Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 6th July 2026

Attendees

Name	Susan Pallet	Amberley Diamond	Joanna Hart	Liz Pattison	Maria Martin	Jo Walshe	Laura Haigh	Gillian Golding	Sarah Munro	Adam Bere
	SP	AD	JH	LP	MM	JW	LH	GG	SM	AB
Role		Events & Fundraising	PC	Joint Chair & Bookings	Play areas & meters	Treasurer (to July 2026)	Treasurer (from July 2026)	Joint Chair & Maintenance	PC	ACC rep
Present	No	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Part

2026 Meeting Schedule

Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
-	02	02	13	11	01	6	--	07	05	02	07

Previous minutes of 01 June 2026 were approved.

Outstanding Actions

- LP to develop the emergency lighting check (monthly check and annual checks) - ongoing
- LP to update pavilion hire agreement with:
  - designated fire assembly point
  - note about hirer responsibility for safety of people with impaired mobility in case of evacuation
  - Highlight that all external shutters need to be open during a hire to enable exit from all exit doors
- AB to record video explaining fire procedures to send to all hirers with hire agreement - ongoing
- JI to replace rotten fencing on left side of gate and trim bushes/trees at appropriate time to encourage them to bush up - ongoing
- GG to contact Tom Coates with approval to relay pavers/grouting and to mow/strim the playground - ongoing
- GG to upload all final ARC policies and procedure documents/safety reports etc to ARC page under the PC on the village website - ongoing
- AB to investigate SODC grant scheme – ongoing

Financial Matters

Current balance is £17,927.42 (£12,023.21) on 30th June 2026

Payments out:

- AAD Plumbing Ltd, 2xcistern repair: £90.00
- Valentini hire deposit return: £100.00
- Grundon, bins for Astonbury: £451.80
- Jeremy Imbush, insurance for Astonbury: £225.00
- JK Carpenter, repair to climbing ramp: £100.00
- Bank service charge: £4.25
- Grundon bins: £40.09
- British Gas, gas to 8th June: £54.26
- British Gas, electricity to 8th June: £72.11
- Rustic Management repairs to ramp paving: £330.00
- Everflow water: £421.44 £1888.95

Payments in:

- G&A Golding, return of payment for undelivered bark chippings: £800.00
- Astonathlon: £430.00
- Mandeville, post hire repair costs: £522.34
- Blewbury Amazons hire: £100.00
- Astonbury donations: £1,720.00
- Astonbury payments in: £3,840.99. £7413.33

Payments pending:

- Bonfire waste - skip hire and disposal: £979.00 ex VAT
- Awaiting final account. Looking at approx. £4-5k

Deposits pending:

- VAT reclaim to be reimbursed by PC for 2025-26: £1927.08

Meter Readings 08/06/2026: GAS: 77452 (77408) Electricity: 7613 (7399)
These readings were taken by smart meter and confirmed onsite.

Health and Safety Issues & Maintenance

ROSPA

- 2026 ROSPA report attached – to be added to September meeting agenda.

Recreation Ground Users

Month	Hirer	Dates
August	ACC	16th
		23rd
	Child Party ALC v	22nd
	Teenage party (18) CG v	29th Aug or 4th Sept TBC
September	ACC	6th
	Boules day	13th
	Child party AS v	19th

	Adult hire EM v	20th
	Adult hire TC v	25-27th

- Request received for wedding hire (copied below):

  "My Fiancé … and I will be getting married at St. Michael's church next May (flexible on dates but possibly late May bank holiday weekend). We saw on your website that the pavilion and recreation grounds are available to hire. We were wondering if it would be possible to hire the pavilion and recreation ground for a wedding reception - with a marquee on the recreation and use of the pavilion for toilets etc.

  We would ideally need to hire for ~48hours, to give time to set everything up, and then pack away again after the reception.

  If the above is possible, please let me know if you have availability for the weekend 29th/30th/31st May, and an estimate of costs. We live in Cholsey, so are not Aston villagers"

- Before agreeing to this hire ARC requests further details from the prospective hirers

Action: LP to contact prospective hirers, set out the Ts & Cs of the hire and ask for more details about the event including: attendee numbers expected; size of marquee; catering provision; music and pavilion music curfew; parking provision; insurance etc.

