

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18th MARCH 2026**

13/106 Apologies for absence

Neil Carter (NC), Johnny Hope-Smith OCC (JHS), Peter Butcher (PB),

13/107 Present

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Jane Knight (JBK), Sarah Munro (SM), Tom Mooney (TM), Mary Severin (MS), Joanna Hart (JH), Crispin Topping SODC (CT), Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS),

Members of the public - 0

13/108 Declaration of any relevant interests

None

13/109 Minutes

Minutes from the meeting held on 18th February 2026 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

13/110 Public questions, comments, or representations

No comments received.

13/112 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council

SODC: report received

OCC: report received

See link for SODC report

[Aston Tirrold Aston Upthorpe Parish Council DC Report 180326.docx](#)

See link for OCC report

[County Councillor Parish Report Mar 2026.docx](#)

13/113 Planning

To consider the following planning permissions: **None**

13/114 ARC

- a) Approve Minute's from March's meeting. – **Approved**
- b) ARC requests approval to spend £810 (exc VAT) on bark for the playground (to arrive for the work day on 18th April) **Approved**
- c) ARC requests approval for Astonbury to take place on 27 June 2026. **Approved**
- d) ARC requests that the PC asks its insurer for a quote to cover the insurance for the event. CR to contact Zurich Insurance and based on 499 attendees recorded at any one time. **Noted**
- e) ARC will take out Event Cancellation Insurance at a cost of £199, which will limit the total loss to any required excess in the event that Astonbury is cancelled at the last minute. **Noted**

- f) ARC requests permission to make the following payments that are over £500 for the purposes of Astonbury: £4,071 (excluding VAT) on staging and sound; £900 on infrastructure (including bins & loos) and £2,000 to pay for bands. **Agreed**
- g) ARC requests permission to contribute up to 15% of Astonbury profits to Style Acre. **Agreed.**
- h) ARC would like to continue Astonbury until 11:45pm to allow a DJ set at the end (this will be on the smaller PA system, not the full stage equipment). **Agreed.** Near neighbours are to be contacted by a representative if ARC
- i) Astonathlon: PC is requested to get a quote from its insurer to cover the event. Sunday 3rd May (expect approximately 30 teams of 2 to run 5/10 kms and cycle 16/32kms). Note that the Astonathlon Committee plan to share the proceeds equally between ARC and the Didcot Foodbank. **Agreed** CR to contact Zurich Insurance

13/115 Finance

- a) Payments below approved

Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.40
Charlotte Ray Clerk Fees	£310.00
Charlotte Ray Back Pay for 24/25 to bring in line with NALC pay scale	£168.00
OALC Membership Fee	£228.00
HMRC PAYE Liability	£36.55
SODC Dog Bin	£234.12

- b) Approve February's Financial Statement- **Approved**
- c) Approve a payment to be made mid-month for new Batteries for the Defibrator (Awaiting invoice currently). **Noted**
- d) Discuss donation request from Citizens Advice Oxford (CA) to help support their services. The PC has received a request previously and has agreed to one off donation to the CA of £200.00. JI will respond to the request asking for payment details.

13/116 CLP Groups

- a) **Roads and traffic** – The flood on Baker Street have been resolved. The road surface on the southern edge opposite Downs View has been damaged. JBK will photograph and log the issues on fix my street. Councillor Knight has also agreed

Chalk Hill has received a temporary repair. JI has spoken to a representative from OCC with a view to a more substantive repair to the bank bordering the drain which is running freely. In addition, JI mentioned the considerable damage to verges where motorists have avoided potholes and damaged road surface to bypass potholes. This is a Highways issues rather than Flood Management.

Jane Barr-Knight will contact South Moreton School regarding some possible 20mph posters that the children could make to draw attention to speed limit on Moreton Road.

- b) **Housing and Development** – Nothing to report
- c) **Environment group** – The Hedgerows and verges plan has been submitted to OCC. Thanks to NC for this

Thursday, 19 March 2026

13/117 To Discuss progress with the Internal Auditors Recommendations.

The PC are continuing to work through the recommendations from the internal auditor.

13/119 Items for next agenda

Date of the next meeting is at 7:30 pm on Wednesday 15th April 2026 which will be held in the Village Hall.

The meeting closed at: 20:52

13/120 Review Monthly Calendar tasks

Following meetings will be on the third Wednesday of the month except for December when it will be the second Wednesday due to the closeness to Christmas:

15th April 2026

20th May 2026

17th June 2026

15th July 2026

16th September 2026

21st October 2026

18th November 2026

9th December 2026