

## **Approved Minutes of the Meeting of Aslockton Parish Council held in the Thomas Cranmer Centre, Aslockton, Nottinghamshire on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016**

**Present:** Cllrs M. Barker (Chair), C Haslam arrived at 7.07pm, K.Auckland, A.Crowley, J Brown, R Sharpe, B Marshall.

**Also present:** Cllr Suthers; two members of the public

### **15.270 Apologies**

None

### **15.271 Declarations of interest**

Cllr Brown in the discussion re the effect on residents of bee-keeping in a part of the village.

### **15.272 Public Meeting**

Mrs Fiona Barker asked how the welcome card was coming together as there are new residents in Fields Drive a welcome card could be sent to. The clerk will get a quote from Toot Hill for the printing of 50 cards after Cllrs Crowley & Auckland have supplied detail of their requirements.

Cllr Suthers has communicated with Mr Robert Jenrick MP about local planning issues.

Large developments such as that planned for on Crown Estate land at Bingham are delayed: this has an impact in the borough eg Aslockton where developments are being given/could be given the go ahead in order to ensure RBC gets closer to meeting its housing supply target.

Cllr Suthers said that Mr Breedon had contacted him to indicate that he will be putting in another application for development on his land north of Cliffhill Lane. National issue – developers not developing because of S106 agreements.

Mr Chris Smith read out a response he had received from the secretary of the state in answer to his concerns that while there is a national issue with delays in building on a large scale, often due to the requirements of S106 agreements, then smaller developments will be permitted in inappropriate places.

### **15.273 Adoption of February minutes**

APC resolved to adopt the minutes. They were signed off accordingly by the Chairman.

### **15.274 Planning**

- **Rushcliffe Local Plan Part 2 Consultation – response delegated to Cllrs Barker & Auckland.**
- **The following applications were discussed:**

**16/00408/LUG** Upgrade of overhead power line - Mr P Avey's yard on Cliffhill Lane.  
**No objections.**

**16/00378/TPO** Fell sycamore tree at Whiteacre Barn, Abbey Lane. **No objections.**

**16/00382/FUL** Single storey side extension at Abbey Farm Bungalow, New Lane.

**No objections.** APC asked the clerk to give feedback on the poor presentation on the RBC website; and

to say that the comments already made re possible contamination should be investigated before approval to the application given.

### **The appeal by the developers of the site north of Abbey Lane was discussed:**

Standing orders were suspended for Mr Smith & Cllr Suthers to participate.

- Cllr Barker had been told that the Public Inquiry will take place towards the end of the year. He asked if one of the other councillors would consider taking the lead on presenting the views of APC on that occasion. APC can submit views in writing; and any councillor attending does not have to agree to be cross-examined on their argument. No decision was made at this stage as to who might take on this responsibility.
- As things stand NCC's flood risk team have no objections to development north of Abbey Lane; ditto Severn Trent – despite recent flooding.
- Archaeological trial trenches have been completed and the advice is that the developer can proceed if they are careful.
- Mr Chris Smith reported back on replies in response to his letter writing. The Crown Estate (Bingham site marked for 1000+ homes) have said they wouldn't object to development the north of abbey lane – their policy is not to object to other planning applications regardless of a local situation; the landowners/developers of the Newton site have yet to confirm their view to Mr Smith.
- There was further discussion about the statistics and figures used in planning. Data from over ten years ago suggests Aslockton has more jobs and amenities than it actually has – the inclusion of the HMP Whatton in the parish is mostly to blame for this. Councillors asked if this is a point to be used when challenging the appeal later in the year.
- Cllr Barker confirmed that he has been advised that RBC will be conducting a review of housing supply in April/May. All present agreed that the 5 year housing supply target is a problem for councils nationwide – it is not just RBC failing to deliver on this.

### **15.275 Clerk Report**

The report was received and noted by councillors.

### **15.276 Footpaths**

- Parish councillors last meeting noted that on footpath 13 a large, unsightly wooden structure had been put up – a horse shelter for the land-owner's horses. APC's opinion that the shelter is inappropriate is to be conveyed to the drainage board by Cllr Suthers.

### **15.277 Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday**

Clerk had advised Whatton Parish Council's chairman that APC would support the lighting of a Whatton + Aslockton beacon on 21<sup>st</sup> April. Cllr Redford will keep the clerk updated as to the detail. The clerk had also suggested to Cllr Redford that APC would be able to promote this nearer the time via the internet + a newsletter.

Cllr Barker had received detail from Church-warden and resident Mr Graham Harper of a plan to hold

an event at the TCC on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> June and an offer from Mr Harper take the lead on the organising. The chairman will contact Mr Harper to ask what would happen if too many people turned up. The TCC has limited capacity yet such an event should be open to the whole community, parish councillors felt, especially if the p c supports the event financially. Perhaps the WAPFT field would be a better venue

### **15.278 WAPFT Pavillion Project**

- At a meeting organised for the 22nd March a presentation to Whatton + Aslockton councillors will provide the two councils with the information they need to come to a view on the project.
- Installing new play equipment will be looked at after a new facility has been built as rubble/soil from the building work could be incorporated into the play area.

