

ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs G Taylor, Timbercroft, Welsh Road, Aston Le Walls, Northants, NN11 6UD

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (virtual) of ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL held on Thursday 11th March 2021 at 7:30pm via the platform Zoom due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Attendees: Charles Lees (CL) – Chairman, Mark Hazelton (MH), Julie Challenor (JC), Dick Stephen (DS), W Goffe Taylor (WGT), Tom Boston (TB), John Funnell (JF) and Gill Taylor (Clerk)

1. Apologies - None
2. Declaration of Interests - None
3. Minutes – Minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on 11th February 2021 were signed as a correct record of proceedings, having been circulated to Councillors.
4. Matters arising from Minutes / Correspondence
No matters arising, all topics will be dealt with within the agenda.
All correspondence received electronically had been circulated.
5. Financial Matters

i) *Balances:-*

Instant Saving Account	£7,658.95
Treasurers Account	£367.33
War Memorial Account	£459.87

ii) *Invoices Approved for Payment:-*

1382	Parish Clerk's Salary – final quarter 2020/21	£665.46
1383	Parish Council Expenses	£41.20
1384	Microsoft Office Subscription renewal	£59.99


Clerk reported no invoice had been received yet from EON in respect of the new LED street lamps recently installed, it was understood there were two remaining to be supplied as ordered. **JC** was asked to chase up Eon regarding these outstanding lamps.

Clerk reported that Bank Mandates had been passed to CL to organise signatories for the bank accounts from April onwards.

6. Parish Clerk Recruitment

CL reported that **JC** was willing to undertake the role of Acting Parish Clerk for the next twelve months while recruitment for a permanent clerk was continued.

The Parish Council therefore unanimously resolved to create an unpaid post of Acting Clerk and appoint a member of the Council to do it.


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CL proposed a vote of thanks to **GT** for her work over many years and **JC** for volunteering to undertake the role on a temporary basis, this was unanimously supported.

7. Local and Parish Elections – response to promotional advertising for new Councillors

CL reported that following notices on its website, village noticeboard and social media, 3 residents had expressed an interest in standing for election.

Clerk reported that nomination packs had been received this week and would be available via CL or Clerk to anyone interested in standing for election, to be completed & submitted to SNC by the deadline on 8th April 2021.

8. Annual Parish (Open) Meeting – Thursday 8th April 2021

Following a difficult year with coronavirus restrictions, it was necessary to hold a virtual meeting again this year, brief reports to be submitted electronically and all published on the pc website. CL would contact Ian Morris (NCC) and Rosie Herring (SNC) for brief updates and Clerk would invite village organisations to submit their reports.

9. a) HS2 Road Safety Fund – announcement & reaction

Reactions on local social media were positive. The promise had been to deliver it this year, i.e. 2021/2022 financial year. A few minor tweaks were likely to be made. HS2 traffic is using Welsh Road daily and the volume of traffic has increased significantly over recent months. This was likely to continue until they had completed their haul route which needed to include construction of a bridge over Highfurlong Brook. CL reported that he understood HS2 would be sending a letter to residents advising when the Appletree Road will be closed, this was likely to be from April 2021 for approx. three years.

b) New LED Street Lighting – Street Lamps 9 & 12

JC reported that despite several calls to David Mooney at EON to chase progress on installing these outstanding lamps, she had been unable to speak to him for an explanation for the delay. JC would continue to chase.

CL advised that to his knowledge there had been no complaints or comment about the new LED street lights.

c) Commemorative Bench – Progress Report

JC reported she had made contact with the firm to check progress, to see a mock up of the plaque and possible delivery date. The company advised it had experienced some difficulty with production due to covid-19. JC will monitor the situation and report back.


10. Millennium Garden Ownership

The Millennium Garden was in need of some maintenance and improvement. However, ALW Parish Council does not own the land and following various searches on Land Registry etc. it had been unable to ascertain or contact the registered owners. In the circumstances, it did not feel confident to spend funds from the Precept without permission or certainty of ownership.

It was unanimously agreed that more research will be undertaken prior to a decision as to future projects on the green space. In the meantime, it will continue to be included in the village grasscutting schedule and appropriate pruning of shrubs can take place to keep it tidy.

11. Fly Tipping

Some fly tipping within the parish had been reported on social media. New regulations now meant that Councils were responsible for clearing and disposing of fly tipping, not landowners.


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Residents should be encouraged to report this disgusting habit via street doctor. Various residents undertake voluntary litter picking, which is much appreciated by the Parish Council.

12. Mounting Stone A361

The mounting stone on the A361 is actually situated in Chipping Warden Parish. **CL** has spoken to Nigel Galletly (**NG**), Chairman of Chipping Warden PC and made him aware of the fact that it has been moved for safe keeping as it was so close to the carriageway following the recent changes to the A361 junction. **NG** confirmed he was not aware of the situation, will investigate and it would be discussed at the next CWPC meeting.

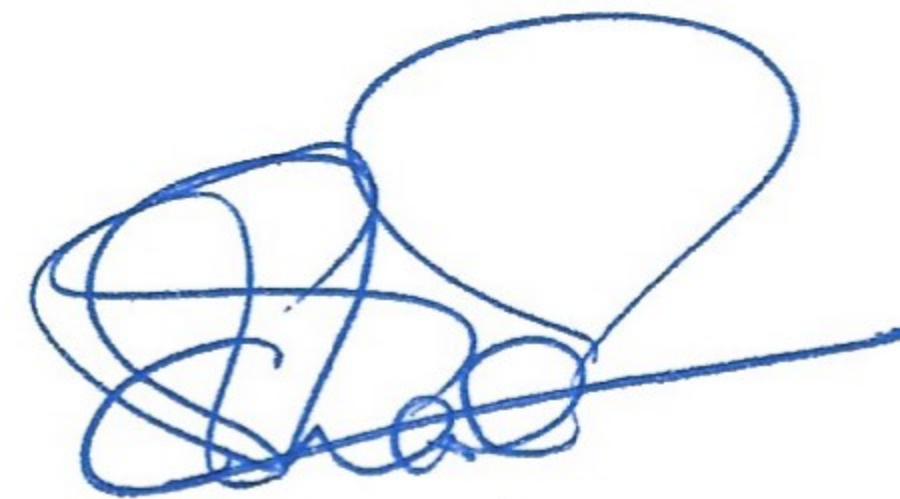
ALWPC will follow up his response to reassure the residents who had recently expressed their concerns about its removal via social media.

13. Any Other Business

An email from Clerk of Boddington Parish Council had been received asking for advice from ALWPC on applying for traffic calming measures in Lower Boddington. It was agreed that **CL** will respond.

14. Date of Next Meeting –Thursday 8th April 2021 at 7.30pm – Annual Parish (Open) Meeting

The Meeting closed at approximately 8.40 pm.



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