
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 10th November 2022 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Attendees: Charles Lees **(CL)** - Chairman, Tom Boston **(TB)** Vice Chairman, Dick Stephen **(DS)**, Graham Barnes **(GB)**, John Funnell **(JF)**, Debra Kirton **(DK)** Clerk


- 1) Apologies – Matt Hawkins
- 2) Declaration of Interests – None.
- 3) The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th October 2022 have been approved as a true record.
 - (a) (CL) Chairman asked for the application of the Full Electoral Register to be added to tonight's agenda, 10th November 2022. This was unintentionally left out; however, the task has been completed by the Clerk. There were no other matters arising from the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th October 2022.
- 4) Correspondence to include Website and IT (DS)
 - a) The website is currently up to date. Ordinarily, information on public safety and awareness and other items of interest are added to the Parish Council website weekly.
- 5) Financial Matters: Balances
Invoices Paid and Invoices presented for approval of payment

i) Balances @ 10th November 2022


Business Instant Account	£15,528.26
Treasurers Account	£177.92
TOTAL	£15,706.18
War Memorial Account	£459.96

Receipts / Payments / Invoices Approved from 13th October 22 – 10th November 22

Receipt/Payment	Details	Amount (Inc VAT)	Date Paid
Payment	Npower Business Solutions. Electricity period 01.07.22 – 30.09.22	42.10	17.10.22
Payment	Clerk PAYE – Month 6 for 01.09.22 – 30.09.22	245.07	17.10.22
Receipt	Interest (Gross) Business Bank Instant a/c	1.66	09.11.22
Receipt	Interest (Gross) War Memorial a/c	0.05	09.11.22
Approved for Payment	Clerk PAYE – Month 7 for 01.10.22 – 31.10.22	245.07	
Approved for Payment	Burgess Contracting – Grass cutting 16.04.22 – 03.10.22	1400.00	


12/1/23

- ii) The Clerk read out the financial matters, bank balances, invoices paid, and invoices for approval.
- 6) Councillor Vacancy – The Parish Council has received acknowledgement from the Electoral Services that the public notice period is now complete. All vacancy notices will now be removed from the Parish Council website and the Village notice board. As there were no expressions of interest made to either the Parish Council or the Electoral Services, we should now proceed with co-opting a new Parish Councillor.
- 7) Dog Fouling – A new (Public Spaces Protection Order) PSPO came into force in November 2022, and it will last for three years. The new PSPO gives the Council the ability to ensure public places are better and safer to live and work in and dog owners who fail to pick up their dog's mess and dispose of it properly could be fined £100. The Councillors unanimously agreed that disseminating the PSPO information to the residents may reduce dog fouling recently seen around the village. The PSPO will be communicated on the Parish Council website, Village Newsletter, Village Hall notice board and portable signs around the village.
- 8) Sports Facilities Strategy & Planning Pitch Strategy Online Survey – (CL) Chairman looked at the survey questions. As our Parish doesn't have any playing fields or flat open spaces, this survey does not apply to us.
- 9) Pocket Park Fencing – The Boundary between Washbrook Farm and Pocket Park requires approximately 30 meters of post and rail fencing along with sheep wire to protect people and animals. The Parish Council accepted the cost of £500 for the work to be completed by Burgess Contracting as there is a balance of £700 remaining within the contract with Burgess Contracting for the Upkeep & Maintenance of ALW Grassed Areas. The trees along the roadside have also been strimmed.
- 10) Purchasing of Grass Seed – The Millennium Gardens needs re-seeding with grass seed. (JF) has kindly offered to donate grass seed and (TB) has volunteered to distribute the seeds.
- 11) Village Maintenance
 - a) Pocket Park (CL) – At the October meeting it was discussed to investigate whether digging a channel to redirect rainwater from the road into the pond would work unfortunately the rainwater runs along the opposite side of the road. However, after recent heavy rain fall, the pond is beginning to fill. The hedges have been cut. (DS) applied to The Woodland Trust for whips (small hedge plants) the Parish will receive 105 whips in March next year.
 - b. Millennium Garden (All) – (TB) has agreed to plant the grass seeds and look at any branches that are still bowing over. (TB) will also have a look at the clematis planted at the base of the Crab Apple tree.
 - c. Streetlights (GB) – All good currently, nothing to report.
 - d. Defibrillator (GB) – All in order. (GB) The box has been cleaned of cobwebs.
 - e. Public Footpaths & Rights of Way (MH) – All open for walks, there are some footpaths partially closed due to HS2 works.
 - f. Trees and general parish environment (TB) – Nothing to report in general. The Parish Council has advised a village resident to contact West Northants Council as the roots of a willow tree has caused damaged their driveway.



12/1/23

- g. Winter Maintenance (JF) – The grit bin outside St. Leonard's Church has been reported to West Northants Council for re-filling. (JF) raised concerns that the grit bin may have been used recently. The Parish Clerk to follow this up.

12) General Updates

- a) Welsh Road (CL) - The Chairman, Marc Nightingale and Matthew Barratt discussed further the VAS post installed under the tree along the Welsh Road. The Chairman is currently awaiting a further response.
- b) HS2 Liaison (CL) - There is going to be a HS2 Liaison meeting on 16th December 2022. (CL) will be attending. Among the items on the agenda is the Site Access Road for HS2 traffic.

(CL) attend a meeting with Simon Davis, Chris James, and Nigel Galletly to discuss the construction workers accommodation on the A361 Chipping warden compound. The compound will accommodate over 300 people. There are currently accommodation units at the MOD site in Bicester with approximately 160 units.


Neighbourhood Watch (All) – Nothing to report currently.

13) Any Other Business –

- a. The drains along Main Street, Welsh Road and Blacksmiths Lane are blocked with debris and leaves, therefore the rainwater is unable to drain away. Parish Clerk to contact WNC and request these drains to be cleared.
- b. (CL) will download the VAS report after being positioned along Main Street. It was suggested that the VAS unit might be put up at the end of Blacksmiths Lane as motorists do speed-up along there to the junction of Welsh Road.

- 14) Dates of Next Meetings to be held in the Village Hall – scheduled No meeting in Dec 2022, 05th Jan 23 and 9th Feb 23.

Meeting Closed at 9.00 pm



12/1/23