



**ASTON TIRROLD & ASTON UPTHORPE
PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTON TIRROLD AND ASTON UPTHORPE PARISH
COUNCIL
HELD ON MONDAY 19th July 2021 BY ZOOM CONFERENCE CALL**

12/683 Apologies for absence

Jane Imbush (Chair), Anne-Marie Simpson (SODC) and Jane Murphy (OCC)

12/684 Present

Simon Young - Chair (SY), Joanna Hart (JH), Nicole West (NW), Jane Knight (JBK), Peter Butcher (PB), Neil Carter (NC), Nigel Hawkey (NH), Denes Marffy Clerk (DM) and Sarah Brown Clerk in training (SB)

Three members of the public.

12/685 Declaration of any relevant interests

NH in respect of the planning application at Armadale.

12/ 686 Minutes from meeting on 21st June 2021

Minutes from the meeting held on the 21st June were agreed by all and signed off by the Chair.

12/687 Public questions, comments or representations

Mike Wigg and Olivier Bouet presented updated plans for the Chequers Inn renovations which included impressive open plan space, two electric car charging ports for customer and village use and a room on the first floor which has the potential to be used by villagers. They are hoping to submit their planning application shortly. Plans for the pub can be found on the village website. The councillors reiterated their enthusiastic support for the proposals, and villagers will be encouraged to attend the Parish Council meeting when the application is considered.

12/688 SODC and OCC Reports to the Parish Council

- a) Anne-Marie (SODC) circulated her comprehensive report prior to the meeting. SY drew attention to the fact that waste collections are experiencing delays due to Biffa's drivers and staff having to self-isolate. SODC's advice to residents is as follows: "If any of your waste was not collected last week, or if your bins are missed in the next couple of weeks, firstly leave the bins out for 3 days after your usual bin day and if still not collected please bring your bins back in and put it out next time it is due to be collected. While we normally do not collect extra black bin rubbish, if we are unable to collect yours as a result of this disruption, you can leave up to three black sacks' worth out the next time it is due. Please remember you can always put out additional recycling and food waste on your next scheduled collection".
- b) David Johnston, MP has advised us that the proposed Planning white paper will not come forward until the end of the year at the earliest.



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12/689 Planning

To decide on the following planning applications:

P21/S2850/HH - Erection of garden shed. Armadale Aston Street Aston Tirrold.

The PC **SUPPORT** this application.

P21/S2906/HH - Single storey side & rear extension following demolition of existing conservatory & outbuilding. 3 Moreton Road Aston Upthorpe.

The PC **SUPPORT** this application.

12/ 690 ARC

- a) Monthly playground check confirmed and signed off. Noted.
- b) ARC Minutes will be added to September's agenda to be signed off

12/691 Finance

- a) Approve payments below **APPROVED**

D.Marffy Clerk Fees (51.40 to HMRC)	£216.00
Simplicity Payroll Services (Payroll)	£24.00
Sarah Brown (SLCC Clerk training course)	£144.00
Sarah Brown Clerk fees (£53.40 to HMRC)	£267.77
Astons Toddler Group (Grant see 12/696 below)	£630.00

- b) Approve June Financial Statement **APPROVED**

12/692 Footpath between Silverburn and Lindens.

Since last meeting JI and SY have attended a site with the two officers from Thames Valley Police investigating the crime incident at the footpath. Although they understood our frustration that trees and vegetation had been cleared unnecessarily during the nesting season they felt, after discussion with the rural officer at OCC, that there were insufficient grounds to pursue the case. Thames Valley Police subsequently had a meeting with the Cook Family Settlement's local agent to clarify the legal position.

12/ 693 To accept feedback and discuss matters arising from CLP Groups:

- a) Roads and Traffic.

JBK mentioned that, with the easing of lockdown restrictions, Bob Picken is hoping to progress the proposed traffic watch initiative. After discussion, it was agreed that JBK would contact Jon Beale at OCC Highways to discuss the possibility, and the cost, of erecting a 'No left turn sign' in Thorpe Street near Edlins to try to prevent HGVs from attempting to take that route through the villages.

- b) Housing & Development.
Nothing to discuss



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c) Environment Group.

HW will report back to the September meeting with recommendations about verge cutting.

12/ 694 Fibre broadband

NC referred to his paper explaining delays in the rollout of full fibre broadband, the reduction in the proposed voucher values and growing uncertainty over the availability of “top up” funding from OCC.

In a subsequent email to Jane Murphy (OCC Councillor), Craig Bower (Programme Director, OCC Digital Infrastructure Team) was very appreciative of the work done by Bruno Brunskill and others in the Astons and will continue to work with us to “get this over the line”.

12/695 The Pub.

Dealt with under item 12/687

12/696 Astons toddler group

The council were in agreement that the toddler group was a worthy cause to support and, after discussion, agreed to give £630 from the SSE fund as a one off contribution to help the group get back on its feet. Hopefully the group will become self-sufficient again as lockdown constraints are eased, but the toddler group could ask for maintenance funds in the next round of PC grant applications if necessary.

12/697 Discuss Community response to Coronavirus (Covid 19)

Nothing to discuss

12/698 Discuss Sid Marlow bequest of £10000.00

a) St Michaels ringing tower £5,967.60 when VAT is included. SY explained that this was a project to improve the insulation between the bells and the ringing chamber in the church tower to make it easier for bell ringers to hear the bells and instructions. There was general support, in principle, not least as it is believed that Sid enjoyed listening to the bells.

b) Although there were some good ideas it was felt that the money would be better spent on one larger, more focussed project. NW suggested that part of the bequest could be used to significantly improve the planting by the village hall (where the paving has just been re-laid/redesigned) and a plaque could be placed here as a memorial to Sid.

It was agreed that, subject to no other projects being proposed for consideration, the bequest could possibly be split between the ring tower and planting at the village hall. The PC will speak to Sid’s family for their views on these ideas before continuing discussions at the September meeting.

12/ 699 Review monthly tasks calendar

12/700 Items for the next agenda

- a) Defibrillator checks
- b) Sign off July’s ARC minutes
- c) Reconciliation of SSE Grant of £1000
- d) Agree date for autumn Working Party
- e) Discuss possible applications to the Councillor Community Grant Scheme

Meeting closed at 20.33



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Date of next meeting: **7pm on Monday 20th September 2021** in the Village Hall or via Zoom

Notes:

1. The disclosure must include the nature of the interest. If you become aware, during the course of a meeting, of an interest that has not been disclosed under this item you must immediately disclose it. You may remain in the meeting and take part fully in discussion and voting unless the interest is prejudicial.

A personal interest is prejudicial if a member of the public with knowledge of the relevant facts would reasonably regard it as so significant that it is likely to prejudice your judgement of the public interest and it relates to a financial or regulatory matter.

For Information only

January	Agree budget / Submit precept request
February	Submit VAT reclaim/ Confirm defibrillator checks
March	Reimburse ARC for Health & Safety Costs, Village Clear up
April	Grants paid
May	AGM / Renew insurance, Review Emergency plan/ Confirm defibrillator checks
June	
July	
August	Confirm defibrillator checks
September	Advertise for grant applications, Re-issue Emergency Plan
October	Final date for grant applications
November	Discuss grant applications / begin budgeting process/ Confirm defibrillator checks
December	Discuss draft budget