### **15.279 Insurance**

APC resolved to accept the quote from Came & Company for a Hiscox policy – the council resolved to the three year deal so yearly premiums will be £275.79

Proposer Cllr Haslam, Seconder Cllr Auckland.

### **15.280 The effect of bees on residential amenity**

- In a part of the village (Abbey Lane, Abbey Close, Fields Drive) residents have been experiencing swarms of bees for days at a time and noticing bee excrement on their laundry when hung outdoors on a washing line; on their cars, and the windows of their houses. This happens a lot in the summer but also sometimes in the winter on a fine day.
- A resident of Fields Drive is a registered bee keeper and has around 19 hives. The effect of bees on residential amenity appears to be a result of this fact.
- RBC's Ann Price has visited the village to investigate complaints from residents. APC resolved to highlight the problems via the parish council website & via a newsletter. A flyer drop will be done in the immediate area concerned - Cllr Brown to put this together. The idea is to raise awareness and encourage villagers to add to concerns already expressed in the hope that action can be taken.

### **15.281 Allotments**

Mr Crawford has yet to cut his hedge but has until the end of the month before the nesting period begins.

Two plots available from the 1<sup>st</sup> April – the clerk has done her best to advertise that there will be vacant plots and mention of this availability can also go in the next newsletter.

The clerk will contact RBC to check the relevant department has no objection to Ms Deborah Thompson removing the hedge which separates her garden and her allotment – she wants to replace it with an easier to maintain fence.

The council resolved not to assist the tenants of plot 16 with making their plot ready for the installation of raised beds as this would create a precedent of APC being called upon every time there was an issue with an individual plot. When tenants sign up they take on the responsibility of dealing with the plot they take on. Councillors suggested the clerk write to Mr and Mrs Worrall to suggest they ask fellow plot-holders for support – much as happens at allotments where there is a formal allotments association. APC also noted that there is a problem with disposing of old carpet from plot 16 – it shouldn't be burned but would have to be taken off the site and taken to a tip.

An inconsiderate bonfire at the allotments was reported to the council by Cllr Barker.

### **15.282 Finances**

For payment:

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| • Clerk's February salary (no tax payable)                                    | £289.71 |
| • Reimburse M Barker for printer toner, copy paper & car parking on forum day | £77.84  |
| • Annual parish council insurance   | £275.29 |

APC ratified the clerk's Working from Home Allowance paid in February by S/O	£83.50
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Proposer to the above payments: Cllr Haslam; Seconder: Cllr Auckland

Statements of accounts for approval – February

Proposer Cllr Brown, seconder Cllr Sharpe

### **15.283 Chairman's Business**

Mr Tom Daws has completed the new planters; Cllr Barker has stained them and these will be put in place for the summer planting. APC agreed that a plaque should be attached to say 'Made by Mr T Daws.

Emergency plan has been updated – printed copies given to all councillors.

Poo posters circulated to councillors and clerk to be put around the village; some kept back for future use.

### **15.284 Councillors Reports**

**Cllr Sharpe:**

- Represented APC at the bus meeting and pointed out the lack of pm service between Bingham and Aslockton. The express service Bingham – Nottingham is now being run by another company at peak times only. Cllr Sharpe said all comments were accepted but NCC/the bus company have to prioritise resources so there will never be outcomes which please all villages.

**Cllrs Auckland & Crowley:**

Had benefited from attending website training. Visitors to the p c site (including councillors!) are to be encouraged to sign up for email alerts.

Cllr Auckland will discuss with Mr Gregg Redford the future of the domain name of Aslockton Online – APC agree that this should be linked to the new parish council website and paid for by APC (Mr Redford has hitherto held the name).

**Cllr Auckland:**

Residents had expressed concerns about the allocation of social housing - OAP bungalows. The clerk will contact RBC to get a summary of how social housing is offered these days – eg who gets priority.

Meadow Close lack of car parking: Cllr Auckland had advised residents to contact the housing provider.

### **15.285 Correspondence**

No correspondence apart from an invite to buy the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> birthday medals – free samples accepted but APC do not wish to place an order.

### **15.286 Items for next agenda**

Footpaths

Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday

Playing Field Pavillion Project.

Bees - adverse effect on the residential amenity of Abbey Lane residents.

### **15.287 Date of next scheduled monthly meeting**

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016: 7pm in the small meeting room of the Thomas Cranmer Centre.

The March meeting closed at 8.50pm.

For more information about the parish council go to **[www.aslockton-pc.org.uk](http://www.aslockton-pc.org.uk)**