Fundraising and Social

Astonbury

- Awaiting calculation of the final account with the current estimate approx. £4,000-£5,000.
- A steady stream of people attended the event – around 400 people.
- ARC recognise that the sound-check was quite loud and were able to satisfy one resident who was unhappy about this on the day.
- There were some comments regarding ticket pricing. As the final income is expected to be higher owing to the higher level of donations than expected, it is anticipated that tickets for the next Astonbury will be at a lower price point.

ARC would like to extend sincere thanks to all villagers for their ongoing support, enthusiasm and patience during the lead up to and throughout the Astonbury event.

ARC would also like to extend thanks and congratulations to AD and the whole Astonbury planning committee for another successful and thoroughly enjoyable event.

The Astonbury committee is likely to be largely the same in 2 years, although some of key people will be stepping back. A huge thank you to them all for their significant contribution over the years.

Ladies Summer Supper

This popular event has been confirmed for Thursday 9th July. Unfortunately owing to busy summer diaries this was the only workable date this year. As usual, half the profit from the Ladies Summer Supper will be donated to SeeSaw.

Bonfire night

Handover of duties from Richard to AG is progressing well.

Any Other Business

1. **Possibility of Wifi at rec/pavilion (AD)**

Challenge encountered at Astonbury with Sum-up. Payments could be made via phone app and QR code but wifi signal was intermittent. Could we have wifi for events?

Obtaining wifi has been explored previously but as a sporting venue the Rec does not have a post code which has been a pre-requisite for wifi. Wifi would also incur an installation charge and monthly fee. Dongles could be used but these are limited to a fixed amount of data.

Action: LH to investigate obtaining more dongles and explore if requirements for securing a postcode have changed.

2. **New keys (LP)**

Current new key allocation

Name	Keys
GG	Door 1 (main door) and Door 2 (kitchen)
LP	Full set
JW	Full set
AP	Door 1 (main door)

Action: LP to make up key sets for AD & JH.

3. **Coordination of village events (LP)**

Inaugural meeting held for people who are involved in various village groups with the aim of enabling an even spread of events across the village calendar and foster collaboration and synergies across the village community groups.

Agreed as a first step to set up a combined Google calendar in order to coordinate village events once confirmed. This should help to avoid overlap and encourage sharing of resources if needed.

Next meeting to take place on 1st September 2026. Meeting note of inaugural meeting attached for info.

4. **South Oxfordshire District council – community grant scheme (AB)**

ARC agreed that we would like support something of impact for families in the village following the success of the children's stalls at Astonbury.

Actions:

- AB to investigate requirements/deadlines etc for submission of an application for a grant.

- AD/AB to discuss contacting parents who helped with Astonbury if they would like to support ARC in gathering ideas from villagers for additional children's facilities. Possibly via an informal coffee/drinks information gathering session at the pavilion.

5. Location of Children's painting competition winners from 2009

Paintings located and are being stored. Considering re-hanging them in hallway once maintenance work completed to the area.

- Next ARC meeting 07 Sep 2026

Jobs Calendar

Month	Health & Safety	Process	Social
January	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks Fire extinguisher check	Meter Readings	
February	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks	Meter Readings	
March	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks (inc. ROSPA checklist)	Ensure payments up to date Final VAT return before mid-March Visual Inspection of Pavilion and facilities in recreation ground. Meter Readings	
April	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks	Prepare FY accounts Weed & feed grass Meter Readings	
May	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks	AGM Internal Audit Meter Readings	
June	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks (inc. ROSPA checklist)	Meter Readings	Astonbury
July	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks RoSPA playground check Arrange & carry out PAT test	Meter Readings	
August	Playground checks	Meter Readings	
September	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks (inc. ROSPA checklist) Boiler Service Full discharge test of emergency lighting?	Review recreation ground risk assessment. Prepare budget for next year Meter Readings Review Gas & Electricity contracts (expire end October 2026)	Autumn Work Day
October	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks	Present budget to PC Meter Readings	Safari Supper
November	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks	Meter Readings	Bonfire Night
December	Playground/smoke alarm/emergency lighting checks (inc. ROSPA checklist)	Fire Extinguisher checks Meter Readings	