

**MINUTES OF ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 4th DECEMBER 2017 AT 7.30 P.M. IN THE
VILLAGE HALL**

ATTENDED BY Mr J. Whatley (Chairman), Mr C. Tormey, Mr J. Harding, Mrs J. Askew, Mr N. Smith, (councillors) plus five parishioners

APOLOGIES - none

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR

DISPENSATIONS - Mr Whatley declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application 174918 as his house overlooks the site, also on the finance item for footpaths

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS - none, other than those related to planning application

MINUTES OF NOVEMBER MEETING were read, approved and signed.

ACTION POINTS ADDRESSED - Clerk to liaise with Mrs Askew to work on website additions.

HIGHWAYS UPDATE

1. Road closure on B4222 between Wednesday 13th December and Friday 15th December.
2. Sunken drains again by Lea Line to be reported, also drain at Aston Crews (**Action Item 1**)
3. Knightshill C1281 carriageway problems - to be raised with Barry Durkin

PLANNING

- 1) 174918. Land at Southlea. Proposed 3 bedroom single storey eco fully accessible house.

Mr Tormey proposed, Mrs Askew seconded, that Mr Harding take the chair for this item. All in favour. Mr Harding proposed, Mr Smith seconded, that the meeting be opened to the public. The parishioners were invited to make their comments about the proposal. There were concerns about the drainage, but generally the application was met with approval. Meeting was closed to the public and Parish Council discussed the application. Support was given, but comments to be made regarding drainage.

- 2) Feedback from Balfour Beatty meeting.

Mr Whatley relayed information given at this meeting. In particular, he highlighted the Balfour Beatty update which showed that almost all Key Performance Indicators

were being met, which appears to be at odds with what the parish is experiencing on the ground. There were also issues regarding the responsibility of riparian landowners in ditch digging and hedge cutting, where there is arguably a case for work to be carried out by Herefordshire Council. The launch of a new scheme, Community Action, was detailed, which was supposed to give parish councils more power to undertake maintenance works. Consultation with Balfour Beatty and surveys would be necessary, on a chargeable basis, before work was authorised. It was decided to discuss the latest information at the next meeting.

It was agreed that Mr Whatley meet with Barry Durkin to discuss these issues.

(Action Item 2)

CORRESPONDENCE

- 1) Letter from Mark Tribe (parishioner) offering to help with obtaining defibrillator - to be discussed at subsequent meeting.
- 2) Letter of thanks from Dr Paul Weiss for donation to Explorer Scouts.
- 3) Reply from Forest of Dean District Council regarding planning consultations on properties on parish boundaries.

BOUNDARY REVIEW - no comments were to be forwarded

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Mrs Askew suggested that a map be placed on the Village Hall to show location of properties, which would help to facilitate deliveries. It was agreed that this would prove useful.

FINANCE C.A. £6352.53 H.F. £1158.43 P.C. £15.97

- 1) It was agreed (Mr Whatley proposed, Mr Harding seconded, all in favour) that fee for Land Registry search (£7.00) be taken out of petty cash.
- 2) Mr Harding proposed, Mr Tormey seconded, that £62.74 be reimbursed to Richard Potter (FPO) for footpath equipment. Letter of thanks to be sent to John and Dawn Bennett for clearance of bridleway from Oaks Lane to Cliffords Mesne track, to Tania Clayton for paying for installation of stile on Oaks Lane end of AG8, and to Richard for his work. **(Action Item 3)**
- 3) Clerk's salary £200.00 - 3 months). Mr Harding proposed this be paid, Mr Tormey seconded. All in favour. Cheques written - £160.00 - clerk, £40.00 H.M.R.C. Clerk to check with Lynda Wilcox (H.A.L.C. salary scale for pay review.
- 4) Draft Budget was discussed and agreed (£5155). (Mr Tormey proposed, Mrs Askew seconded, all in favour)
- 5) Precept was set at £4650 (Mr Whatley proposed, Mr Smith seconded, all in favour) **(Action Item 4)**
- 6) Travelling expenses for Mr Whatley for Balfour Beatty meeting (£21.30). Mr

Harding proposed this be paid, Mrs Askew seconded, all in favour.)

COUNCILLORS' SUBMISSIONS

- Mr Whatley suggested that it might be useful for councillors to visit Linton Parish Council's Open Day for developing a Neighbourhood Plan on 13th December.
- Clerk to write to Herefordshire Council regarding Empty Property Register (Goldcliff) and liability for damage and fly tipping.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Wednesday 3rd January 2018
Monday 5th February

MEETING CLOSED AT

The Aston Ingham Parish Council meeting is held in the committee room in the Village Hall on the first Monday of each month (excluding August, unless a special meeting needs to be called).

The meeting begins promptly at 7.30 p.m., and business is usually finished by 9.30 - 10.00 p.m.

Parishioners are welcome to attend the monthly meetings, and if they have any points of concern with respect to our parish to send a letter prior to the meeting to our clerk, Heather Hobbs, Brooklands Cottage, Aston Ingham, HR9 7LS, for discussion at the meeting. Alternatively, points may be raised during the allocated time for public submissions at the meeting.

Email contact : - astoninghampc@gmail.com

For an online copy of the approved minutes please refer to www.astoninghampc.org

