Chairman)

S Beaumont

A Mooney

T Comerford

P Hughes

L Ronson

P Wyatt

Clerk: G Merry

6 Members of the public

16.019 Apologies:

Apologies were received from Cllrs Osborn, Tubb, Birch and Eggesfield

16.020 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations

16.021 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 3rd February 2016.

The minutes were PROPOSED by Cllr Ronson, SECONDED by Cllr Comerford, AGREED and SIGNED.

16.022 Public Participation

There were no items

16.023 Clerk's Report

This month sees us coming towards the end of our financial year and planning towards the new one. As we look back, the Parish Council can feel a sense of pride in all that it has achieved in what isn't even yet a full year.

We have launched our NHP which continues to gather pace as we are on the brink of a full public consultation exercise. We have tendered out all our grounds maintenance work, saving money and have had our first year in partnership with the excellent Buckland Landscapes. We have spent more on grounds maintenance but what a difference it has made with all the clearance work along the boundary of the park, in the wooded areas and in the churchyard. We have been able to employ a new staff member who is not fully but largely dedicated to the planning committees and NHP, without whom the NHP would not have been possible.

We have applied for and received almost £128,000 in S106 money from new housing developments in the village. This has enabled us to install a state-of-the-art MUGA, new wooden park signs and a new path allowing all members of the community to access our facilities. We have installed an overspill car park in anticipation of the busy summer months.

We have implemented new policies that have brought us into line with current public sector practise and new accounting systems to keep a tight eye on the finances. We have forged working links with the football club, the youth club and the skate park users. We have had

approval for over £1million in funding for a new community centre. Last but not least, we have tenanted out the Pavilion to the fantastic 'Your Cafe in the Park'. For this council, this is only the start of what is planned. As clerk I would like to congratulate the council on these achievements. I think the electorate can be content that their local taxes are being spent for the good of the village and that every penny is being put to work effectively.

16.024 Finance and Staff Committee

- i. Month-end report Feb 2016: The Clerk presented the month-end accounts. Receipts for February came to £132,826.91 which included £126,834 in S106 money. Payments for the month were £182,863.09 which included £153,640.80 in S106 payments for park projects.
- ii. Status of individual budgets: The Clerk presented the budgeting spreadsheet and reported the projected year-end surplus would be in the region of £36,233
- iii. Payments to be agreed: The list of payments was presented as follows:

MOTION: To agree that the clerk pay the outstanding invoices, PROPOSED by Cllr Beaumont, SECONDED by Cllr Mooney and AGREED.

Outstanding Invoices - end of February 2016 - as at 29/02/16

<u>Date</u>	<u>Company</u>	<u>For</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>VAT</u>	<u>Total</u>
02/11/2	Buckland	Site Maintenance - Oct - invoice	£	£	£
015	Landscapes	only now received	522.50	104.50	627.00
11/01/2	Buckland	Site Maintenance - Dec - invoice	£	£	£
016	Landscapes	only now received	522.50	104.50	627.00
01/02/2	E Sharp		£	£	£
016	Electrical	5 x lamp replacements	392.59	78.53	471.12
03/02/2	Buckland		£	£	£
016	Landscapes	Site Maintenance - Jan	522.50	104.50	627.00
04/02/2	Buckland	Clear Fallen Trees - Green End	£	£	£
016	Landscapes	Street	110.00	22.00	132.00
06/02/2	Shaping		£	£	£
016	Communities	NHP Consultancy	857.80	-	857.80
08/02/2			£	£	£
016	Viking	Office Supplies	39.78	7.96	47.74
10/02/2			£	£	£
016	Sign Wizzard	MUGA Sign	70.08	14.02	84.10
21/02/2			£	£	£
016	H A Phipps	Knee Rail - overspill car park	750.00	-	750.00
24/02/2	Smith of		£	£	£
016	Derby	Bi-annual service - village clock	266.00	53.20	319.20
24/02/2			£	£	£
016	Came and Co	Insurance - War Memorial	121.38	-	121.38
24/02/2	E Sharp		£	£	£
015	Electrical	4 x lamp replacements	310.33	62.06	372.39
26/02/2	E Sharp		£	£	£
016	Electrical	1 x lamp replacements	84.81	16.96	101.77
29/02/2			£	£	£
016	E McGoldrick	Bins, litter pick, public toilet clean	175.00	-	175.00
Totals			£ 4,745.27	£ 568.23	£ 5,313.50

It was questioned why there were long-outstanding invoices to Buckland Landscapes and the clerk reported that they had not been sent before now and that she only pays the invoices she receives. She also agreed to double-check what the monthly account with Buckland will be for the new financial year.

Audit and Year-End Arrangements: The clerk explained the arrangements for the internal and external audit and that the auditor would be coming on May 10th. She also stated that the council tax bills would be going out this month and presented charts showing the breakdown of expenditure 2015-16 as compared to 2014-15 (**appended**).

16.25 Planning Committee: Cllr Read reported as follows from the planning meeting: -

Applications: There had not yet been a planning meeting this month but it would be on Thursday 4th. There were 2 applications to discuss. One was an application by a company to remove the ban on reverse beeping for reversing lorries near to Arla. This had been discussed via email as it had fallen between 2 meetings but would be **objected** to. The remainder would be discussed at the meeting.

Neighbourhood Plan: The timings and wording for the flyer and the questionnaire had been agreed. The questionnaire will go to every household on the electoral roll W/C 21st March, with the flyer distributed the week before. There will be a link to an online questionnaire opening on 14th March and hard copies would go to every business and residence with a 3-week timeframe for responses. It was important to have significant responses for the NHP to have viability.

