

Minutes of the Grounds Maintenance Sub-Committee of Aston Clinton Parish Council held on 19th September 2018 at 9am at the Parish Meeting Room

Present:

Councillors: -

L Ronson – Chairman

L Tubb

C Read

K Loxley

Minutes: G Merry

0 members of the public

18.13 Apologies

Apologies were accepted from Cllrs Judge and Eggesfield.

18.14 Declarations of Interest:

There were no declarations.

18.15 Minutes of the last meeting – held 26th June 2018.

The minutes were agreed and signed

18.16 Footpaths and Village

- i. **2018-20 Budget:** Cllr Ronson suggested there was a greater need for access in the village away from the main roads, for school children, prams, etc and Mr Loxley agreed to investigate what internal footpaths are most regularly used. Mr Loxley's original costings, at approx. £2 per sqm were still applicable. However, excessive side growth, gates, stiles etc and in particular, installation of a harder surface e.g. hoggin, would need to be investigated. The clerk agreed to obtain budget quotes so that a figure could be put into the new budget. The matter of the footpath from the new Church Lane estate, to the Anthony Hall was discussed and it was agreed to find out from the developer exactly where the path would go.
- ii. **Kissing Gate:** The kissing gate in Church Lane had been reported as rotten. However, Mr Loxley reported that the post, although rotten, belongs to Park Farm and was not originally for the gate, which was installed afterwards. It was agreed this should be the farm's responsibility although the gate and post are not unsafe at the moment. The ownership of the road heading south beyond the farm and cricket field, was discussed. It was agreed to carry out a land registry search to ascertain this.
- iii. **Dog Bins:** The clerk reported that the process now is that AVDC need to know in advance, where new bins are to be sited, before they can agree to further installations. The following sites were agreed: -
 1. Entrance to Chapel Drive by footpath ACL6
 2. On College Road South at the junction with Brook Street, close to the new play area.
 3. On Aylesbury Road, close to no. 87 and the intersection with footpath ACL1.Cllr Ronson agreed to check how many dog bins were left in the compound.
- iv. **Bus Shelter Clearance Work:** The clerk explained that due to the shelter being sited in a slightly different location from the original, the contractors had incurred extra costs for branch clearance, at £695. It was agreed this bill had been unavoidable and would be approved, subject to the contractor retuning to 'ring' the tree as they had agreed. It was agreed, the noticeboard inside the shelter would have a notice stating it had been provided by Aston Clinton Parish Council.

18.18 Churchyard

- i **Regulations:** A request had been received to reserve a grave plot. The clerk explained that in the past this had been granted only on an ad hoc basis and many churchyards do not allow it, due to the difficulty of keeping irrefutable records for what may be many years. It was agreed however, that this was a deserving case and with online record-keeping, it would be easier to guarantee the legalities. A special dispensation in this case would be recommended to the Facilities Committee.

18.18 Park

- i **Bins:** The clerk confirmed that 5 new bins had been ordered to replace the large brown bins in the Park. New steel liners for the blue bins could be ordered at £43 plus VAT and the caretaker would be asked how many were needed.

- ii **Driveway Lampposts:** The cabling had been broken during the surfacing project but as it was not clear where, a solution was proposed to undertake 'moling' to facilitate the laying of a new cable. This would connect the lamps in the driveway to one in the top car park. A quote for £850 plus the cost of the cable installation at £250 had been received. The clerks were obtaining a further quote, and these would be presented at the Facilities meeting. The proposed electric gates were discussed, and it was agreed these could be connected via the electricity box in the car park.

- iii **Path:** The clerk enquired the best course of action re. the recent shifting of the path to the MUGA and confirmed she had already asked the original installer to assess what could be done. It was agreed the unevenness of the surface was a potential trip hazard and signage must be improved to warn people.

- iv **Bollard:** No-one had come forward to admit driving into the bollard and the clerk enquired whether she should file an insurance claim. It was agreed not to take this course of action. A quote of £1500 had been received to replace the bollard and further quotes were being obtained.

..... Chairman

Date: