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## ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

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Minutes of the MEETING of ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL held on Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> July 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. Graham Barnes **(GB)**, Cllr. John Funnell **(JF)**, Debra Kirton **(DK)** Clerk

- 1) Apologies – None  
Absent – Cllr. Richard Burgess
- 2) Declaration of Interest – None
- 3) The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 have been approved as a true record and signed by the Chair Cllr. Matt Hawkins.

a) There are no matters arising from the previous meeting held on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023.

Cllr. (MH) Chair went through the actions from the previous meeting:

i. Cllr. (MH) Chair has completed his part of the Bank Mandate, Cllr. (RH) is returning to the bank to complete her part of the Bank Mandate.

ii. The Beam for the swing set in Pocket Park has been ordered. Cllr. (RB) will fit the new beam. The question concerning the number of chains ordered for the swing set has been resolved.

iii. The discussion to introduce additional play equipment and applying for Community Funding Grants will be discussed at the September Parish Council meeting due to the absence of Cllr. (RB).

- 4) Correspondence to include Website and IT (DS) and (RH)

Cllr. (DS) met with Cllr. (RH) for her first website training session, they hope to meet again in two weeks for a final session. Cllr. (RH) will be taking over the management of the Parish Council website from September.

The website is up to date. The Water Safety information from Northamptonshire Fire & Rescue, forwarded by WNC couldn't be uploaded on to the Parish

*Matthew Hawkins*  
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Council website as the download buttons were only images. This is a good example for Cllr. (DS) and Cllr. (RH) to think through at their next training session. Cllr. (DS) said he intends to resign from the Parish Council in November 2023.

5) 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 @ 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Business Account	Instant	£15,672.85
Treasurers Account		£169.02
<b>TOTAL</b>		<b>£15,841.87</b>
War Memorial Account	Memorial	£461.87

Receipts / Payments / Invoices Approved from 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2023 – 13<sup>th</sup> July 2023

Receipt/Payment	Details	Amount (Inc VAT)	Date Paid/received
BACS Payment	Clerk PAYE – Month 3	245.07	29.06.23
Receipt	Interest (Gross) Business Bank Instant	10.79	10.07.23
Receipt	Interest (Gross) War Memorial Fund	0.31	10.07.23
Npower Streetlighting	For the period 01.04.23-30.06.23	45.00	
ROSPA Play Safe	Annual Inspection & Checklist Template	126.00	
Clerk PAYE – Month 4	For the period 01.07.23 – 31.07.23	245.07	

6) LAP's (Local Area Partnerships).

Cllr. (MH) Chair and (DK) Clerk joined a zoom meeting on the 26<sup>th</sup> June 2023 on the implementation of LAP's. The meeting was facilitated by Danny Moody NCALC and speaker Julie Curtis Assistant Director for Place Development WNC. The meeting was well attended with over 74 participants. LAP's will be delivered across the whole of West Northants. Our area has been identified as being a rural area with transport issues, isolation, and an ageing population.

The Health and Care Act 2022 is being reformed to bring together public health agencies to identify inequalities or problems in local areas and work towards improving and delivering the "Live Your Best Life" (LYBL) strategy.

7) Organisations requesting us to signpost their website from our Parish Council website.

We have received requests from external health providers to promote their services by linking to their website from our Parish Council website. It was agreed

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by all Councillors present at the meeting not to endorse or recommend health services. All visitors to our site will be signposted to Health and Wellbeing at West Northamptonshire Council website. The current link to Asana Lodge Drug and Alcohol Rehabilitation Centre will be removed from the Parish Council website and future requests will be politely declined.

#### 8) Village Maintenance

- a. Pocket Park – Cllr. (MH) Chair read out a summary report provided by Mr. Charles Lees on the outcome of the ROSPA inspection. Maintenance and repair are on-going. Attention to the two bridges is required and to the build-up of algae in the pond. A hard copy of the report was handed out to the Councillors present at the meeting for their reading.
- b. Millennium Gardens – No concerns other than an overgrown scrub at the bottom of the path by the lamppost. Cllr. (TB) offered to cut it back.
- c. Streetlighting – With longer daylight the streetlights come on much later in the evening. All appear to be working. The Clerk (DK) is in communication with Joanne Murphy at the National Grid regarding the ownership of streetlight 22.
- d. Defibrillator – All in working order. The decision to replace the current defibrillator for an updated version is ongoing. The defibrillator is registered with East Midlands Ambulance Service. In the event of someone having a cardiac arrest, a caller needs to call 999, the emergency services will advise the caller of a code that will unlock the cabinet to gain access to the defibrillator. The current code is only known to Cllr. (GB). There is a generic code which can be used, the concerns of using a generic code could lead to the defibrillator being stolen.  
Cllr. (GB) said there is a helpful video on how to use a defibrillator that we can share, and it could go onto the Parish Council website.  
Cllr. (MH) Chair, asked for Cllr. (GB) to please share the code with all Councillors.
- e. Public Footpaths & Rights of Way – Cllr. (JF) mentioned the pile of tyres that haven't yet been moved. There is a sign that needs uncovering from overgrown foliage.
- f. Trees and General Parish Environment – Nothing to report.
- g. Winter Maintenance – The grit bin by St. Leonard's Church is full.

#### 12) General Updates

##### a. Welsh Road

The speed signals are working. Potholes have been marked for repair or have recently been repaired. There is a yellow traffic sign that's been moved and needs to be re-positioned as drivers can't see on-coming traffic.

##### b. HS2 Liaison, Highways and Road Safety Update

Cllr. (MH) Chair had a meeting with Simon Davis Engagement Manager EKFB at the compound to discuss time scales and future works pertaining to our local area.

*M. O'Brien*  
14/9/23

- The construction of the green tunnel and earth works at Chipping Warden is expected to be completed by 2025/2026.
- A new road will be built in late summer 2024 which will permanently link the Chipping Warden bypass with the A361.
- Appletree lane to be re-opened after a 4-year closure in 2025.
- The laying of the track and signal installation at Chipping Warden is expected to be completed by 2030/2031. Invitations have gone out to tender for the work.
- The temporary bridge over the A361 will remain in situ until a later date.
- Permission has been granted by West Northants Council to allow HS2 to work a 7-day week. Any noise complaints should be directed to Environmental Services at West Northants Council. This information should be published in the village newsletter.

It was reported to Cllr. (MH) Chair that the Heras fencing around Valley View Farm has not yet been pushed back.

Cllr. (GB) reported that heavy haulage trucks have been passing through Wormleighton and Aston Le Walls and not using the service road. Cllr. (MH) Chair explained that there are exceptions to certain trucks carrying time sensitive deliveries such as concrete that are being permitted to use the main roads.

Cllr. (MH) Chair raised the complaint with Simon Davis regarding the maintenance of the verges along the A361 junction and Welsh Road. Consequently, these fall under the joint responsibility of HS2 and Highways.

c. Neighbourhood Watch  
Nothing to report currently.

13) Any Other Business  
None.

14) Action Points:

- i. — Bank Mandate form completed at the bank - Cllr. (RH)
- ii) — Defibrillator Access Code disseminated to all Councillors – Cllr. (GB)
- iii) — Heras fencing email to Simon Davis – Cllr. (MH) Chair
- iiii) — Community Funding Grants. Action point for September agenda – (DK)

15) Dates of the Next Meetings to be held in the Village Hall: No meeting in August. September 14<sup>th</sup>, October 12<sup>th</sup> , November 9<sup>th</sup>. No meeting in December.

Meeting Closed at 8:45 pm.

*M. Dent*  
14/9/23