

Minutes of the Meeting of Aston Clinton Parish Council - held on 1st March  
2017 at 7.30pm  
at Aston Clinton Parish Meeting Room

**Present:**

Councillors: -

L Tubb – Chairman

T Comerford

C Read

P Wyatt

P Hughes

R Stewart

M Osborn

L Ronson

M Mason

Clerks: G Merry (recording), E Barry

7 Members of the public

**17.027 Apologies:**

Apologies were received from Cllr Eggesfield

**17.028 Declarations of Interest:**

Cllr Wyatt declared an interest in 17.036 ii) and advised he would not vote.

**17.029 To Approve the Minutes of the Extraordinary meeting held on February 1st 2017**

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

**17.029 Public Participation**

- i The P.C. was congratulated on its record in engaging with local groups and thanked for its support of the new lunch club. An A-frame type sign was requested for the lunch club and Cllr Mason offered to look into this.
- ii It was reported that the road surface at Aylesbury Road past the garage was covered in mud. The clerk offered to report this to TfB and the Local Area Technician.
- iii It was also reported that there had been no yellow planning notice displayed for 'The Chimneys' yet planning permission appeared to have been granted. Cllr Read confirmed that the P.C. had not received notification either.

**17.030 Council**

- i **Councillor Vacancy:** An application had been received and Cllr Tubb along with the clerk would be arranging to meet with the applicant shortly.
- ii **Links to external Organisations: L.A.F.:** Cllr Mason reported as follows:
  - A red road surface at Tring Hill had been installed but the new V.A.S. sign was no longer to be speed-activated and would only function as a warning of the junction. The P.C. had not been informed about either. Street lights at 'Woodlands' roundabout had failed but were now working again and the Bucks CC lights in the village were being worked on. The P.C. had not been informed of this either, so it was not clear what was being worked on.
  - Projects on the TfB Capital Investment Programme had been announced but none were in Aston Clinton despite the clerk applying for the corner of Lower Icknield/London Road. The pot holes were reported to be in-hand.
  - TfB has a new pot hole reporting system. However, there were I.T. issues with it which should be addressed by a back-up phone contact.
  - T.V.P. had made a presentation and would be undergoing restructuring meaning there would be just one neighbourhood officer for Aston Clinton. The clerk offered to find out when the police clinics were held at Wendover Library.

- A youth group from Aylesbury had presented with 3 young people from Aston Clinton. The clerk would follow this up.
- RAF Halton had reported that the site is planned to be sold off by 2022 with most personnel probably moving to Cranwell. Cllr Mason had asked for ACPC to be kept informed.
- AVDC had spoken re. Unitary authority status, the Vale lottery and the planned increase in council tax.
- The clerk was asked to find out what the L.A.F. budget is for local projects and the application deadline.

### **17.031 Clerk's Report**

2 letters of thanks had been received: from the Scouts, re. the Santa donation and from the Guides re. the S137 donation. The Parish council is a month away from the end of the financial year and it's a good time to look back on that has been achieved this past year. At the end of 2015, the Council identified the following for the year ahead and all have been implemented or are underway (N.B. pie chart appended): -

- To continue to develop and finalise a Neighbourhood Plan for the village
- To begin replacing some of the older, poorly maintained street lights with LED lights
- To increase the dog waste bins in the village
- To install new integrated play equipment for children of differing abilities
- To install markings for the new M.U.G.A.
- To re-launch the Youth Club as a new Community venue
- To install new picnic benches, bike racks and signs in the park
- To Install 2 new defibrillators for the village
- To Install new skate ramps in the skate park
- To continue working with contractors for devolved services (village verges)
- To support community events such as Play Around the Parishes and Santa's Float.

