

**MINUTES OF ASTON INGHAM PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD ON MONDAY 1st NOVEMBER 2021 AT 7.00 P.M. IN THE
VILLAGE HALL**

ATTENDED BY Mr J. Whatley (Chairman), Mrs J. Askew, Mr R. Harding, Mr D. Hardwick, Mr N. Smith, Mr C. Tormey (councillors)
Mr C. Hobbs, Mr D. Pettit, Mrs M. Pettit, Mr N. Roberts, Mr C. Stacey, Mr K. Stephens (parishioners)

APOLOGIES - none

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND REQUESTS FOR
DISPENSATIONS - none

PUBLIC SUBMISSIONS - none

MINUTES OF OCTOBER MEETING were approved and signed.

Mr Harding felt that all councillors should have been invited to the flooding site visit. As he had missed the last meeting his interest would not have been noted. The chairman explained the criteria for selecting the attendees.

ACTION POINTS addressed

HIGHWAYS UPDATE

1. Clerk to report pothole by Old School/churchyard. (**Action Item 1**)
2. Some progress regarding bridge over AG8. An ecology survey had to be carried out, but William Wilding has escalated and prioritised action on this issue.

FLOODING

The site visit had taken place on Monday 25th October. Unfortunately, the Asset Manager from Balfour Beatty had been unable to attend, but the drainage engineer, Jennifer Allen, had met with Mrs Askew and the parishioners affected by the flooding and a quite comprehensive look at the problems had followed. The report by David Pettit on the issues at different points of the village had proved very useful. The report subsequently received from Jennifer Allen had prompted several questions, but it was felt that this was too large a subject to be dealt effectively in a routine Parish Council meeting. It was suggested that a separate community action flood group be set up, working alongside the Parish Council, with a Parish Council representative, to pursue these questions. Mr Tormey proposed that Maggie Pettit lead this group. Mr Whatley volunteered to represent the Parish Council.

It was requested that two of the items raised be looked at straight away.

1. Clerk to request another meeting with Jennifer Allen, and ideally Richard Perkins, as there were some points which had not been brought to her attention on the day, including 'pinch points' in the Ell Brook and water running down Oaks Lane, but needed to be seen. (**Action Item 2**)
2. Mr Smith to speak with Mr Lewis (landowner) about clearing his ditch. (**Action Item 3**)

PLANNING - none

LGA CODE OF CONDUCT

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Parish Council adopt the LGA Code of Conduct. Mr Whatley proposed, Mr Tormey seconded. Five councillors in favour, one abstention.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter read from Linda Stock regarding the condition of the lane to Rose Cottage, also copy of her letter to Herefordshire Council. This was discussed, and it was decided that Mr Whatley should visit the site next week. Clerk to advise Mrs Stock. (**Action Item 4**)

NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

Following the consultation event with the public about the settlement boundary, the inclusion of Site 5 (Ellesmere) was a clear favourite, and this was supported by the NDP working group and the Parish Council. It was explained that the concept of 'no development' would mean that the Neighbourhood Development Plan would be rejected by Herefordshire Council, and would leave the village vulnerable regarding prospective development.

It is hoped that the consultant will begin drafting the plan shortly, but a meeting needs to take place with Lynda Wilcox of H.A.L.C. to resolve issues about the working relationship between the NDP working group and the Parish Council. It was urged that this should take place soon. Mr Whatley felt that there was no problem with David Nicholson and the steering group carrying on with their planned activities in the meantime.

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH - nothing to report

FINANCE C.A. £15395.41 H.F. £582.20 P.C. £14.57

1. The Defibrillator service kit would be ordered before the next meeting. (**Action Item 5**)
2. Clerk to contact H.A.L.C. and explore possibility of easier access to account, so

that councillors do not have to order items on their personal accounts. (**Action Item 6**)

3. Mr Whatley to compile draft budget for December meeting. (**Action Item 7**)

COUNCILLORS' SUBMISSIONS - none

DATE OF NEXT MEETING - Monday 6th December

MEETING CLOSED AT 8.55 p.m.

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 7.00 p.m. and business is usually finished by 8.30 - 9.00 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