16.26 Facilities Committee: Cllr Wyatt reported back from the Local Area Forum meeting: -

- A new youth forum had started in Aylesbury – ‘Aylesbury Youth Action’
- Local groups would be petitioning for more school places as there was now a shortfall in provision in Bucks. Cllr Paternoster (AVDC) reported that there was a report available online but places were already over-committed. The new school proposed at Bierton only had land-approval and the developers were only donating the land not the school. The new link road would be going ahead.
- There had been discussion re. the fatality on Tring Hill and it was hoped to install Vehicle Activated Speed (VAS) signs at the location.
- Thames Valley Police reported there had been a spate of thefts from outside buildings/sheds etc. but the police could help with security marking. Wendover station is to be closed as part of cutbacks but there would be no drop in 999 services.
- AVDC had reported that their portion of the council tax would rise by 1.99%. The VALP was planning for 31,000 new homes but from 2033 these would be located more to the north of the district. Cllr Paternoster urged all residents to attend the LAF meetings and put their views forward.

A. Sport and Recreation:

- i. **Playpark:** It had previously been agreed to install 3 new items of equipment that would allow disabled children to play alongside able-bodied. Cllr Wyatt had circulated 3 quotes. The area of wetpour surfacing was discussed and whether the suppliers had included taking away the spoil. Cllr Mooney suggested that this be timed along with the skate park project and the spoil from both be used to shore up along the new pathway. The clerk agreed to coordinate this and any remaining spoil would be removed with the cost negotiated between the 2 suppliers. It was generally agreed that the supplier for the MUGA had given

very satisfactory service and since there was very little difference between the quotes, it was preferable to go with a known brand.

MOTION: To contract Caloo as the favoured supplier for the new play equipment, PROPOSED by Cllr Beaumont, SECONDED by Cllr Ronson and AGREED. Cllr Wyatt agreed to ask for a further discount.

- ii. Astonbury: This matter was deferred until Cllr Tubb is available
- iii. Youth Club: Cllrs Mooney, Tubb and the clerk had met with the YC and ACFC again and had circulated their joint proposal for re-launching the YC as a community venue. Cllr Read questioned why the tennis club's proposal had not been considered and Cllr Mooney responded that the tenancy of the youth club was never on offer. The tenant of the building is the youth club. They will be encouraged to talk to the tennis club but the mechanics of any under-letting would remain with the youth club as principle tenant. The PC would retain the right to veto any sub-tenants. Re. licensing, Cllr Mooney explained that a 'Tenants at Will' agreement will be put in place that will strictly define the terms of any alcohol licensing, with clauses for removal of the license if in breach. One-off events serving alcohol must be agreed in advance by the PC. The working party had been very specific about the terms of any licensing e.g. 5pm-9pm on match days only and that alcohol must not be kept on the premises. The Colts fun-day would proceed as usual. Cllrs Tubb and Comerford would draw up the tenancy agreement at no cost to the PC.

MOTION: To agree that the current joint youth club/football club proposal should proceed as detailed, PROPOSED by Cllr Mooney, SECONDED by Cllr Hughes and AGREED by 4 votes to 3.

- iv. Skate Park: A site meeting had taken place between the supplier Gravity Skateparks, the user-group, the clerk and 4 councillors. Gravity had subsequently submitted a design which the clerk would circulate.

B. Grounds Maintenance:

- i. Park: The pitches would need to be mowed this side of the new financial year, as the length of grass was too long for football. A dry-spell was needed however. Buckland Landscapes would be carrying out remedial work to the top pitch, reducing the level of the damaged area back to solid ground. Dry top soil would then be spread over the area and compacted, with good quality turf laid over the prepared area and rolled leaving level with the existing football pitch. They will also be contracted to make repairs to the Park View road surface.
- ii. Dog Matters: Cllr Comerford had collected 7 dog bins from Wing PC and 2 new installations had been costed-in for next year. Cllr Ronson would report back on feedback from the questionnaire at the April PC. The matter of changing the by-laws was deferred.
- iii. RBL Plaque: The clerk reported that the plinth had been vandalised and the RBL had requested the PC pay for the repairs. The matter was discussed, however it was agreed that the RBL is responsible for the cost of this item.

C. Community Centre:

- i. Cafe: The final lease had been received, circulated to all councillors and was ready for signature.

MOTION: To agree the signing of the lease agreement with 'Your Cafe in the Park', PROPOSED by Cllr Comerford, SECONDED by Cllr Mooney and AGREED. Cllrs Comerford and Read signed the lease.

- ii. New Community Centre: The sub-committee had met and had approx £1.2 million to raise and add to the approx £1 million in principle already raised. They would be exploring the lottery, grants and borrowing options.

Cllr Read opened up the floor for any further public questions: -

- It was questioned whether having a licensed bar in the youth club would be in conflict with the Cafe in the Park. Cllr Mooney stated this was not felt to be the case since the 2 would not be serving alcohol at conflicting times and the FC would be using it only for providing hospitality to teams. The cafe would still be providing after-match food to the FC.

16.027 Date of next Meeting

This will be held on April 6th 2016 at 7.30pm

The meeting closed at 8.50pm.

Signed Date

APPENDIX

ASTON CLINTON PARISH COUNCIL BREAKDOWN OF EXPENDITURE COMPARISON: -

