

**MINUTES OF ASTON, COTE, SHIFFORD & CHIMNEY PARISH COUNCIL  
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4<sup>th</sup> JULY 2019 IN THE  
VILLAGE HALL, ASTON AT 7.30 PM**

**1. Members Russell La Forte (Chairman)**

**Present:** Phil West  
Gill Ball  
John Ordish  
Jane West  
Ben Lings  
Paul Sparrowhawk

**In Attendance:** Elaine Anstee – Clerk  
Cllr C Matthews (OCC)

- 2. Apologies from Members:** There were no apologies.
- 3. Minutes of the previous meeting** of the Parish Council on 6<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were agreed as a true record and it was RESOLVED as proposed by John Ordish and seconded by Paul Sparrowhawk, with all in agreement that the Chairman signs them.
- 4. Parish Councillors - Disclosure of interests on agenda items** – There were no disclosures of interest.
- 5. Meeting Open for Public Representation** – There were no members of the public present.
- 6. WODC/OCC Matters**

Councillor C Matthews congratulated the Community Trust on the successful completion of the playground project, with especial thanks to Paul Farrow for all his hard work. He also encouraged questions for the meeting about the future of the A40 being held in Eynsham on the 12<sup>th</sup> July. It is felt that this road is not been treated as the major trunk road it is from west to east rather the planners seemed to see it as an ordinary access road for Oxford. Other points commented on were the Oxford/Cambridge rail scheme, a congestion charge for Oxford and the possible loss of the £250 million growth deal from central government if South and Vale district councils cannot agree their Local Plans.

**7. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings**

*a) Repair/replacement of fencing on culvert at Great Brook bridge*

There has still been no work done and the clerk has contacted the OCC officer again to request confirmation of when this work will be done.

*b) Red Lion Pub – Asset of Community Value*

It was unanimously RESOLVED to approve the motion below:

This motion dated the 24<sup>th</sup> June 2019 is to rescind the resolution made under minute number 8 c, on page 1688 of the meeting on the 7 March 19 that;

*'Red Lion Pub – Asset of Community Value*

*A letter has been received from WODC stating that the 5 year term of the registration of the Red Lion pub as a community asset will end on 9 April 19. The letter is in the clerk's briefing notes on page 7. Council discussed why it had originally been registered as an asset of community and noted that WODC as the local planning authority would require extensive proof for the pub to be taken out of use. It was RESOLVED to reregister the pub as a community asset which proposed by G Ball and seconded by J West with all in agreement'*

*The councillor's signing this motion no longer believe that the registering of the Red Lion pub in at this time Aston as a 'Community Asset' is in the interests of the community or the owners of the pub.*

*c) Aston Stores Closure*

The Aston Stores closed on the 12 May 19 and there is a group of local residents investigating the possibility of a community run shop however the parish council has not been formally asked for any support at this time. The owners of the shop have put it onto the open market for sale. The chairman reported that the second residents meeting had put together a steering group and taken a poll at the village fete to get a feel for the potential support for a community shop.

*d) Community Emergency Planning(CEP)*

The Chairman attended the meeting on 13th June giving information and awareness on Community Resilience for Parishes and the benefits/development of Community Emergency Plans. The session was led by Oxfordshire County Council Emergency Planning Unit and West Oxfordshire District Council Emergency Planners. He reported that it was a very insightful meeting with lots of useful information and guidance. Council agreed in principle for a CEP to be developed, and the Chairman agreed to prepare a draft for consideration. The clerk confirmed that the school, Fellowship Centre, St James Church and village hall have all been contacted for permission to use their buildings for emergency purposes with positive responses received from the church and school.

*e) 30 Speed Limit Signs – Cote Road*

The 30 mph signs have been moved to their new location and the playground signs will be moved but no date has been fixed yet. They are to be located in more appropriate locations to the new playground in that the out bound sign is to go on the lamppost where the 30 mph sign was and the inbound sign to be located just before the bend on the Cote Road – noted.

*f) Anti-Social Behaviour*

There have been no reported incidents in the parish.

**8. New Business**

*a) Participation in VE Day 75*

All parish and town councils have been notified of the planned VE Day 75 commemorations in 2020. These will be held over the weekend of 8 to 10 May 2020 with the 8<sup>th</sup> being the main focus as this is the anniversary which is why the Bank Holiday has been moved to coincide with the anniversary. The fete committee have already set the date and theme for 2020 so this will not coincide with the VE Day 75 weekend. In previous anniversary years it is the village organisations and individuals who have put in events with the parish council providing a longer lasting tribute such as the Jubilee bench. Council deferred this for further consideration during the budget setting process for 2020-2021 in November 2019.

*b) WODC – Review of the Parliamentary Polling Districts and Polling Places*

WODC is currently carrying out a review of its polling districts and places with its deadline for comments by electors being 13 September 2019. The clerk has put the notice on the notice board as this is open to all registered electors – noted.

*c) Community Information Network (CIN) – Save the Date*

Invitation to the next CIN meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2020 entitled ‘let’s talk loneliness: the power of communities – for information. Council requested that the clerk put together a database of the organisations that the parish council interacts with for the August meeting so that the possibility of councillor’s taking on specific roles can be discussed.

*d) Community First Oxfordshire – AGM 19 July 19.*

The invitation to attend and agenda for this is in the clerk’s briefing notes was discussed but no one was available see 8c re database.

*e) Proposed Planning Training for Parishes – WODC 15<sup>th</sup> July 2019.*

This was discussed in December 2018 and council agreed that they would like to send representatives. The training will run from 18:30 to 20:30 in Committee Rooms 1 & 2 at the WODC offices in Woodgreen, Witney. Russell La Forte, Gill Ball and John Ordish to attend and will report back at next meeting.

