

ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL

Clerk: Mrs G Taylor, Timbercroft, Welsh Road, Aston Le Walls, Daventry, Northants, NN11 6UD

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Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting (virtual) of ASTON LE WALLS PARISH COUNCIL held on Thursday 10th September 2020 at 7:30pm via the platform Zoom due to the COVID-19 restrictions.

Attendees: Charles Lees (CL) – Chairman, Julie Challenor (JC), Dick Stephen (DS), W Goffe Taylor (WGT), and Gill Taylor (Clerk)

- 1. Apologies:** Mark Hazelton (MH) – holiday. Tom Boston (TB) & John Funnell (JF) were absent.
- 2. Declaration of Interests - None**
- 3. Minutes –** Minutes of the virtual Parish Council meeting held on 12th August 2020 were signed as a correct record of proceedings, having been circulated to Councillors.
- 4. Matters arising from Minutes**
There were none.
- 5. Financial Matters**

i) **Balances:-**

Instant Saving Account	£6,283.54
Treasurers Account	£9.86
Unpresented cheque	£20.00
War Memorial Account	£459.85
Half Year Precept 2020/21 DUE	£4,375.00

ii) **Invoices Approved for Payment:-**

S N A S T South Northants Area Support Team (Neighbourhood Watch)	£20.00	Annual Subscription
Village Grasscutting	£249.00	Aug/Sept all areas
Clerk's Salary (2 nd quarter)	£665.46	New rate for 2020/21
Clerk's Back Pay	£29.65	April – August (as per National pay award)

- 6. National Agreement - Parish Clerk's Pay Award 2020/21**
Confirmation had been received via NCALC that the National Pay Award for 2020/21 had been agreed at 2.75% backdated to 1 April 2020.
- 7. Update re: Grant Application re LED Street Lighting Update**
Notification had been received that ALWPC was unsuccessful in its application. This was a great disappointment. CL was unanimously thanked for his efforts in completing and submitting the lengthy information required by SNC. The Parish Council would now consider the way forward regarding updating and improving the cost of its street lighting.


8/16/20

8. HS2 Update & Welsh Road Feasibility Update

i) Work on the completion of the modified A361 crossroads (in Chipping Warden parish) had been held up due to problems with the location of a gas main. The junction had been opened briefly but remained closed again with the current date of 21st September for Welsh Road to be open again. The whole situation had created much confusion and many vehicles had continued to use the road, finding they had to turn round at the road closure signs or in private driveways when unable to continue their journey and use the diversion route instead.

ii) It was now understood that costings for the footpath and other safety issues in Welsh Road as discussed back in January (with Matthew Barratt (MB) & his colleague from NCC/Kier) had now been prepared and would be submitted soon. Esme Cushing (HS2) was in communication with the Chairman and would advise any decisions to ALWPC as soon as possible.

ACTION: It was unanimously agreed that the Parish Council will continue to put pressure on NCC/HS2 to resolve this long-standing safety issue.

9. Planning Application

S/2020/1356/FUL & S/2020/1357/LBC – Change of Use of Units 2 & 3 from Offices to Holiday Letting Accommodation at Appletree Business Park, Appletree.

"The Parish Council had no objections to the applications, its general observation is that sympathetic and supervised development is likely to improve the use and appearance of these redundant agricultural buildings."

10. Remembrance Sunday – 8th November 2020

Due to the current coronavirus situation, it is unlikely that the usual Service of Remembrance can take place. ALWPC will purchase its usual Poppy Wreath and consider the best way to commemorate the date at its next meeting when more information may be available from St Leonard's Church. CL volunteered to present the wreath at the War Memorial and any Councillors wishing to attend will observe appropriate social distancing rules.

11. General Updates from all Delegated Responsibilities

Website - DS reported it is up-to-date.

A full explanation about why the A361/Welsh Road closure was taking so long has been added to pc website on 9th September in an effort to keep community informed of the situation.

NCALC have advised that all websites need to pass "Accessibility" rules. NCALC is running a Q & A session at 10am on 21st September. MH has confirmed he will attend, DS will also attend – work commitments permitting.

Pocket Park – CL reported recent hard work by volunteers has resulted in the Pocket Park looking very pleasant. CL will erect the new signs recently donated by Carley Richards (HS2)

Public Footpaths - DS had nothing to report.

Street Lighting – JC confirmed no faults have been reported. Recent LED installations continue to reduce the cost of street lighting for the parish.

Defibrillator – MH reported all up-to-date (on circuit).

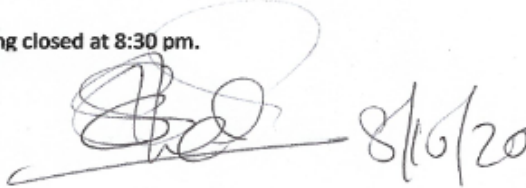
Highways – NCC had advised that the A361 would be closed in Charwelton for 5 weeks.

Neighbourhood Watch – WGT reported Neighbourhood Watch notifications were now being sent to the ALW Village website to widen public awareness in the village community. Everyone should remain vigilant against scams, criminal activity and opportunist thieves.

12. Any Other Business – None

13. Dates of Next Meeting – Thursday 8th October 2020.

The Meeting closed at 8:30 pm.

A handwritten signature in black ink, followed by the date 8/10/20.