
ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Debra Kirton, New House, Main Street, Aston Le Walls, Northants, NN11 6UF
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Minutes of the MEETING of **ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL** held on Thursday 11th July 2024 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting opened at 7:32pm

Attendees: Cllr. Matt Hawkins **(MH)** Chair, Cllr. Rhiannon Harris **(RH)** Vice Chair, Cllr. Tom Boston **(TB)**, Cllr. John Funnell **(JF)**, Cllr. Grahame Barnes Moss **(GB)**, Cllr. Richard Burgess **(RB)**, Cllr. Lee Lewis **(LL)**, Debra Kirton **(DK)** Clerk

Others: Mr. Charles Lees

1. Apologies - None
2. Declaration of Interest – None
3. The minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th June 2024 have been approved as a true record.
 - (a) There are no matters arising from the previous meeting held on 13th June 2024.
 - (b) Actions arising from the previous meeting held on 13th June 2024.

Actions	Owner	Status
Onboard meeting with Parish Online arranged for 15 th July	Clerk	Completed
No objections to planning application Budds Farm. WNC informed	Clerk	Completed
Contact TWM to buy back the old VAS unit, but due to it's age, they declined. The Clerk contacted Boddington Parish Council who have requested more information, and it was agreed Mr. Charles Lees would follow the enquiry.	Clerk	Pending
Tree causing a blind spot has been looked at and currently no concerns	Cllr. MH	Completed
Dog Fouling Sign	Cllr. LL	Pending
Japanese Knotweed reported on FixMyStreet	Clerk	Completed
Removal of logs from Pocket Park	Cllr. MH	Pending

4. Correspondence to include Website and IT (RH) – The website is currently up to date, and an onboarding session with Parish Online has been arranged for Monday 15th July. The main questions to address during this session will focus on how to use the new website, including loading pictures and links. Should we decide to place an order, we need to consider several factors: the GOV.UK domain name, which we already possess; the colour scheme of the website, currently green, with Cllr. Harris exploring other options; and the header image, which is presently the Manor House, the Councillors agreed to keep this unchanged. All Councillors have agreed to have their photos and Council email addresses on the website. It

was also agreed that Cllr. Harris, who is leading the project, would report back to the Chair (MH) and Clerk (DK).

5. Financial Matter: Balances.
Invoices paid and invoices presented for approval of payment.

(a) Balances @ 11th July 2024

Business Instant Account	£14,995.94
Treasurers Account	£ 207.88
TOTAL	£15,203.82
War Memorial Account	£ 467.60

(b) Receipts / Payments / Invoices Approved from 14th June – 11th July 2024

Receipt/Payment	Details	Amount (Inc VAT)	Date Paid
Payment BACS	ROSPA – Play Safe Pocket Park Inspection	93.60	19.06.24
Payment BACS	Aston Le Walls Village Hall – Room Hire	150.00	19.06.24
Payment BACS	Clerk PAYE – Month 3	266.72	28.06.24
Receipt	Interest (Gross) Business Bank Account	15.62	09.07.24
Receipt	Interest (Gross) War Memorial Account	0.48	09.07.24

Authorisation of expenditure

Invoice	Description	Amount	Approved
N.Power Business Solutions	Street Lighting 01.04.24 – 30.06.24	171.75	Yes

6. Village Maintenance

- a. Pocket Park (RB) – The Park is fine, and there are ongoing discussions concerning tree management and clearing the logs from the willow tree.
- b. Millennium Gardens (All) – No concerns.
- c. Streetlighting (LL) – All working. Cllr. (LL) enquired about the best way to speak to the resident DF to discuss erecting the dog fouling sign. It was decided that the Clerk (DK) would make initial introductions.
- d. Defibrillator (GB) – All in working order. Cllr. (GB) will update the Circuit, National Defibrillator Network.
- e. Public Footpaths & Rights of Way (GB) – The footpaths are OK, though there are small amounts of litter scattered around.
- f. Trees and General Parish Environment (TB) – Cllr. (MH) Chair met with Haidee Williams EKFB and Hadleigh Moorhouse from H W Martin Fencing and Forestry Ltd to walk through Pocket Park and discuss the condition of the woodland area. After inspecting the park thoroughly, they found no immediate concerns following the felling of the willow tree. The Sycamore trees, all between 20-30 years old, are considered young, and there is some dieback on the Ash trees. If contracted, they would use GPS to plot the area and develop a woodland management plan. Haidee Williams EKFB requested confirmation of the boundary area. Additionally, Cllr. (MH) Chair informed the Council that the

responsibility for the Embankment and Bridge is now with the Historic Railways Estate National Highways instead of Network Rail.

Cllr. (MH) Chair, informed the Council that St. Mary's School had a tree inspection, which reported that an Ash tree on the school's boundary has large branches overhanging into the school playground that will need cutting back. Cllr. (MH) Chair, will contact Louise School Bursar and Hadleigh Moorhouse H W Marting Fencing and Forestry Ltd.

Mr. Charles Lees asked the question, could the willow logs be left in Pocket Park. It was agreed that as the logs were sprouting it would be better for them to be removed to prevent tree regeneration. Cllr. (TB) will contact NT and discuss a plan to remove the logs from Pocket Park.

g. Winter Maintenance (JF) – No concerns

7. General Update

a. Welsh Road – There are potholes on the road by the chicains close to the turning into Butlers Close. Clerk to report on FixMyStreet.

b. HS2 Liaison, Highways and Road Safety Update – A resident raised concerns about the speed of traffic along the Welsh Road. Cllr. (MH) Chair will contact the resident and share the latest report from the mobile VAS Unit.

c. Neighbourhood Watch – PC Mel Carter will be leaving our area in September to work in Towcester and will be replaced by PC 1300 Matt O'Brien.

8. Any Other Business.

A local resident has brought to the attention of the Parish Council an Infrared Monitor loaning scheme from Boddington Parish Council that is used to detect cold areas of your home to help with energy costs. Cllr. (MH) Chair has asked for the information to go onto the Parish website and it will be advertised in the next edition of the Village Newsletter.

Mr. Charles Lees asked the Council about the old lawn mower, and it was agreed to dispose of it safely and remove it from the asset register.

The Parish Clerk explained that the fixed-rate energy deal on the street lighting has come to an end, and we are now being charged the standard rate. No notification from N.Power had been made. The Clerk will look to get a cheaper rate.

9. Dates of the next meetings to be held in the Village Hall:

No meeting in August. September 12th, October 10th, November 14th, no meeting in December. 9th January 2024, 13th February, 13th March, 10th April, 8th May, 12th June, 10th July

Meeting Closed at 8:35pm

Actions

Report potholes by chicains on Welsh Road to FixMyStreet	Clerk
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