

Minutes of the Meeting of Aston Clinton Parish Council - held on 5th October
2016 at 7.30pm
at Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room

Present:

Councillors: -

L Tubb – Chairman

T Comerford

M Osborn

L Ronson

R Stewart

J Eggesfield

P Hughes

P Wyatt

C Paternoster - AVDC

Clerks: G Merry (recording), E Barry

4 Members of the public

16.91 Apologies:

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Read and Mason.

16.92 Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Ronson declared an interest in the allotment matter 16.99 1 iii)

16.93 To Approve the Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 7th September 2016.

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

16.94 Public Participation

There were no items

16.95 Council

- i **Councillor Vacancy:** There had been no interest in the vacancy as yet. The clerk advised that the statutory notices had gone up and co-option would be possible after October 20th if no election was called.
- ii **Links to external Organisations:** Cllrs Ronson & Mason had attended the LAF and Cllr Mason would be asked to forward the notes from this. Re. Unitary Status, Cllr Tubb reported that Bucks CC's business case had been received and appeared to be a fait accompli. Whilst savings would be made from economies of scale, more services would be devolved to the parish councils, seemingly without any more money being allocated. Cllr Paternoster added that AVDC are preparing their own proposal along with the other 3 Bucks districts. However, any changes would likely be delayed now that central government was occupied with Brexit.
- iii **Anthony Hall:** The Anthony Hall committee had asked that a parish councillor join them and Cllr Tubb had agreed. The next meeting will be 23/11 and the Facilities meeting will be moved to 6.30pm to accommodate both.

16.96 Clerk's Report

Congratulations to the NHP steering committee on producing an excellent traffic report and design for the village and also for hosting 2 public consultation events. This plan could potentially help the village and the ideas within it must now come from the residents and not from the parish council. The effectiveness of NH Plans was evidenced last week when Great Horwood's NHP was used as leverage by the Secretary of State to turn down an appeal by a developer. The proposed development ran contrary to their Plan, and on that basis the

appeal was turned down. We can still protect the green areas in the village, such as Green Park, the fields around the airfield and the airfield itself.

I am bringing a late item to the agenda at this point which we are not supposed to do but it has been very last minute and it is quite important. We have been asked to support the fundraising for Ollie Gardner, a young boy in the village who needs to get to Austria for life saving cancer treatment. We are not allowed to donate to individuals but the childminders group in the village have come up with a proposal. They will host a holiday camp over half-term in the youth club, who are donating the Hall for free. We would like to subsidise the camp by supporting each child to attend using our S137 power which allows £7.42 per child. We could therefore possibly raise £200-£300 pounds this way and the childminders will then pass that on to Ollie's fund. Time is very short to raise the money so this is not a tabled motion. If someone could propose this, we will have fulfilled our legal obligations:

MOTION: Cllr Ronson **PROPOSED** that the council support the planned event up to £250 using the S137 calculation per participant. This was **SECONDED** by Cllr Wyatt and **AGREED** unanimously.

16.97 Finance and Staff Committee

- i **Financial Situation Sept '16:** The clerk had circulated the spreadsheets and handed-out hard copies. Receipts for quarter stood at £274,756 (137% of total budget) which included the second payment of the precept. Payments stood at £117,135 (66% of total budget). There were no questions on the accounts
- ii **Invoices for Approval:** The clerk circulated the O/S invoices as follows:

Date	Company	For	Amount	Vat	Total
			£		£
18/07/2016	Gravity Engineering	Skate Ramp	25,000.00	£ 5,000.00	30,000.00
01/09/2016	T Clubb	Type 1 Stone for Bridge area	214.00	42.80	256.80
02/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	August site maintenance	1,176.08	235.22	1,411.30
03/09/2016	E Sharp Electrical	Work in Churchill Hall	195.20	39.04	234.24
05/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Installation of new picnic table top	40.00	8.00	48.00
05/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Footpath AC37 by school	100.00	20.00	120.00
05/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Branch clearance - churchyard	100.00	20.00	120.00
05/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Removal of dangerous branch	£	£	£
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	AC34 (London Rd)	200.00	40.00	240.00
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Cut back overhangs - AC6 - Chapel Drive	110.00	22.00	132.00
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Bin installation Upper Icknield	£	£	£
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Look out lay-by	130.00	26.00	156.00
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Pruning - fountain/trough area	£	£	£
06/09/2016	Buckland Landscapes	Pruning - fountain/trough area	110.00	22.00	132.00
06/09/2016	NBB Recycled	Replacement table top	£	£	£

