



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE  
PARISH COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD ON MONDAY 21st FEBRUARY 2022**

**12/789 Apologies for absence**

Jane Murphy OCC (JM), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Nigel Hawkey (NH), Nicole West (NW)

**12/790 Present**

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Peter Butcher (PB), Jane Knight (JBK), Neil Carter (NC), Joanna Hart (JH), Henry Weeks (HW), Sarah Brown Clerk(SB) Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS)

**12/791 Declaration of any relevant interests**

None

**12/792 Minutes**

Minutes from the meetings held on 10th January 2022 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

**12/793 Public questions, comments, or representations**

None

**12/794 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council**

Households in England, which are in council tax bands A-D, will receive a £150 rebate. The rebate to bills will be made by local authorities to households from April directly rather than through the Council Tax system. This will not need to be repaid. On top of this discount, discretionary funding of £144 million will also be provided to support vulnerable people and individuals on low incomes who do not pay Council Tax, or who pay Council Tax for properties in Bands E-H.

**New Climate Action Plan.** South Oxfordshire District Council has adopted a new climate action plan, taking a major step towards cutting its emissions and becoming a carbon neutral organisation.

The council's [Climate Action Plan](#), agreed by Cabinet members last week, follows significant work from officers and councillors, and feedback from parish councils, local climate action groups and from the council's Climate and Ecological Emergencies Advisory Committee.

The plan was a specific commitment in [South Oxfordshire's Corporate Plan 2020-24](#). To ensure the council is open about the progress towards its targets, officers will now carry out quarterly reviews and report to the Climate and Ecological Emergency Advisory Committee and South Oxfordshire's Cabinet.

**Infrastructure Funding Statements now available.** SODC has published its Infrastructure Funding Statements for 2020/21 to provide an annual summary on developer contributions. Through Community Infrastructure Levy and Section 106, we were able to secure £20,665,018 from local developers, which will go towards local infrastructure to support the growth in our districts.

As part of the budget-setting process for 2022/23, a prioritised list of projects which will use the SODC portion of these funds has been created; this new approach will ensure that 3<sup>rd</sup>



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE  
PARISH COUNCILS

party funds are used wherever possible for major projects, thus reducing the demand on the Council's reserves. The majority of these recommended projects relate to the District's leisure centres, the Riverside pool, campsite and other facilities in Wallingford, environmental and tree planting projects and to the purchase of housing for social rent.

**2022/23 Budget** The SODC budget was approved on 17<sup>th</sup> Feb and we can put in place delivery plans for the projects identified for the second full year of our current Corporate Plan (e.g. the roll-out of our Climate Action Plan, which was approved by Cabinet on 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb). These come on top of our statutory obligations, of course. We are pleased to report that, thanks to bringing the Finance function back in-house from Capita, we have much better processes for budget-setting, scrutiny and approval. This has helped us to identify savings in our base budget while not compromising on the services we offer to residents. Although we still only have a one-year financial settlement from the Government, we are still obliged to set a Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) which takes us through to 2026/27. Our current projections indicate that we have been successful in closing the gap between revenue and expenditure since being elected in 2019 (one of our Corporate Plan priorities) and that Council reserves are in a much stronger position than the predictions we inherited.

## 12/795 Planning

- a) **P21/S4995/FUL**- for development work at the following location: Upthorpe Farm Moreton Road, Aston Tirrold. The PC **RESPOND** to this application. The PC very much appreciate the receptiveness of the developers and the high standard of work that they have shown. It was also appreciated that they had attended the last 2 parish council meetings and listened to the concerns raised and responded appropriately addressing the issues from immediate neighbours. However, the PC remains extremely concerned about sustainability of the village and this development given the lack of amenities, employment opportunities and public transport and whilst recognising that is outside the control of the developer, those issues are not diminished.
- b) **P22/S0386/HH**- 3&4 Hagbourne road, Aston Upthorpe. Demolition of existing residential single storey garage block and erection of a similar replacement garage block (777 cubic metres of demolition). The PC **SUPPORT** this application.

## 12/796 ARC

The minutes from ARC meeting held 7<sup>th</sup> Feb were approved. Astonbury is going ahead again this year the date set is 11<sup>th</sup> June 2022. There will be a village clean up date sometime in April/May- an actual date will be discussed at the next meeting. SB to email OCC to ask for specific areas (preferably mapped for clarity) that they are responsible for their deep cleanse happening in May, so we can prioritise areas that they will not be covering.

## 12/797 Finance

- a) Payments below Approved

Sarah Brown Clerk fees	£235.20
Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.40



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTON  
PARISH COUNCILS

Dog Bin Emptying October 2021- December 2021	£107.64
Bob Picken, Sign Wizzard- community speedwatch signs	£244.23

b) January's Financial Statement APPROVED

c) June Dyer's donation of £2000 was discussed and thoughts are to give a small amount to the village news to provide a colour copy for the queen's jubilee issue and maybe others in the year. Discussions were also made for the boule area near the playground to be upgraded.

**12/798 CLP Groups**

a) Roads and Traffic - The speed watch is nearly ready to take place. It's hoping to start early March.

b) Housing and Development- Nothing to report.

c) Environment Group- Concerns have arisen about light pollution in the village which has been disturbing the wildlife. The PC would like to take this opportunity to thank households for their support in reducing light pollution and therefore helping wildlife.

**12/799 Fibre broadband**

The committee has nearly come to the end now that the project is going ahead. A huge thank you to everyone involved, especially Bruno. Updates will be from Openreach now that the work has started, although the committee will update the village when they hear any news.

**12/800 Discuss areas of interest for OCC deep cleanse in May**

SB to email to ask for a map of areas OCC will be covering. Outside stockwells was an area of interest to clean up brought up.

**12/801 Community response to Coronavirus (Covid 19)**

The phone won't be topped up but will be kept just in case the need for it arises again.

**12/802 To discuss moving the proposed date for April's meeting from Monday 18th to Monday 11<sup>th</sup> due to the bank holiday**

Date of April's meeting will be Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> venue TBC

**12/803 Review Monthly Calendar tasks**

The defibrillator from outside the pub will be located at the village hall on the side of the library.

**12/7804 Items for next agenda**

Discuss the role and future of the CLP groups (Anna Dillon to attend)

Date for village deep clean.

Discuss Jubilee party.

Date of the next meeting is at 7.30pm on Monday 21st March 2022 which will be held in the Village hall.