

MINUTES OF ASTON, COTE, SHIFFORD & CHIMNEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3rd September 2020 via THE ONLINE PLATFORM, ZOOM, AT 7.30 pm

- 1. Members Present:**
 - Russell La Forte (Chairman)**
 - John Ordish (Deputy Chairman)**
 - Jane West (from 8pm)**
 - Gill Ball**
 - Ben Lings**
 - Paul Sparrowhawk**
 - Phil West**

- In Attendance:**
 - Elaine Anstee – Clerk
 - Cllr C Mathew

- 2. Apologies from Members:** There were no apologies.

- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting** of the Parish Council on 6th August 2020 were agreed as a true record and it was RESOLVED as proposed by J Ordish and seconded by P Sparrowhawk, with all in agreement that the Chairman signs them.

- 4. Parish Councillors - Disclosure of interests on agenda items** – There were no declarations of interest on agenda items.

- 5. Meeting Open for Public Representation** – There were no members of the public present.

- 6. WODC/OCC Matters**

Cllr C Mathew (OCC) asked if the parish council would support a request to OCC to review the road usage around the war memorial in The Square, Aston which was agreed. He had also had a request for white lines to be redone along Cote Road especially to reinstate parking allocations in the lay by. This led to a further discussion on white lines across the parish and portfolio councillors were asked to do a review.

- 7. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings**
 - a) Traffic Calming Update*
 - The automation of the 20mph signs outside Aston School have been programmed by OCC.
 - It was RESOLVED as proposed by P Sparrowhawk and seconded by J Ordish with all in agreement to accept the quote from Glasdon's for 4 gates with signage to be sited at the entrances to Aston and Cote.
 - Village Hall/Chicane - The cost of installing the chicane needs to be identified before the parish council will spend any more on this element of the traffic calming project. Other options to be investigated with OCC such as planters and emergency traffic order.

b) *Prepared for the Worst – Technology Review*

The laptop has been purchased and the domain name agreed as astonoxon-pc.gov.uk. Once the domain name has been purchased the laptop and emails/website can be transferred to the new domain name.

c) *Future of North Farm – Update by the Chair*

North Farm, North Street, Aston is owned by Oxfordshire County Council (OCC) and they have a duty to maximise income from their property holdings whilst supporting local restrictions, such as conservation areas.

The parish council have discussed and agreed previously, (Minute Number 9g Page 1532 7th November 2019), the Parish Council's position in principle on the currently vacant North Farm site, owned by OCC.

The chair has attended 2 on-site meetings with OCC, WODC, Blue Stone planning and others to seek a proposed way ahead (in outline at this stage) as a 'Community-Led' development opportunity that seeks to maximise the social benefits to the Parish. One councillor was very concerned that the community had not been involved in any of the discussions to date and neither had all the councillors. They felt that there was a lack of transparency with the project.

The rest of the council supported the overall concept and look forward to the process of investigate the possibility of working with OCC on the project. At this time there is no cost to the parish council and no guarantee that OCC will be willing to discuss any proposal.

d) *Community Response for COVID 19*

We have had no requests for assistance this month. The clerk will continue to arrange with volunteers any requests for the collection of pre ordered shopping and prescriptions. It was agreed that if no further requests are received in September the parish council close the parish volunteer response down and thank all those that have contributed. The WODC Response Hub is continuing its work and has written to the most vulnerable in the district and a copy of this letter has been posted on the noticeboard and website.

e) *Land to the East of Back Lane*

OCC and Bluestone Planning have provided a statement which will be in the Voice for September. They also intend to hold a consultation on the 13th September on the recreation ground at the village hall in Aston. There is also a virtual presentation/consultation planned for the 14th September.

f) *Anti-Social Behaviour*

A car that appears to have been involved in an accident has been dumped in Bull Street on the junction of Bull Lane. The clerk to report via Fix My Street and to the OCC/WODC/Police/DVLA.

8. Planning

Documents emailed to councillors on the 21st August 2020 for perusal prior to the meeting also available at <https://www.westoxon.gov.uk/planning-and-building/planning-permission/view-planning-applications/>

Reference **20/01934/HHD**
Alternative Reference PP-08920864
Application Validated Mon 27 Jul 2020
Address 41 Bull Street Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2DT
Proposal Erection of a single storey rear extension
Status Under consideration
Emails responses from councillors indicate a no issues response. No Objection

Reference **20/01859/HHD**
Alternative Reference PP-08906934
Application Validated Mon 20 Jul 2020
Address Radley House Bull Lane Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2DN
Proposal Erection of single storey rear extension
Status Under consideration
Emails responses from councillors indicate a no issues response. No objection

Update on Previous Planning Applications

Reference **20/01402/HHD**
Alternative Reference PP-08761693
Application Validated Fri 19 Jun 2020
Address 4 St James Court North Street Aston Bampton OX18 2BF
Proposal Erection of single storey rear extension
Status Decided
Decision Approve
Decision Issued Date Thu 13 Aug 2020