2016	Furniture		122.00	22.00	144.00
06/09/			£	£	£
2016	Viking	printer ink	71.86	14.37	86.23
07/09/			£	£	£
2016	Witney Plant Hire	Machine rentals 30/8 - 7/9	1,046.24	166.91	1,213.15
13/09/			£	£	£
2016	E Sharp Electrical	Long plough lamp replacement	86.81	17.36	104.17
14/09/		Fire Inspection Fire	£	£	£
2016	Fire FM	extinguishers - CAFE	54.50	10.90	65.40
14/09/		Fire Inspection Fire	£	£	£
2016	Fire FM	extinguishers - PC office and YC	80.00	16.00	96.00
14/09/			£	£	£
2016	Fire FM	Fire Risk Assessment PC and YC	250.00	50.00	300.00
14/09/			£	£	£
2016	Fire FM	Fire Risk Assessment cafe	250.00	50.00	300.00
22/09/	R Wright and Son	Removal of effluent from pump	£		£
2016	Waste Services	chamber	130.00		130.00
25/09/			£		£
2016	Eamonn McGoldrick	Bins and toilet cleans - Sept	245.00		245.00
27/09/			£	£	£
2016	Buckland Landscapes	Installation of new bike racks	280.00	56.00	336.00
28/09/			£	£	£
2016	Inside Out property	Bin Store construction	1,500.00	-	1,500.00
30/09/			£	£	£
2016	The Odd Job man	Repair to A Frame climber	95.00	19.00	114.00
30/09/			£	£	£
2016	BAS associates	Payroll Oct-Dec 16	90.00	18.00	108.00

The invoice from Gravity skateparks had not been paid, pending remedial work to rectify pooling in the base section. It had been agreed to pay £20,000 – 2/3 of the bill, and keep back the remaining £10,000 to be paid on satisfactory completion of the remedial work.

MOTION: To approve the payment of the invoices, PROPOSED by Cllr Ronson, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and APPROVED.

- iii **Budgets:** All budgets were on track for this year. Re. next year, the clerk would be devising the budget soon and asked that's Cllrs decide their priorities, preferably with approx. costings. Cllr Tubb asked that each committee discuss these at the next available meeting. The clerk was in the process of streamlining the way the budgets are broken down in the accounts.
- iv **Level of Financial Reserve:** Cllr Hughes reported that this matter had been discussed by the F&S committee. The external auditor's recommendation had been to hold reserves equivalent to at least 25% of precept. The BALC/NALC recommendation was 50% which the committee had felt to be too high. Cllr Hughes pointed out that there are known cases of other councils locally becoming non-functioning, or coming close to bankruptcy and their service delivery needed to be protected. The F&S committee had agreed a level of 20-25% of precept, which had been held to for the last 2 years. Cllr Tubb felt this was too high and preferred a maximum of 20%. Cllrs Hughes and Osborn stated that anything above or below the 20-25% would trigger an enquiry by the council. On this basis Cllr Hughes PROPOSED as follows:

MOTION: to agree to set the level of reserve at a minimum of 20% and maximum of 25% of precept, SECONDED by Cllr Ronson and AGREED.

- v **Insurance:** Cllr Hughes reported that the council's broker had obtained 3 quotes for the council's insurance: Aviva £1617.88, Hiscox £2628.79 and Ecclesiastical £2887.68. The F&S committee had checked all the covers and recommended renewing with Aviva.

MOTION: To agree to renew the insurance with Aviva, PROPOSED by Cllr Hughes, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and AGREED.

16.98 Planning Committee: Cllr Comerford reported from the last planning meeting as follows: -

- i **Small Applications:** 16/02995/APP: Land opposite Flora Drive, Stablebridge Road. This had been objected to, on the grounds of intrusion into open countryside but the committee had supported the design of the planned house.
Large Applications: 16/02640/APP: The amendment to the plot behind the Rothschild Arms had been objected to on the grounds of not needing any larger houses. 16/02856/ADP and 16/02858/ADP: Land East of College Road North/Industrial warehousing – this had not been objected to although it was requested the trees planted be of a type that will mature to at least 6-7m to protect views and reduce noise levels. 16/02968/ADP: Land north of Brook Farm/91 dwellings. The committee would be meeting the developer to address this matter.
- ii **NHP:** The assistant clerk thanked all councillors on behalf of Cllr Read, for running the recent public consultation event at the Anthony Hall and in particular, Cllr Mason for preparing the display materials. The NHP committee will collate and analyse the public responses in order to move towards final recommendations and ultimately the referendum.
- iii **Traffic Survey:** The assistant clerk reported that councillors had met with Bucks Highways Officers who had agreed the need for traffic mitigation measures in the village. S106 contributions from developers would be sought to implement a traffic plan. Designs had been commissioned and may now be modified in response to public comments, before submitting to TfB for possible implementation. The committee was asked to consider the need for further budgetary requirements in this matter.

