
ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

ANNUAL OPEN MEETING

Clerk: Julie Challenor, Northfield, Welsh Road, Aston Le Walls, Daventry, Northants, NN11 6UD

Telephone: 01295 660220

Email: clerk@astonlewallsparishcouncil.gov.uk

Minutes of the Annual Open Meeting of ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL held on Thur 14^h April 2022 at 7:30 pm in the Village Hall.

Attendees: Charles Lees (**CL**) - Chairperson, Tom Boston (**TB**) - Vice Chairperson, Dick Stephen (**DS**), Matt Hawkins (**MH**), Grahame Barnes (**GB**) and John Funnel (**JF**).

Apologies: Julie Challenor (**JC**) – poorly (**DS to take minutes in Clerk's absence**)

From the parish, we were joined by Susan Fagg and Simon Bradshaw.

External representatives were Cllr Alison Eastwood (Silverstone Ward - WNC) and Lynn Hinch (Director of Ability community bus service).

The Chairman of the Parish Council welcomed everyone present. The minutes of the Parish Open Meeting held on 8th April 2021 were unanimously agreed then signed as a correct record of proceedings. The Minutes, Financial Summary and all reports presented at the meeting are available on the ALWPC website.

Matters Arising - There were none.

Chairman's Report - The Chairman, Cllr Charles Lees, presented a comprehensive report for the Parish Council's work during the year 2021-22, a copy of which is available in the Minute Book and on the ALWPC website. CL particularly thanked Alison Eastwood for her robust support during this past year.

Financial Summary - JC provided a copy of the unaudited accounts and a written explanation of them to CL prior to the meeting. Councillors and all other meeting attendees were provided with the accounts. CL read the explanation notes to all. From 1st April 21 to 31st Mar 22. Balance at 1st Apr 21, sum £7,259.69. Income £9,760.94 with Expenditure, £9,297.27 leaving a balance to 31st Mar 22, sum £7,723.36. The War Memorial account is unchanged at £459.85. The clerk's explanation of the accounts is available on the ALWPC website.

CL noted that there are restrictions on how the AMP funding could be spent. This will be discussed at May's PC meeting. It was also noted that the precept for Aston Le Walls Parish Council has not been increased this year.

Lynn Hinch

Lynn provided copies of the Ability brochure to everyone present. She described why Ability had been setup in 2018 to help isolated villages and those who were losing their historical bus services. They now

have 6 buses and 2 on order. The process of booking by phone, the different levels of service provided, and the special Day Trips were all described fully. From 19 April 2022, Ability will be running their service as an alternative to the current Stagecoach 200 service. CL thanked Lynn for attending and providing us with so much useful information.

Alison Eastwood

Alison read an abridged version of the WNC annual report. Points of note were:

- The newly payable green waste bin collection works out at just £1.68 per collection. Any spare bins will be collected by June.
- Alison thanked our council and CL in particular, for persisting with chasing HS2 and their contractors at every opportunity when they make odd decisions that impact ALW. It is hoped that the new independent marshal will take over some of this role for making HS2 accountable for their actions.
- The current bending of the rules that allow HS2 to complete more of their work at weekends is a particularly sensitive subject at the moment.

St Leonards Church – Susan Fagg read out her report describing the church year as it reorganises its services post-Covid. The report is available on the ALWPC website. Father John will soon be leaving the Catholic Church at ALW.

Village Hall - Chris Wilson provided a report, which was read by Matt Hawkins. The gradually re-opened during the year and is now fully functioning again. Susan Fagg reported that the coffee mornings are likely to move to a new day of the week. A copy of the report is available on the ALWPC website. The report states that the fete will be 25th June: it has now been rescheduled to 2nd July.

Daisy Bank Pocket Park - Charles Lees provided a report. The group of volunteers have been keeping an eye on the Park as Covid restrictions eased. They have made essential repairs, for example on the wooden bridge, plus general improvements to hedging, the opening from the upper-space onto Welsh Road, and investigating the blocked water feed from below the railway bridge to the pond. The park continues to look lovely.

Questions and Resolutions - None.

Any Other Business - None.

The meeting closed at 20:50