



# ASTON CLINTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council Meeting

held at 6.30pm on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2023 at the  
Parish Council Office, Aston Clinton Park, London Road HP22 5HL

**PRESENT:** Cllr C Read (Chair), Cllr P Birchley, Cllr M Collins, Cllr C Judge, Cllr M Mason, Cllr D McCall, & Cllr L Ronson

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs S Payne (Clerk) & two councillor candidates

**23.30 Questions and Comments from the Public.** None received

**23.31 To Receive Apologies for Non-Attendance.** Received from Cllr J Hughes & Cllr P Wyatt

**23.32 To Receive Declarations of Interest or Requests for Dispensation.** None received.

**23.33 To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> June 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

**23.34 Co-option to Council**

Cllr Read reported that three applications for the two councillor vacancies had been received and circulated to Council for consideration. One of the candidates was unable to attend the meeting. Each candidate addressed Council and took questions.

All candidates left the meeting

**It was resolved by a majority that Kelly Hickson be co-opted as a Councillor.**

Kelly Hickson returned to the meeting

Kelly Hickson signed a Declaration of Office and received a Councillor Induction Pack.

The Clerk would contact the third applicant and invite them to the next Council meeting for consideration for co-option for the remaining vacancy. **ACTION: Clerk**

**23.35 Council**

i. Aston Clinton Society: **It was resolved to appoint Cllr Mason and Cllr Judge as Council's representatives for the Aston Clinton Society.**

ii. Reports from external bodies: Cllr Mason reported on a recent Aston Clinton Society meeting which included a presentation on the Bucks Council heritage project. It was agreed that Council should consider assets to add to the heritage list. **ACTION: All**

iii. Freedom of Information request: A Freedom of Information request had been received regarding the approval of the location of the trees along the park's driveway. The Clerk reported that all relevant documents had been provided.

**23.36 Finance & Staffing**

i. Cllr Read reported that the Nationwide Building Society account had been successfully opened.

ii. Financial reports: The Clerk reported that the reports were not available and would be presented to the next meeting of Council. **ACTION: Clerk**

iii. Payments totaling £19,835.19 were approved and income of £31,183.86 was noted.

## Payments over £500

Date	Company	For	Amount £	Vat £	Total £
30/06/2023	Bancroft Consulting	Review of NHP Traffic second payment	£5,777.50	£1,155.50	£6,933.00
23/06/2023	Dementia Carers Respite	Grant to Dementia Carers Respite	£1,000.00	£0.00	£1,000.00
30/06/2023	Goldleaf Groundcare	Beechwood Way path/pitches weed kill	£752.00	£150.40	£902.40
01/07/2023	Goldleaf Groundcare	Park Grounds Maintenance July 23	£866.67	£173.33	£1,040.00
14/07/2023	Kenneth Workman	Park keeper duties	£1,227.42	£0.00	£1,227.42
01/07/2023	Your Café in the Park	RKP Cleaning June 23	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00
13/07/2023	drax	SL elec June 2023	£2,662.96	£532.59	£3,195.55
10/07/2023	UKDMO	Public works Loan repayment	£1,990.54	£0.00	£1,990.54
12/07/2023	Adobe	Software licence x3	£675.00	£0.00	£675.00
			<b>£15,552.09</b>	<b>£2,011.82</b>	<b>£17,563.91</b>

### 23.37 Facilities

- i. A Facilities Committee meeting had been held on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2023. Draft minutes would be circulated.
- ii. Electric quad bike: The Facilities Committee at their 12<sup>th</sup> July meeting considered the health and safety concerns raised by the park keeper regarding the tractor. The committee agreed that given these concerns the tractor was not safe to use and should be sold and an electric quad bike be purchased. An Explorer GT Electric Quad Bike for £4,419.09 was proposed. **It was resolved to purchase an Explorer Electric Quad Bike from Eco Rider for £4,419.09 from General Reserves.** **ACTION: Clerk**
- iii. Events: Cllr Mason reported that the Events Working Group would be meeting in August to discuss arrangements for the Remembrance Service, Santa's Float and to consider ideas for the Council's annual summer event.
- iv. Football Club: A request from the Football Club to open Churchill Hall bar during the Astonbury event on 12<sup>th</sup> August between 12pm and 9pm was considered. **It was resolved to decline the request to open the Churchill Hall bar during Astonbury as it would encourage Astonbury visitors to congregate in front of the building causing an obstruction to the main pathway to the park for all other park users; especially those with disabilities.**

### 23.38 Highways & Streetlights

- i. Hedges & footpaths: A map of the footpaths which need siding out and weedkilling is being created so that quotes for the work can be sought.
- ii. Verge obstructions: Two obstructions on the Church Lane verge have been reported and are being dealt with by the Local Area Technician. **ACTION: Clerk**
- iii. Streetlights: A streetlight in Yorke Close is currently obstructed by vegetation from a neighbouring property. The owner has been informed.
- iv. MVAS & Community Speedwatch: Data from Weston Road shows a 78% compliance rate, which is an 8% decrease on data from the London Road location. The MVAS has been relocated to London Road. A speedwatch session took place recently and more sessions have been scheduled.
- v. War memorial flag: A safety inspection of the flagpole had been carried out and the rope replaced.

### 23.39 Planning Committee

- i. The draft minutes of the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2023 Planning Committee meeting were noted.

**23.40 Resolved that under Section 1 of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, the public and representatives of the press and broadcast media are excluded from the meeting during the consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they include the likely disclosure of exempt information, stated to be confidential.**

**23.41 To Receive an Update on the RKP Lease**

Comparative market value information is being sought. Council were asked to consider the worth of the 'on-site' management of the RKP.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm

Signed.....Date .....