Reference **20/01212/HHD**
Alternative Reference PP-08723068
Application Validated Thu 04 Jun 2020
Address 4 Chimney Farm Cottages Chimney Bampton OX18 2EH
Proposal Erection of a two bay garage, with new site entrance to accommodate parking.
Status Decided
Decision Refuse
Decision Issued Date Mon 17 Aug 2020

9. New Business

a) Website Accessibility Requirements

It was RESOLVED as proposed by B Lings and seconded by J West with all in agreement to adopt the Website Accessibility statement and review annually.

b) White Paper, Planning for the future and two other planning related matters

It was RESOLVED as proposed by J Ordish and seconded by P Sparrowhawk with all in agreement to submit the response drafted by R La Forte direct to NALC and Gov.uk. It was RESOLVED as proposed by R La Forte and seconded by G Ball with all in agreement for the chair to respond to the 'Transparency and Competition' and 'Changes to the Current Planning System' elements of the consultation based on the submitted response.

c) Consultation – Post Office move to Aston Community Store CIC

It was RESOLVED as proposed by R La Forte and seconded by P West with all in agreement to support the proposal with a comment on how accessibility needs are to be met.

d) Licensing Application Consultation W/20/00485/PRMA

It was RESOLVED as proposed by R La Forte and seconded by P Sparrowhawk with all in agreement to support the proposal.

e) Oxfordshire Together – Snow Wardens

It was decided not to adopt the snow warden scheme at this time.

f) New Bench on the Green by the War Memorial

The Parish Council agreed that the concept of a memorial bench for the postman, Richard Godwin, was a lovely idea and in principle supported the community response. However to site a bench on the green by the war memorial would require the new bench to match the existing bench in style, materials and design due to the Grade II listing.

An alternative site for a bench would be next to the post box at the end of Bull Street looking towards the Square.

It would be up to the community fund raising for the bench to decide which design and therefore which location it wished to use.

It was RESOLVED as proposed by J West and seconded by J Ordish with 4 in agreement and one abstention for a non-pecuniary interest that the parish council would fund the installation costs of the bench.

10. Community Trust

The minutes of the August meeting had been circulated by email prior to the meeting for information.

11. Parish Infrastructure

a) Village maintenance

With the ordering of the new village gate signs a quote will be required for regular grass cutting and maintenance around gates. Clerk to request costs from existing supplier and include in the new grass cutting specification.

b) Asset Register – Half Year Review

J Ordish volunteered to carry out the review and report back to the October meeting.

c) Defibrillator for Cote

There has been no update on the electricity supply from OCC/SSEN however it was suggested that perhaps a solar panel would be enough to provide the lighting. The defibrillator has a battery so does not need a direct power source.
Clerk to investigate solar power and funding sources for defibrillator.

d) VE75 Bench

The bench has been installed in St James churchyard and the plaque commemorating VE/VJ day attached.

12. FINANCE

a) Account Balances – for information.

b) SLCC Membership and Training Request - Clerk

It was RESOLVED as proposed by J Ordish and seconded by B Lings with all in agreement to support the clerk's membership of the SLCC and training request.

c) It was RESOLVED as proposed by R La Forte and seconded by B Lings with all in agreement to approve the following payments for the period 1 September 20 to 30 September 2020.

	NET	VAT	Gross Amount
Clerk's expenses – 308 sheets x 7p/ Zoom £14.39/Plaque £21.00	51.05	5.90	56.95
Clerk – Purchase of Parish Council Laptop including operating system software.	650.00	130.00	780.00
Des Johnson – Recreation Ground Grass Cutting – Inv 2067	170.00		170.00
OCC – 20mph lights on Cote Road	2,452.88	490.58	2,943.46
SLCC Annual Membership – Clerk Inv MEM230413	92.00		92.00
SLCC Virtual National Conference – Inv 132339	25.00	5.00	30.00
Total to be decided and approved	£3,440.93	£631.48	£4,072.41
Monthly Standing Orders			
Clerk's Salary	318.48		318.48
WODC Dog Bin emptying Inv 33366003	19.95	3.99	23.94
Total	£2,078.19	£199.18	£2277.37

13. Parish Councillors' reports from meetings attended since last meeting

RLF - Article for Voices submitted as circulated to Council

14. Matters arising since publication of agenda/ Matters which Councillors may wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda

Request from Ridge to discuss new proposal for the modern barn at Chimney Conservation area – extension across Cote, Shifford and Chimney Neighbourhood Plan
Residents meeting at Matthew Homes on 5th September at 10am = all welcome
Proposed Devolution/Unity Authority – OCC and WODC
Salt Cross Development - consultation

15. Date of next meeting: Thursday 1st October 2020, 7.30pm
Monthly meeting of Parish Council

Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed.....Dated.....