

AGENDA

The monthly meeting of the Parish Council will be held on Thursday 3rd October 2024, at 7.30pm, in the Ordish Room, at the Village Hall.

Councillors: You are hereby summoned to attend the above meeting for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Members of the public who wish to attend the meeting are asked to let the clerk know in advance of the meeting at clerk@astonoxon-pc.gov.uk. Please note item 6 on the agenda about Public Representation.

EaAnstee

Elaine Anstee – Clerk

RECORDING OF MEETINGS

The law allows the council's public meetings to be recorded, which includes filming as well as audio-recording. Photography is also permitted.

As a matter of courtesy, if you intend to record any part of the proceedings, please let the Clerk know before the start of the meeting.

1. Present

2. Apologies from Members – J Ordish and R La Forte have given their apologies.

3. Parish Councillors - Disclosure of interests on agenda items

4. To approve the minutes of the Parish Council meeting on 2nd September 2024 – minutes previously circulated.

5. Meeting Open for Public Representation

This is the only part of the meeting where members of the public are permitted to speak, and it must be about an item on the agenda. The Parish Council's Standing Orders limit the time for this part of the meeting to ten minutes in total unless otherwise directed by the chairman of the meeting. The Standing Orders specify that each member of the public shall not speak for more than three minutes.

6. WODC/OCC Matters

A brief update from the relevant WODC or OCC Councillor.

7. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings

a) Quick updates:

- *Electronic Speed Signs* – Locations to be confirmed with OCC on the 16th October following meeting with OCC Highways.
- *Cote Chapel* – no news.
- *Gate at St James Church* – Quote from ‘The Gentleman Blacksmith’ for discussion. Previously circulated by email with agenda.
- *Footpaths/Treescaping*
- *Thames Water* – chased again for results of flood monitors on 21st September.
- *Traffic Calming* – deferred until VAS (see first point) installed and effects analysed.
- *Great Brook Bridge*
- *North Street*
- *Beedles Turn*

b) Neighbourhood Plan

Led by Chairman.

c) Data Loggers and Project Groundwater

These have now been installed with thanks to C & J Smith and Steve. Report circulated by email.

d) Defibrillators

- Brier Furlong – Living Space/Stonewater will fund the purchase of and installation of a defibrillator, at the Aston Pottery with the agreement of the owner. No date agreed yet.
- Defibrillator box for Aston and Cote School was agreed at the August meeting and the clerk has contacted the school for details on siting and power requirements and requested again on the 21st September.
- Replacement of defibrillator at the Aston Depot. See pages 4 to 13 for quotes for a replacement. For decision and resolution.

e) History Board Update

Led by Chairman.

f) Anti-Social Behaviour

None reported at time of agenda.

8. Correspondence

Clerk's Briefing Notes on Page 2.

9. PLANNING

New planning applications - None

Update on Ongoing Planning Applications – For Information

- a) Brier Furlong – no update as at issue of agenda.
- b) Marsh Furlong – agenda item 7 under Thames Water.
- c) St Joseph’s Court –agenda item 7 under Thames Water.
- d) North Farm – no further update since last meeting. Awaiting a response from Bluestone.
- e) Potential new development – Lone Star Land (land agents) – still no planning application.

Update on Previous Planning Applications – None

10. New Business

- a) *Asset Review.*
Half yearly of the external fixed asset is due and on pages 14 to 17 of the briefing notes. For decision on who to carry out asset check.
- b) *Budget 2025-2026 – Projects*
At the November Parish Council meeting the clerk will present the first draft of the budget for 2024-25 so it would be ideal to have some thoughts for projects.
- c) *External Auditor Report and Certificate for 2023/24*
The Audited Return has now been received from the external auditors, Moore, and AGAR section 3; external auditor report has been issued with no concerns though there are comments for review. The Parish Council now needs to formally approve and resolve to accept the audit certificate, annual return and pay the invoice. The report is on page 18 of the clerk’s briefing notes.
- d) *Christmas Tree*
Since December 2021 the Parish Council has purchased a Christmas Tree for the parish to be sited outside The Red Lion in Aston at a cost of £100.00 to £150.00 from the Maintenance Budget. To discuss and resolve if to do the same this year. For decision and resolution.
- e) *Notice of Review of Polling Districts and Places – WODC*
WODC are consulting on the review of the Polling District and Polling Places. Letter is in the briefing notes on page 19. The village hall in Aston is not part of the current review of polling places and on the review is identified as ‘accessible – no proposed change’. For information.
- f) *Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal – Parish Council donation*
To decide on the donation to the Appeal to be given by the Parish Council (which will also cover the cost of the wreath):
Total donation in budget: £200; donation paid in 23/24: £150
For decision and resolution.

g) Remembrance Sunday service at Aston War Memorial (Sunday 10th November – 2.45pm at War Memorial for a short, spoken service led by the Vicar of St James Church)

To discuss who will represent the Parish Council at this service and lay the wreath.

h) Portfolio Assignments

Current listing on page 20 of the briefing notes. For discussion and decision.

11. Governance – Policies for Review and Resolution - None

12. Community Trust

13. Parish Infrastructure

a) Parish maintenance

To identify any current maintenance work required. Budget remaining for 2024/25 is £1,500.

- Litter bin siting at Chimney – awaiting recommendations following OCC Highways visit on 16th October.
- To discuss another crocus/snowdrop planting exercise.

14. FINANCE – See report from RFO on pages 21 to 23 of the briefing notes, with items for Resolution.

15. Parish Councillors' and clerk's reports from meetings attended since last meeting.

16. Matters arising since publication of agenda/

Matters which Councillors may wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda.

(For discussion only)

17. Date of next meeting: Thursday 31st October at 7.30pm

Being the monthly meeting of Parish Council.