

**MINUTES OF ASTON, COTE, SHIFFORD & CHIMNEY PARISH COUNCIL
MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 4TH JANUARY 2018 IN THE
VILLAGE HALL, ASTON AT 7.30 PM**

- 1. Members Present:** Richard Haines (Chairman)
Jane Everex
Ben Lings
John Ordish
Paul Sparrowhawk
Jane West

In Attendance: Helen Sandhu – Clerk

Members’

Apologies: Phil West

- 2. Minutes of previous meeting** – on 7 December 2017 were agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
Proposed by Jane West, seconded by Paul Sparrowhawk.
- 3. Parish Councillors – Disclosure of interests on agenda items**
None.
- 4. Matters Arising from Previous Meetings**
- a) *Retender of grass cutting contract (verges and war memorial) from 2018*
A further quotation obtained from a different contractor was opened and reviewed alongside the quotations previously received.
It was resolved to accept the quotation from Ubico Ltd (West Oxfordshire District Council). Proposed by John Ordish, seconded by Ben Lings.
- b) *Retender of grass cutting contract (playing field) from 2018*
It was resolved to accept the quotation from Des Johnston. Proposed by Paul Sparrowhawk, seconded by Jane Everext.
- c) *Anti Social Behaviour*
Nothing reported.
- 5. New Business**
- a) *New batteries and pads for the parish defibrillators*
Richard Haines reported that the batteries and pads for both defibrillators had recently been replaced as they had reached the end of their useful lives. Andy Ball purchased the items and it was resolved that the Parish Council would refund the cost to him (£554.38). The Clerk advised that there was no specific provision for this expenditure in the 2017/18 budget and it was resolved to vire this amount from the underspent village maintenance budget. Proposed by Ben Lings, seconded by John Ordish.
- b) *RAF Brize Norton Consultation on Airspace Change Proposal*
It was resolved that the Parish Council would not provide a response to this consultation.

New Business (continued)

c) Parish Council Small Grant Scheme – applications for consideration

The application from Aston & Cote Primary School for a grant of £500 to support the visit of the Life Education Bus in 2018 was considered.

It was resolved that the Council, in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, would give a grant of £500 to Aston & Cote Primary School towards the cost of the visit of the Life Education Bus. This is, in the opinion of the Council, in the interests of the inhabitants of the Parish and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure. Proposed by Jane West, seconded by Jane Everex.

d) Donation request from Oxfordshire Association for the Blind (OAB)

It was resolved that the Parish Council would not provide a donation to this charity.

6. PLANNING

New planning applications

17/03740/FUL Aston Repair Depot, The Square, Aston
Erection of two dwellings, formation of vehicular access and associated parking

Response: No objection, but the following comments/requests for conditions to be submitted:

- Whilst the application does not require formal consultation with Thames Water on the capacity of the waste water system to cope with the new properties; the Parish Council continues to raise this issue. The local sewerage system regularly fails and has to be pumped out using sewerage vehicles. Thames Water carried out an assessment of the local sewerage system in 2015 which concluded that the local sewerage system is not able to cope with additional properties being connected to it. The cumulative impact of new build properties will continue to exacerbate this problem.

17/04094/HHD 6 Bull Street, Aston
Single storey side extension
No comments or objections.

Planning applications approved

17/03699/HHD Old Dairy Barn, Cote
Erection of single storey extension with basement

Planning applications going to appeal – appeal decided

16/03005/OUT Land North of Cote Road, Cote Road, Aston
Erection of up to 30 residential dwellings (“Gladman 2”)

Decision: Appeal allowed.

7. Community Trust

John Ordish told the Parish Council that there was nothing to report; the Community Trust does not hold a meeting in December.

8. Parish Infrastructure

a) *Village maintenance*

No new work identified. It had earlier been resolved in the meeting to vire £554.38 of the unspent village maintenance budget for 2017/18 to cover the expenditure on the replacement items for the defibrillators. The remaining village maintenance budget for 2017/18 is £290.12.

b) *Replacement of post adjacent to war memorial path*

The Clerk told the Parish Council that the order for the work has been placed.

c) *Siding out of footway between Aston and Cote*

Oxford County Council has recently completed this work.

d) *Highways matters still being pursued*

- Completion of entrances to North Street Farm development. The Clerk told the Parish Council that she has obtained information from the Oxfordshire County Council contact who has confirmed that the Aston village sign will need to be moved 65m northwards. The distance has been calculated based on a speed check which revealed that at the time of testing 85% of vehicles passed the entrance to the development at over 39mph.

9. FINANCE

a) *Account Balances* – noted.

b) *Budget for 2018/19*

It was resolved to set the precept at £26,026.00 for 2018/19. This will represent a 0% increase per household (Band D tax £48.76 for the year). Proposed by John Ordish, seconded by Jane West.

It was resolved to approve the budget as presented. Proposed by John Ordish, seconded by Jane West.

c) *December invoices presented for approval and payment*

		Statute
Clerk's salary and working from home allowance	381.00	LGA 1972, s112
Clerk's expenses – 137sheets x 7p	9.59	LGA 1972 s111
Mr A Ball – new batteries and pads for defibrillators	554.38	Public Health Act 1936, s234
OALC – Clerk's attendance at GDPR course on 14 Feb	48.00	LGA 1972 s111
West Oxfordshire District Council – emptying of dog bin in December & January	43.88	Litter Act 1983
Aston & Cote Primary School - grant	500.00	LGA 1972, s137
Total	£1,536.85	

It was resolved to make the above payments, proposed by John Ordish, seconded by Paul Sparrowhawk.

10. Matters arising since publication of agenda/

**Matters which Councillors wish to raise for inclusion on next agenda
(for discussion only)**

Richard Haines told the Parish Council that he has been contacted by a trustee of the Bampton Exhibition Foundation who lives in Aston and who is shortly going to be standing down from this position. The Foundation owns the building of the former Grammar School in Bampton (currently leased to Oxfordshire County Council for use as a library). The Foundation Scheme states that two of the trustees are appointed by Aston & Cote Parish Council. The Foundation is looking for a trustee to replace the member who is standing down. It was agreed to include this on the agenda of the February meeting.

Signeddated.....