16.99 Facilities Committee: Cllr Wyatt was the new chairman of the Facilities Committee

1. Grounds Maintenance:

- i **ITT:** Cllr Ronson had started working on the Invitation to Tender for the new contract. Buckland Landscapes were assisting in advising what ad hoc work could be brought into the annual contract. The clerk advised this may represent a conflict of interest. However, councillors disagreed as they would be advising only on the scope of the contract, not the pricing.
- ii **Allotments:** Cllr Ronson reported that parish councils must provide allotments and the annual rent was due for a review. She felt that the allotment tenants receive very little in return for their rent and pay comparatively more than the Bowls and Tennis Clubs, with whom the council is locked into a long-term, rent agreements. The matter was discussed and it was agreed not to raise the rent from the current £11 per year.

MOTION: To retain the allotment rent at £11 per year, PROPOSED by Cllr Hughes, SECONDED by Cllr Stewart and AGREED.

- iii **School Clock:** Although a hydraulic company had advised that the clock could be removed with a cherry picker, and had quoted a good price, it transpired after a site visit that this would not after all, be possible. Scaffolding was the only safe solution and the clerk was obtaining prices. It was hoped the job could still be carried out over half term and that the grant from Lord Rothschild would cover the added cost.

- iv **Widening the Driveway:** The clerk reminded council that the S106 money from the Woodgate House development was available and asked whether the work should now go ahead. It was suggested that since this money was allocated, there had been a significant increase in use of the park and that parking was now an issue that needed to be addressed first. The clerk agreed to ask the S106 officer if the wording could be broadened to encompass parking, access, pathways, possible speed bumps etc. The matter of widening the driveway would be deferred for the time being.

2. Sport and Recreation:

- i **Football:** A working party had met with the football club and it had been decided as follows: The FC would be permitted to store bottled beer and cans in the Churchill Hall, in their lockable cupboard; They would be permitted to install pitch sockets for the placement of goals and rope markers, providing they could be capped and locked; The dates on the annual permit would be amended so that the closed period for pitch recovery would be from mid-May to the first week in July. The Colts had been asked to restore the lower pitch to full length and the clerk would investigate the removability of racks in the compound.
- ii **Fire Assessments:** Both fire assessments and fire extinguisher checking had been carried out and there were a number of recommendations. Council advised the clerk that it was the Cafe's responsibility to provide smoke/fire alarm and there would be no point installing a fire alarm system since the building was to be demolished in the near future. The Cafe were also responsible for replacing fire extinguishers and complying with health and safety recommendations e.g. not overloading sockets in the kitchen.
- iii **Events:**
 - **Remembrance Sunday (13/11/16):** The clerk needed 2 more marshals for the closed roads. However, with councillors needing to be at the ceremony there were no volunteers for this at the moment.
 - **Santa Float(18/12/16):** It had been decided against doing 2 nights but to extend the one night with a longer route, culminating in an event at the Café in the Park. Cllrs Ronson & Tubb would work on a revised route and the clerk would contact Mr Lane re. the float.
 - **Astonbury (19/8/17):** The Horticultural show was now confirmed as happening during the day with the music event starting late afternoon/evening. Cllr Wyatt recommended a band who would play in exchange for a donation to charity.

16.100 Community Centre:

Cllr Comerford reported that Cllrs Mason and Stewart had now joined the committee. He had been discussing suitable dates with the café, to hold an exhibition of the plans/designs. The funding shortfall would likely be made up from a PWLB loan and the hoped-for start date was Spring 2017

Comments from the public: -

Cllr Paternoster advised applying to the New Homes Bonus for funding for the traffic mitigation scheme. She would forward details of a village in Aylesbury Vale who had successfully done this.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 2nd November 2016 at 7.30pm

Signed Date