

Astons' Recreation Committee

Minutes of AGM held at 19.30 on Monday 13th May 2019

1. Apologies

Bob Picken (BP)

2. Present

Joanna Hart (JH), Jolyon Tidmarsh (JT), Nigel Hawkey (NH) and Joanna Walshe (JW).

3. Minutes of last AGM.

The minutes were discussed and no actions raised.

4. Matters Arising

None

5. Presentation of Chair's report

There have been a number of changes during the year.

Fran Barlow is now an enthusiastic bookings secretary whose contribution is valued. Jeremy remains a very helpful helper even though he is not on the committee for which we are very grateful. Jo Walshe has been doing a great job taking on the role of treasurer.

On the fundraising side, Astonbury will be running every 2 years – next one in 2020. A big thanks to everybody involved with putting on Astonbury.

November's Bonfire Night was a great success, as ever. Many congratulations to the organising team ably led by Albie. Many thanks also to Richard Cox for again making a very professional display making excellent use of the electronic firing system. Also thanks to Marcus and Billy for the bonfire, Jo Walshe and Thea Bosse for the excellent catering.

The Safari Supper evening was again successful not just as a fundraiser, but also facilitating introductions and strengthening existing friendships within the village. The event is a staple in the village social calendar and is an excellent way for those new to the village to meet people. Congratulations to Susan, Berenice and Laura who organised the event with typical calmness and efficiency.

This year we agreed again with the Parish Council to run the rec work day on the same day as the village clear-up. This worked really well and there were several new faces, which was good to see. The cricket club cleared the concrete in preparation for the cricket net.

Rec development. This has stalled due to a lack of volunteers.

ARC's finances are in a healthy state. The Treasurer's report shows that the finances remain healthy and we need to start committing some of these funds to new projects, in particular replacing the swings.

My thanks to everyone on the Committee for all of their hard work over the last 12 months.

6. Presentation and Adoption of Accounts

Steve Morant is the Internal Auditor for the PC and ARC and will be reviewing the accounts ahead of the formal PC return.

The total income in the year to 31 March 2019 was £6,125 (£8,806 in year to March 2018), made up of £720 (£674) from donations and hire and £5,405 (£8,031) from fundraising: Astonbury, Fireworks night and Safari Supper. Fundraising income from Fireworks was lower than previously £3,706 (£4,220), possibly due to November 5th being a Monday and many events were on the same night. Astonbury was held on the August Bank Holiday weekend and contributed a lower total of £1,112.51 (£3,047), with Safari Supper adding £586 (£765). The Parish Council paid £703 to ARC to cover the Health and Safety costs accrued during the year and half of the tree survey. Note the PC also covers the insurance costs.

Expenditure was £5,090 (£10,292 in March 2017), including utilities of £1,477 (£1,765). Gas was considerably cheaper (£295 compared with £892 in 2018) due to catching up on metre readings being submitted, but electricity increased from £456 (2018) to £745 with submission of metre readings and change of tariff. Water increased slightly to £437 (from £418). Maintenance costs were lower at £1,248 (£2,741) with mostly smaller items. The boiler needed repairing which accounted for £850. A contract has been entered in to with Grundon to ensure the emptying of bins on a monthly basis, this began in July 2018. New fixed assets of £998 (£4,230) were purchased including 2 more electric chafers to complete the required number for bonfire night food service. 2 new gazebos were also purchased for use at fundraising events.

Cash balance at the end of the year was £32,551 (£29,240), an increase of £1,485 including the outstanding VAT reclaim from 2017-18, and VAT reclaim for 2018-19. The cash balance is expected to be put towards replacement of the swings in the Recreation Ground which will happen early in the next financial year. There is also money available to contribute to the development of a multi-use games area.

7. Election of Management Committee/Office Bearers

The Committee for the next year was approved consisting of

Jolyon Tidmarsh – Chair and Secretary

Jo Walshe – Treasurer

Bob Picken – Vice Chair

Fran Barlow – Bookings Secretary

Albie Welch

The two parish councillors are Joanna Hart and Nigel Hawkey

In addition to the committee we have supporters for various events:

Susan Pallett

Laura Haigh

Berenice Cox

Amberley Diamond

8. Terms of Reference

The terms of reference were reviewed and signed by those present.