



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCILS

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH COUNCIL
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 16th NOVEMBER 2022**

12/908 Apologies for absence

Jane Murphy OCC (JM), Nigel Hawkey (NH), Joanna Hart (JH)

12/909 Present

Jane Imbush Chair (JI), Simon Young Vice-Chair (SY), Peter Butcher (PB), Henry Weeks (HW),
Neil Carter (NC), Jane Knight (JBK) Anne-Marie Simpson SODC (AMS)
Sarah Brown Clerk (SB)
9 members of the public

12/910 Declaration of any relevant interests

None

12/911 Minutes

Minutes from the meetings held on 15th October 2022 were then agreed by all and signed by the Chair.

12/912 Public questions, comments, or representations

None

12/913 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council

Full report at the end of these minutes. They include:-

- Councillor Grants Scheme
- New Active Communities Strategy
- Nearly £900,000 given to Local Communities for Local Improvements
- Nearly £6.5 million Awarded to Help Local Businesses
- Joint application made for bathing status for the River Thames at Wallingford
- Claim a free tree for your garden

AMS will look into how long the PC can hold CIL monies for to spend on a bigger project

12/914 Planning

- a) **P22/S3773/LB-** for development work The Old Church Barn, Thorpe Street, Aston Upthorpe. For works and repairs to a garage and storage outbuilding. The PC **SUPPORT** this application
- b) **P22/S3459/HH-** for development work at Rose Barn Spring Lane Aston Upthorpe. For proposed extension to existing garage with new studio over. The PC assessed the planning application at its meeting on November 16 and is **unable to support** for the following reasons. The application seeks to more than double the size of the existing garaging and appears to change the use of the existing space with the inclusion of living accommodation with kitchenette, shower and associated facilities The additional fenestration and extensive glazing would lead to significant light spill detrimental to habitat, all within the village conservation area.

12/915 ARC

- a) The minutes from ARC meeting held 7th November were approved.



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCILS

12/916 Finance

a) Payments below Approved

Sarah Brown Clerk fees	£235.20
Simplicity Payroll Service	£26.70
SODC Dog poo bin empty	£226.04

- b) September's Financial statement- approved.
- c) The PC acknowledged a direct debit to ICO data protection of £35 in Octobers Statement.

12/917 Silverburn Footpath

8 Villagers were in attendance who shared their upset over the manner in which the unregistered footpath next to Silverburns lane had been cleared on 26th October. There was extensive discussions with parties able to air their opinions and views and understandably some emotive and at times heated debate. The chair of the PC detailed the work that had been undertaken by the council since March 2021 and the intention to identify all unregistered land in the parishes. There were 19 responses from villagers who had answered a tick box questionnaire regarding the work that was undertaken and the manner in which it was carried out. Serious concerns were raised over the discarded vegetation, some of which was thrown into the stream. It was agreed that the PC would obtain a quote from a professional company to clear the remaining debris along the path and work with the Trust ensuring it would be removed in a safe and timely manner. The members of the public were also very concerned about the future of the land owned by the Trust and possible development. The PC cannot predict what the Trust intend. However, so long as any proposal was within the law, there was little the PC could do presently other than monitor. It was agreed at one of the members of the public would work with the environment group on solutions and future of the path.

12/918 CLP Groups

- a) Roads and traffic- Nothing to report.
- b) Housing and Development- J1 to circulate to councillors the letter received regarding sustainability.
- c) Environment Group- Approval for costs for a new kissing gate £540 and the installation for the gate and for one to be moved is £900.

A member of the public has agreed to work with the Environmental group on footpaths in the Astons to try and help to get the villagers some clarity on how the PC can help maintain the unregistered footpaths in a legal and fair manner.

12/919 Fibre Broadband

No update

12/920 Grant Applications

- PCC- Burial ground- £2420- APPROVED
- History Group- £700- APPROVED



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTON
PARISH COUNCILS

- **Web Team Group-** £344- APPROVED
- **Village Hall-**£1500- Cannot support due to the lack of clarity on the financial accounts
- **Village Hall Post Office-**£500- APPROVED
- **Astons Toddler Group-** £648- APPROVED

12/921 Review Monthly Calendar tasks

Defibrillator at the village hall is missing a plug. Emily is looking into getting this fixed

12/922 Items for next agenda

- Dark skies and lighting

Date of the next meeting is at 7.30pm on Wednesday 14th December 2022 which will be held in the Village hall.

Meeting closed at 21.01

SODC Update

Councillor Grants Scheme

The first round of the Councillor Grant scheme has closed and I am pleased to be able to support applications from Ist Hagbourne (St Andrews) Scout Group, Stewart Village Hall in Brightwell-cum-Sotwell for an energy saving project, One Eighty's 'Make me Smile Project' for a district-wide mental health education and resilience programme for young people in Year 6 and South Moreton Parish Council's Recreation Ground Improvement Project.

New Active Communities Strategy

South Oxfordshire District Council's Active Communities Strategy, developed in partnership with Vale of the White Horse District Council, is a brand new approach to help their residents come together to take part in sport, health and recreational activities that improve their physical and mental wellbeing, while forging stronger social links within their local communities. You can read about the strategy by following the link on the council webpage. [Active Communities strategy - South Oxfordshire District Council \(southoxon.gov.uk\)](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk/active-communities-strategy)

Nearly £900,000 given to Local Communities for Local Improvements

South Oxfordshire District Council has released almost £900,000 to help pay for local community improvements in the district in the last six months. The funds came from a Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) – money that's collected from developers as a condition of their planning permission to build new homes in the area. To read more on the funds released go to [southoxon.gov.uk](https://www.southoxon.gov.uk)

Nearly £6.5 million Awarded to Help Local Businesses

More than 2,000 businesses have received a much-needed relief award totalling almost £6.5 million to help reduce their business rates thanks to South Oxfordshire and Vale of White Horse District Councils. In total, £6,471,842 was allocated to businesses, using the government's Covid-19 Additional Relief Fund (CARF), to help organisations that were unable to receive previous government Covid-19 grants despite having been badly affected by the pandemic.

Joint application made for bathing status for the River Thames at Wallingford



ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCILS

South Oxfordshire District Council and Wallingford Town Council, supported by environmental charity Thames 21, have submitted an application to the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) for bathing status for a stretch of the River Thames at Wallingford.

If awarded, Thames Water would be legally required to treat waste outflows to a much higher standard, ensuring that bacteria harmful to the health of people and wildlife is removed before water can be released into the river.

During the bathing season (May-September) the Environment Agency would also be required to monitor the water quality. Information from weekly testing would give visitors, including swimmers, paddle boarders, kayakers and anglers a clearer picture of how clean the water is likely to be.

Throughout the summer, to help inform the application, Thames 21 and trained volunteers from the local community recorded visitor numbers and collected 170 water quality samples along the river which were analysed by Thames Water. Visitors to the area were also asked to complete a survey about their experience at the site and asked whether they support the application. It is hoped that Defra will make their decision on the application in early 2023.

Claim a free tree for your garden

The International Tree Foundation and Oxfordshire Trees Collaborate are working together this autumn to offer free tree saplings for people to plant in their garden.

For more information and to order a free tree please visit the International Tree Foundations website.