*f) Matthew Homes Development*

The clerk had received four separate complaints about the Matthews Homes development specifically that the contractor is not keeping the road/footpath clean, lorries mounting the opposite pavement when trying to leave the site and over running the site’s permitted working hours. The WODC planning officer has visited the site and spoken with the contractors who are now fully aware of their compliance requirements under the traffic management plan. The chairman confirmed that he had attended the site and spoken to the contractor’s confirming that the hedge will remain as it is now. It would be ideal to have a point of contact for the parish council to pass on any comments/complaints it receives and an initial site meeting to ensure that councillors are fully informed of the contractor processes would help in creating a coherent response to residents. The clerk is to contact Matthew Homes to request a site meeting as soon as it practicable.

*g) Future of the A40 – Public Meeting*

The meeting was advised of the meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> July at Eynsham Village hall at which representatives from OCC will attend to listen to questions, ideas and concerns on the future of the A40. The poster had been put on the village notice board as all are welcome.

*h) Aston History Group Book Project*

The chairman briefed the meeting on the exciting project that the Aston History Group is doing to produce a definitive history book about Aston. They will be looking for financial support in the future with grant funding potentially being available from OCC via the local county councillor and the parish council. The clerk advised that any requested for funding should be made in time for the budget discussions in November 2019.

*i) BAMPTON AND DISTRICT FLOOD PREVENTION WORKING GROUP*

John Ordish is the representative for the parish council but could not attend the meeting but the minutes have been circulated in the communications folder. The Environment Agency, Thames Water, WODC and the parish councils all send representatives to this group which was set up following the major flooding in 2007. It is where representation concerning the local water ways is most effectively received.

*j) Small Grant Application- Community Trust*

The application was for funding towards the erection of a new fence along the road line adjacent to the new play area. It was accepted that the parish council has no jurisdiction on what fence and how it is installed as this is wholly a community trust matter however all agreed that the fence was needed but as the council had already given £11.5k in public money towards the project it had to ensure any further funds were made on the basis of sustainability and enhancement of the area. The Council agreed in principle to consider the grant of further funds to the Community Trust for the restoration of the physical barrier along the road line, but felt that the specific proposal submitted did not represent value for money nor was sufficiently sympathetic to a Conservation Area. The council would like to reconsider a revised application with a longer term view, such as fencing with under planting of native shrubs. The clerk to advise the community trust.

## 9. Planning

### **New planning applications**

#### **New planning applications**

<b>Reference</b>	<b>19/01532/FUL</b>
Alternative Reference	Not Available
Application Validated	Tue 18 Jun 2019
Address	Aston Mile Farm Aston Bampton Oxfordshire OX18 2EU
Proposal	Installation of hay loading hatch and change of roof materials. (Retrospective).

The council made no comment.

**Updates to previous planning applications**

Reference	19/01199/HHD
Reference	19/01159/HHD
Reference	19/01114/PN56
Reference	19/01033/LBC
Reference	19/01032/HHD

**10. Community Trust**

J Ordish reported that the minutes for the last meeting of the Community Trust were in the Communications folder. The fete had been a very successful event with about £3k raised for village organisations. Astonbury 2020 is a proposal that has been put forward for a music event at the village hall over a weekend in September. It had been originally proposed for this year but the community trust committee had suggested that this was very short notice and the proposers had not got a clear plan on parking and other infrastructure issues. Nevertheless, the Council were fully supportive in principle to the Astonbury 2020 proposal.

**11. Parish Infrastructure**

*a) Village maintenance*

Budget for 2019/20: £1,500. John Ordish has reviewed the main signage in the parish on which he will produce a report for the clerk to contact OCC and WODC about any repairs/replacement.

*b) Maintenance of drainage ditches in the parish*

The clerk has now got a collection of maps relating to the ditches in the parish and a list of some of the riparian owners. The best time of year to undertake major clearance works is in late September/October, in preparation for increased winter flows and once vegetation has already begun to naturally die back. The clerk was asked to write and request that the Bull Street ditch be cleared before the winter.

**12. FINANCE**

*a) Account Balances – noted*

*b) Clerk – Request for Training Course and SLCC Membership*

Deferred to the August meeting.

*c) ICO Data Protection Fee*

Deferred to the August meeting.

*d) June invoices presented for approval and payment*

		Statute
Clerk's salary E Anstee (Gross £368.20) net £294.60, working from home allowance of £10.00	304.60	LGA 1972, s112
Clerk's expenses – 259 sheets x 7p + books £33.99	52.12	LGA 1972 s111
WODC – Dog Bin emptying – 17/06/19 Invoice 33307942	23.35	Litter Act 1983
HMRC – PAYE – June19	73.60	LGA 1972 s111
WODC Elections - 2018 Invoice 33306079	87.57	LGA 1972
WODC – Grass Cutting – Mar and Apr 19 – Invoice 33308912	1255.57	HA 1980, s116
WODC – Grass Cutting – May 19 – Invoice 33309778	837.05	HA 1980, s116
D Johnson – Grass Cutting Playing Field 2 Cuts – Inv 1947	170.00	HA 1980, s116
<b>Total</b>	<b>£2803.86</b>	

It was RESOLVED as proposed by B Lings and seconded by J Ordish, with all in agreement, to make the above payments.

**13. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS to be discussed in closed session**

**It was RESOLVED to exclude the press and the public in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.**

**14. Redacted**

**15. Redacted**

**16. Date of next meeting: Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> August 2019, 7.30pm**

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

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