In addition to continued maintenance of the grass, hedges and trees in the park, churchyard & public footpaths, paid for street lighting, maintenance of assets and 2 members of staff. For 2017-18 the priorities have been identified as: -

- Finalising and submission of the Neighbourhood Plan
- Work to renovate the bridges in the Park
- Continued attention to access, including more disabled parking in the Park
- Installation of a new All Weather football pitch
- Submission of Planning Application for a new Community Centre
- Continued LED replacement for village lighting
- Continued support towards a traffic mitigation scheme
- Hosting 'Astonbury' – a Village Festival (August 19<sup>th</sup> 2017)
- Continued maintenance of park, churchyard, public footpaths and village verges.

Councillors and clerks work hard to implement these plans. We are a very reactive parish council and are always open to suggestions and comments.

### **17.032 Finance and Staff Committee**

- i **Financial Situation Feb '17:** The Clerk presented the month-end accounts for February. These showed a total income for the year to-date as £286,629 and the total expenditure as

£192,642. Cllr Hughes reported from the Finance and Staff committee that budgets were on track and asked for questions, of which there were none.

ii **Payments to be agreed:** The clerk had circulated the list of outstanding invoices as follows:

**Outstanding Invoices to February 28th 2017**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Amount £</b>	<b>Vat £</b>	<b>Total £</b>	
18/07/2016	Gravity Engineering	Skate Ramp	8000?	2000?	10000.00	Bal
24/01/2017	Jennifer Lampert Associates	Consultancy and meetings NHP	492.10	98.42	590.52	
03/02/2017	Buckland Landscapes	January Site Maintenance	1176.08	235.22	1411.30	
06/02/2017	Viking	Stationery	26.78	5.36	32.14	
06/02/2017	e Sharp Electrical	Weston Road x 3	256.88	51.37	308.25	
09/02/2017	e Sharp Electrical	Beechwood, Long Plough	100.51	20.10	120.61	
15/02/2017	e Sharp Electrical	Hedley Close	59.34	11.87	71.21	
22/02/2017	Tanswell technology	Laptop, Monthly Office 365, consultant time	485.30	97.06	582.36	
25/02/2017	Erimax Ltd	NHP Consultation and meeting	1060.00	212.00	1272.00	
28/02/2017	E McGoldrick	Bins and Toilet cleans - Feb	175.00	0.00	175.00	
27/02/2017	K Loxley	Reimbursement video transposing	15.00	0.00	15.00	
27/02/2017	Your Café in the Park	Refreshments 4-hour NHP meeting	16.00	0.00	16.00	
27/02/2017	Your Café in the Park	Café Toilet clean - 8 weeks	200.00	0.00	200.00	

The outstanding balance to Gravity skateparks would continue to be withheld.

**MOTION:** To agree the clerk can pay the outstanding invoices, PROPOSED by Cllr Hughes, SECONDED by Cllr Tubb and APPROVED.

**17.021 Planning Committee:** Cllr Read reported from the last planning meeting as follows: -

i **Small Applications:** -

- 16/00052/REF: Old Rectory Farm: now approved by the planning authority on appeal
- 17/00182/AGN: Merrymead Farm College Road North: Supported but turned down by the planning authority
- 17/00270/ATP: 95 Aylesbury Road, – application to fell horse chestnut – Objected

**Large Applications:** -

- 16/02968/ADP: Land North of Brook Farm, Brook Street: Previously objected but vote was to not to call this back to committee.
- 16/04201/AOP: 138-142 London Road: Objected to on grounds of insufficient parking and being too close to a junction.
- 16/04564/ADP: 108 Weston Road/Longhorn Farm: Objected on grounds of inadequate traffic modelling, 2.5 storey buildings, layout. Landscaping and scale. Cllr Read advised this application is now in reserved matters so this was the time to object.
- 16/02741/ADP: Arla/north of the A41 – new sheds: No objection

ii. **NHP:** Cllr Tubb reported that the draft is finished. The committee is working with a new consultant to write the policies section, prior to pre-submission, and also with a landscape

expert re. preservation of open spaces. There will be a meeting with AVDC w/c 6<sup>th</sup> March to discuss the details. The criteria for NHPs are being tightened up. However, one of the new consultants is an inspector and is giving invaluable advice. Cllr Paternoster asked whether the Plan will include any allocations and Cllr Read responded there will be no large allocations but infill only within existing settlements. He also confirmed that in the design policy section there will be recommended height restrictions.

