



# ASTON CLINTON PARISH COUNCIL

## Minutes of the Council Meeting

held at 6.30pm on **18<sup>th</sup> October 2023** at the  
Parish Council Office, Aston Clinton Park, London Road HP22 5HL

**PRESENT:** Cllr C Read (Chair), Cllr M Collins, Cllr K Hickson, Cllr J Hughes, Cllr C Judge, Cllr M Mason, Cllr D McCall, Cllr L Ronson & Cllr P Wyatt

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Mrs S Payne (Clerk/RFO)

**23.65 Questions and Comments from the Public.** None present.

**23.66 To Receive Apologies for Non-Attendance.** Received from Cllr P Birchley.

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

**23.68 To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were approved as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.

**23.69 Council**

i. Reports from external bodies: *Arla Olleco Liaison Meeting:* Cllr Wyatt reported that he had attended a recent meeting where issues regarding smells had been raised as had the recent planning application.

*Canal & River Trust:* Cllr Reid reported that the trust had recently removed all the dog bins along the canal towpath, two of which were within the Aston Clinton parish boundary, as they were expensive to empty. It was agreed that Council investigate the feasibility of reinstalling two dog bins along the towpath and arrange for their emptying to be added to Council's existing Bucks Council contract. **ACTION: Clerk**

ii. Safeguarding Officer: **It was resolved to appoint Cllr Marion Mason as the Safeguarding Officer.**

iii. Volunteer Policy: Council's Volunteer Policy was reviewed. **It was resolved that the Volunteer Policy did not require updating.** **ACTION: Clerk**

iv. Outstanding Actions: Council reviewed the outstanding actions list and the following actions were agreed:

*Scout hall proposal (minute 23.12iv):* as there had not been a response from Bucks Council for information on how the decision not to grant access to the hall had been determined it was agreed that a Freedom of Information request be made. **ACTION: Clerk**

*Footbridge over canal at Stablebridge Road (minute 22.26ii):* Cllr Read will contact Bucks Council regarding this issue. **ACTION: Cllr Read**

*Canal Bridge 8 (minute 22.26iii)* Cllr Reid will check that the work has been carried out if not he will contact the Canal Trust. **ACTION: Cllr Read**

*Park View resurfacing (minute 22.131ii):* all six property owners had been invited to attend a meeting but two had not responded. The Clerk will follow up. **ACTION: Clerk**

**23.70 Finance & Staffing**

i. The draft minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2023 Finance & Staffing Committee meeting were noted. Council considered the following recommendations from that meeting:

a. Website domain name: **It was resolved to move the Council's website over to a .gov.uk website domain name and email addresses.** **ACTION: Clerk**

b. AWP additional security fencing: **It was resolved to add £14,000 to the 2024/25 budget for the installation of additional security fencing around the AWP.**

**ACTION: Clerk**

- c. Equality & Diversity Policy. **It was resolved to adopt the Equality & Diversity Policy.**
- ii. Aston Clinton Society grant application: An application for £437.18 towards the purchasing of litter pickers for the society's village tidy up events was considered. **It was resolved that a grant of £437.18 be provided to Aston Clinton Society towards the purchase of 30 litter pickers.** **ACTION: Clerk**
- iii. Financial reports: The balance sheet and income and expenditure reports at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were noted. Income was £337,006 and expenditure £124,890. The earmarked reserves were noted.
- The debtors at 30<sup>th</sup> September 2023 were noted. The Clerk had sent reminder letters to all debtors and would be following up with a telephone call. **ACTION: Clerk**
- iv. Payments totaling £14,709.76 were approved and income of £161,391.99 was noted.

**Payments over £500**

Date	Company	For	Amount £	Vat £	Total £
27/09/2023	Aylesbury Plant & Tool Hire	Hire cherry picker for CCTV maintenance	£149.00	£26.00	£175.00
13/10/2023	Aston Clinton Village Life	Council grant for Village Life	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00
14/10/2023	Matthew Garrett	RKP half term event final payment	£775.00	£0.00	£775.00
01/10/2023	Goldleaf Groundcare	Park grounds maintenance Sept 23	£866.67	£173.33	£1,040.00
04/10/2023	Goldleaf Groundcare	Extra cuts/ACL6/tractor damage	£2,150.00	£430.00	£2,580.00
03/09/2023	Your Café in the Park	Cleaning Aug 23	£620.00	£0.00	£620.00
03/10/2023	Your Café in the Park	Cleaning Sept 23	£600.00	£0.00	£600.00
13/10/2023	Drax	Streetlight Elec Sept 23	£2,662.96	£532.59	£3,195.55
28/09/2023	Kingfisher Direct	Dual littler recycling bin	£695.79	£139.16	£834.95
			<b>£10,519.42</b>	<b>£1,301.08</b>	<b>£11,820.50</b>

**23.71 Facilities & Events**

- i. The draft minutes of the 27<sup>th</sup> September 2023 Facilities Committee meeting were noted.
- ii. Grounds Maintenance: Cllr McCall reported that the Grounds Maintenance Working Group were monitoring the work of the current park grounds maintenance contractors as there had been a number of issues of concern regarding the standard of work and working practices. These concerns are to be discussed at the next meeting of the committee.

**23.72 Highways & Streetlights**

- i. London Road traffic calming update: Cllr Hughes reported that he and Cllr Wyatt had met with Simon Glover and Lee Stevens from the Bucks Council regarding the delivery of the scheme. The scheme had been retendered to ensure that value for money was being obtained. This process was expected to be completed by the end of the year with a contractor in place and an agreed start date known in the new year.

Cllr Hughes would contact Bucks Council for an update on the double yellow lines due for Church Lane/Twitchell Lane. **ACTION: Cllr Hughes**

- ii. MVAS data: The data collected for the period 15<sup>th</sup> July to 7<sup>th</sup> September 2023 from the London Road location, outside Car2Go, showed of the 90,774 vehicles there was a compliance of 87%.
- iii. To consider purchasing a 2<sup>nd</sup> MVAS: Council considered quotes for a 2<sup>nd</sup> MVAS to complement the existing one. It was noted that Buckinghamshire Highways allowed a maximum of two MVAS per parish where there was at least eight sites agreed. Council currently have 5 approved sites. Further sites on Lower Icknield Way, and the eastern end of London Road would be requested. Community Board funding would be sought. **It was resolved to accept quote 2 for a EVOLIS solar-mobile MVAS at a cost of £2250 from ElanCity.** **ACTION: Clerk**

**23.73 Planning Committee**

Cllr Mason and Cllr Read had attended an informative Bucks Council Planning Surgery online meeting on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023. The meeting focused on enforcement cases and inconsistencies in planning determinations. Further meetings are being scheduled.

**23.74 It was 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.**

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

Beacon Retail Consulting requested permission to provide the latest copy of the lease to the RKP tenant prior to their meeting. **It was resolved to agree to the request to provide the RKP tenant with the current version of the lease.** ACTION: Clerk

The meeting closed at 8.12pm

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