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## ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the **Monthly Meeting** of **ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL** held on Thu 10<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

**Attendees:** Charles Lees (CL) - Chairperson, Tom Boston (TB) - Vice Chairperson, Dick Stephen (DS), Matt Hawkins (MH), Graham Barnes (GB)

1. Apologies – Julie Challenor poorly (DS to take minutes in absence) and John Funnell (JF) poorly.
2. Declaration of Interests - None
3. Minutes 10<sup>th</sup> February 22 - Agreed and signed.
4. Correspondence to include Website & IT – DS reported that all is up to date. CL requested that a count of visitors to the website should be provided at the next meeting.
5. Financial Matters:

i) *Balances @ 10<sup>th</sup> March 22*


Business Instant Account	£7,700.00
Treasurers Account	£29.06
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£7,729.06</b>
War Memorial Account	£459.85

ii) *Receipts / Payments / Invoices Approved from 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 22 – 10<sup>th</sup> Mar 22*


Receipt/Payment	Details	Amount (Inc VAT)	Date Paid
Pending Dispute	Priors Garden – Grass Cutting May 21	£165	Dispute
Pending Dispute	Priors Garden Ditto – Jun 21	£165	Dispute
	Microsoft 365 Subscription – Paid by Clerk	£59.99	Pending

CL reported Village Hall, Npower & FNPile bills had all been paid.

6. Planning – Nothing to report
7. Welsh Road – CL reported that the chicane outside Timbercroft, in particular, seems to be working well as confirmed by the latest VAS unit statistics - which have been circulated to all of the usual recipients. The sign-posts outside Timbercroft have been adjusted/improved. Splay to Plowden Close still has excess soil deposits causing raised ground level. A correction to Butler Close chicane kerbstones are now approved by WNC Highways. Timeframe currently unknown. New VAS units waiting for columns plus lights. CL has put up our VAS unit pointing in the opposite direction to record the statistics of traffic coming from Boddington direction.

  
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8. Asset Mapping Project (AMP) – DS reported that the spreadsheet now contains 68 items already; this is largely street signage, but more work is still needed to cover items from the PC Asset List and the street signage in Appletree. DS to continue with help from CL & JC to complete.
9. PFCC Budget Survey – Nothing to report.
10. Queen’s Jubilee – Only a few villagers have volunteered to help organise this. The current thoughts centre on a hog roast event in the school field on the Bank Holiday of Thu 2<sup>nd</sup> Jun 22. MH and TB suggested contractors who may be able to provide the hog roast. GB will pass this information back to the organising committee.
11. Police Liaison Representative – Nobody has volunteered. Clerk to respond to Mel Carter, our local police representative, confirming that we have no one in the village willing to take on this role.
12. Village Grasscutting - Clerk updated documents and added notice to village notice board inviting contractors to tender. Only one sealed quote was submitted - from R Burgess, and offered to be a fixed value for 3 years. Evidence of the requested Public Liability Insurance was also included. After a short discussion the PC agreed to a caveat whereby the contractor would be allowed a reasonable increase in his fuel charge over the next 3 years since the Ukraine situation has caused fuel prices to rocket since his offer was submitted. MH proposed acceptance. GB seconded the proposal. Clerk will respond to Mr Burgess.
13. Village Maintenance
  - a) Pocket Park – CL expressed his thanks to TB for providing 30 hedging whips that are now planted to complete one hedge. CL reported that there was a good general clear-up this month.
  - b) Millennium Garden – TB will sort out root and holly shoots soon.
  - c) Street Lighting – All working fine.
  - d) Defibrillator – GB reported that new pads will be needed soon as the use-by-date on the current ones shows they expire this summer. GB authorised to buy new ones for the PC.
  - e) Public Footpaths & Rights of Way – MH reported that the only issue is a gate at the Aston end of AA8 which needs lifting an excessive amount to be closed. CL to contact land owner.
  - f) Trees and general parish environment – All have survived storm Eunice and no nearby buildings have been damaged.
  - g) Winter Maintenance – Nothing to report. The grit has only been used once this mild winter.
14. General Update
  - a) HS2 Meetings
    - i. Virtual Liaison in March – No councillors are available to attend the March meeting.
    - ii. The HS2 Community Meeting on Feb 17<sup>th</sup> was fairly well attended by 15 residents from Aston & Appletree.
  - b) Neighbourhood Watch – All correspondence forwarded to councillors via email and nothing to report.



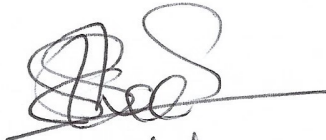
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15. Any Other Business

- a) The Ability Bus service was discussed. CL reported that the Stagecoach 200 service is now due to run until at least 18 April 22. Clerk will invite a representative from Ability to talk at our April Annual Parish Open Meeting.

16. Dates of Next Meetings to be held in the Village Hall – scheduled 14<sup>th</sup> April 22 (Open Meeting), 12<sup>th</sup> May 22, 9<sup>th</sup> Jun 22 and 14<sup>th</sup> Jul 22.

The meeting closed at approximately 9:00 pm.



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