
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 14th September 2023 at 7:30pm in the Village Hall.

Attendees: Cllr. Matt Hawkins **(MH)** – Chair, Cllr. Rhiannon Harris **(RH)** - Vice Chair, Cllr. Dick Stephen **(DS)**, Cllr. Tom Boston **(TB)**, Cllr. Grahame Barnes **(GB)**, Cllr. John Funnell **(JF)**, Cllr. Richard Burgess **(RB)**, Debra Kirton **(DK)** Clerk

- 1) Apologies – None
- 2) Declaration of Interest – None
- 3) The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2023 have been approved as a true record and signed by the Chair Cllr. (MH).
 - a) There are no matters arising from the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2023.

Action Points from the previous meeting held on Thursday 13th July 2023:

- i) Bank signatories for Cllr. (MH) Chair and Cllr. (RH) Vice Chair – **Completed**
 - ii) Defibrillator code disseminated to all Councillors – **Completed**
 - iii) Rolling back of the HS2 Heras fencing at the rear of Valley View Farm to increase the perimeter – **Not Completed**
 - iiii) Community Funding grants to be added to the September agenda – **Missed from the agenda.**
- 4) Correspondence to include Website and IT

Cllr. (DS) and Cllr. (RH) met again for a further website induction and training session. They worked on resolving IT issues, problems with corrupt website links. They will continue with training sessions before a handover in November 2023.
Cllr. (DS) posted on the Parish Council website a burglary that was committed in Chipping Warden on the 11th September 2023. Cllr. (MH) Chair asked for a posting to go on the PC website to remind the community to be more vigilant and to lock windows and doors as there had been reports recently of suspicious behavior at night. Cllr. (GB) noticed a builders van parked by the entrance of a field on the Welsh Road at around 8:30pm. Immediate concern was that the person might be fly tipping. Fortunately, this wasn't the case.
- 6) Financial Matters
 - a) Balances & Invoices for approval of payment. The Clerk read out the financial matters, bank balances, invoices paid, and invoice for approval.

Balances @ 14th September 2023

Business Instant Account	£14,550.87
Treasurers Account	£135.88
TOTAL	£14,686.75
War Memorial Account	£462.64

Receipts / Payments / Invoices Approved from 13th July 2023 – 14th September 2023

Receipt/Payment	Details	Amount (Inc VAT)	Date Paid/received
Payment	ROSPA Play Safe - Annual inspection & checklist template	126.00	17.07.23
Payment	Npower Street Lighting for the period 01.04.23 – 30.06.23	45.00	17.07.23
Payment	Clerk PAYE – Month 4	245.07	31.07.23
Receipt	Interest (Gross) Business Bank A/C	11.30	09.08.23
Receipt	Interest (Gross) War Memorial A/C	0.34	09.08.23
Payment	2Commune Ltd Renew, manage & host domain name for 2 years	180.00	14.08.23
Payment	2Commune Ltd Website hosting, support & annual license	342.00	14.08.23
Payment	Clerk PAYE – Month 5	245.07	31.08.23
Payment	Interest (Gross) Business Bank A/C	13.72	11.09.23
Payment	Interest (Gross) War Memorial A/C	0.43	11.09.23
Invoice 0000822805	Wicksteed – Supply of parts for Timber Swing	1,514.23	

6) Village Maintenance

a. Pocket Park

Cllr. (RB) has contacted three independent Playground equipment suppliers. Playdale, Wicksteed and Playforce. He is undertaking site survey's with each company to discuss the style of embankment slide that would suit the landscape in Pocket Park. The slide can be modular in style with a step system and can be made to any height. The slide would be installed close to the current swing set already in Pocket Park. Cllr. (RB) will ask companies for Supply and Installation cost and Supply only cost. Once we have received three quotations the Parish Council will then apply for Community Grant Funding. Future projects include a cradle swing.

Cllr. (MH) Chair raised the issue of road safety as the slide would be installed on the embankment by the roadside. Cllr. (RB) said that fencing would be needed for additional safety on the side next to the road.

The new top beam for the swing set has arrived and is ready for the pocket park team to install.

Cllr. (JF) raised the issue of overgrown trees and hedges along the Welsh Road from the edge of the village to the Equestrian Centre. It was agreed that the Parish Council would arrange for the cut back of the trees and hedges on the side of Pocket Park and ask Highways to cut back the trees and hedges on the opposite side of the road. The Parish Clerk will contact Highways, then email the Equestrian Centre to inform them what action is being taken.

- b. Millennium Gardens - A local resident has offered to put his own bench on the site where the old bench once was. Cllr. (GB) offered to inspect the bench.
- c. Streetlighting – All working.
- d. Defibrillator – All in working order. Our defibrillator is registered with the National Defibrillator Network.
- e. Public Footpaths & Rights of Way – Cllr. (GB) will be inspecting these areas in the following days. Cllr. (MH) Chair will again report on Fix My Street the fly tipping which remains on the field. Cllr. (MH) Chair will also discuss with Simon Davis why the Heras fencing still hasn't been pushed back.
- f. Trees and General Parish Environment – Cllr. (TB) will be inspecting over the winter months.
- g. Winter Maintenance – Nothing has changed over the summer months.

7) General Updates

a. Welsh Road

It was questioned why there was a road closure sign positioned in the middle of the road at the junction of Welsh Road and the A361, local traffic is driving around the sign. The purpose of the sign is to re-direct HGV vehicles.

b. HS2 Liaison, Highways and Road Safety Update

Nothing to report at present. The Parish Council is organising a drop-in session in the village hall for October or November.

c. Neighbourhood Watch

The Parish Clerk regularly posts community messages from our Neighbourhood Policing Team on to ALW Facebook.

13) Any Other Business

There have been two complaints from residents regarding the tannoy/PA system noise coming from the Equestrian Centre. West Northants Council advises residents who are concerned with high levels of noise, that they download the "The Noise App" record the noise at intervals and report the outcomes directly to the council. Cllr. (MH) Chair asked Cllr. (DS) to add a post to the Parish Council website informing residents of this free app.

Action Points:

Action Item	Owner	Deadline
Heras Fencing	Cllr. (MH) Chair	ASAP
Highways – cut back overgrowth opposite Pocket Park	(DK) Clerk	ASAP
Email Equestrian Centre regarding cutting back overgrowth	(DK) Clerk	12.10.13
Liaise with Resident and inspect donated Bench	Cllr. (GB)	12.10.23
Report Fly Tipping	Cllr. (MH) Chair	12.10.23
Arrange drop-in session for HS2	(DK) Clerk	ASAP
Post on PC website for community information "The Noise App"	Cllr. (DS)	12.10.23

- 14) Dates of the Next Meetings to be held in the Village Hall: 12th October, 9th November, No meeting in December.

Meeting Closed at 8:40pm