#### **17.34 Facilities Committee:**

Cllr Read reported from the recent Facilities committee meeting: The 3 bridges in the Park will be repaired starting with the 'beach' bridge which is currently being quoted on. The approach to the bridge next to Old Rectory Farm will be excavated, filled with type 1 and tamped. Cllr Read & Mr Ronson will carry out this work. The Churchill Hall roof will be patched for the time being and quotes will be obtained for re-routing the drain around the parish office. Repairs to the football pitch will be incorporated into the spec for the new All Weather Pitch and the moles in the park will be eradicated. The park by-laws are currently being re-submitted and 3 new dog bins will be installed in the village. It was decided to defer the discussion on possible uses for S106 money, until the Facilities meeting.

#### **17.35 Grounds Maintenance:**

- i **Update:** This had been covered elsewhere in the meeting.
- ii **Christmas Tree Field:** There had been no response to the formal letter sent to the tenant requesting removal of the signs. Furthermore, sleepers with dangerous spikes had appeared outside the field. It was discussed and agreed to engage a security company to remove both.

**MOTION:** To agree to engage a private security company to remove the unauthorised signs, PROPOSED by Cllr Hughes SECONDED by Cllr Wyatt and AGREED.

#### **17.36 Sport and Recreation:**

- i **Update:** Cllr Tubb reported on the skate ramp that the users were not happy with the quality of the build and the clerk would be obtaining statements to this effect. Re. the Bye-laws, it had been agreed to ban drones flying within the Park, not just taking off and landing, and a re-write of the bye-laws to this effect had been agreed.
- ii **Football:** Cllr Wyatt had obtained 3 quotes for the agreed new All Weather Pitch and a summary of these had been circulated. The football club had expressed their support for the project. Cllr Osborn had reviewed the quotes and expressed concern that the cost of the 'shock pad' had not been included, due to the companies needing to lift the current one first before assessing what was needed. It was agreed that the cost of this, based on different scenarios would need to be ascertained before choosing a supplier. For this reason, it was agreed to defer the **MOTION** and the matter would be discussed at the next Facilities meeting. Cllr Wyatt confirmed that the kick boards would not be replaced as the chain link was substantial enough to withstand impact and it was better to have fully open sides. It was agreed not to have benches as these would obstruct play but Council liked the idea of recessed goals as these would give more playing space. Further discussion would take place at the Facilities meeting and Cllr Wyatt agreed to ask all suppliers for 'grass' samples.

#### **17.37 Community Centre:**

Cllr Comerford reported there had only been 18 responses to the questionnaire and it would remain live until the planning application went in. There had been some interesting suggestions which would be passed on to the architect. Cllr Ronson asked whether the designs were now set in stone and Cllr Comerford stated that the basic content is unlikely to change, although the internal layout may be adjusted. Final designs would in any case be agreed by the full PC. Cllr Tubb agreed to follow-up with AVDC, whether the '5-projects rule' for S106 money could be waived. However, Cllr Paternoster confirmed this was Government not AVDC Policy.

Cllr Tubb invited further public comment: -

- Shock was expressed at only one police officer to allocated to the village.
- Cllr Paternoster agreed to look at the 5 x S106 rule but in the meantime urged the PC to respond to this effect to the Government Housing White Paper published 7/2/17,
- It was suggested placing the signs and sleepers from the 'Christmas Tree Field' back into the field. Council responded that this would be trespass and the PC must operate within the law.

**17.38 Date of next meeting:** 5<sup>th</sup> April 2017 at 7.30pm

Signed ..... Date .....

**APPENDIX**

**WHERE THE MONEY WENT 2016-17 (AS AT 28/2/17)**

