

**Approved Minutes of the Meeting of Aslockton Parish Council held in the
Thomas Cranmer Centre, Aslockton, Nottinghamshire,
on Monday 12th December 2016**

Parish councillors present: M Barker (Chair), Vice-chairman C Haslam, K Auckland, J Brown, A Crowley, B Marshall, R Sharpe

Present: Borough Councillor M Stockwood; County Councillor F Purdue-Horan; 1 member of the public.

16.141 Apologies

None.

16.142 Declaration of interest

Cllr Barker + Cllr Haslam in relation to the land south of Abbey Lane.

16.143 Public Meeting

Cllr Stockwood congratulated the parish council on the result of the appeal re land north of Abbey Lane.

Cllr Purdue-Horan made the following comments:

- Crime commissioner panel has met and appointed a new chief constable who will take up his post on the 1st April 2017. Cllr Purdue-Horan spoke at the panel's meeting about the challenges tackling rural crime with less police resources than in years gone by.
- NCC Policy Committee has met. The county council deficit is now over £17m a year; by 2020 the deficit is forecast to be 50.4m. There are reserves but it is likely that council tax increases will fund the rising cost of social care.
- Cllr Purdue-Horan attended a NCC Highways presentation at St Mary's Hall, Radcliffe. There is to be an effort to improve traffic flow and safety in our area. From January 2017 there will be work on the A52 near Radcliffe.

16.144 Adoption of November meeting minutes

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

16.145 Planning

- **16/02866/REM Land south of Abbey Lane.** Avant Homes representatives gave a presentation on 6th December; and there followed a Q & A for parish councillors and affected residents of Abbey Lane, Crawfords Meadow + Fields Drive. APC **object** to the reserved matters application on a number of points.
- **16/02770/FUL 1 Stable Court, Dawns Lane:** proposed garage/outbuilding had

become 'proposed outbuilding to accommodate gym + store'. Councillors **object**.

- Parish councillors noted the appeal decision re developing the outline application to develop **land north of Abbey Lane**. The appeal was dismissed on 7th December 2016. The unsustainable, cumulative effect of the three housing development applications in Aslockton was noted.
- **16/03003/FUL** Erection of four more poultry units at the farm on Smite Lane, Thoroton. APC will discuss this at the January meeting as notice of the application did not arrive in time to be on the agenda for this meeting.
- Plans for The Haven (Whatton address; Elton parish): APC noted a change of use request. APC expect this will be refused and a full planning application will be made in due course; at which point the latter can be an agenda item for APC.

16.146 Clerk's Report

The report was received + noted by the councillors.

16.147 Whatton + Aslockton Playing Field

The replacement of the pavilion with a larger community facility:

- Cllr Brown reported that the survey analysis had been completed. The majority of clearly defined Aslockton respondents thought the proposal a good one. There was a lack in clarity in that not all respondents had put their post code on the form. 23 survey respondents offered help either during or after project completion. Several respondents would like to see better play equipment; and a dog friendly area was suggested.
- Cllr Barker proposed that APC **object** to the proposal put forward by the survey: alternative options for replacing the pavilion need fully exploring. Cllr Sharpe seconded the motion and all agreed. Cllr Haslam will relay this sentiment to fellow members of the Playing Field Committee.

Play equipment:

- Following residents comments; the formation of a sub-committee is on the agenda for the next meeting of the Playing Field Committee.
- Cllr Stockwood has filled out the necessary application form so that monies from her borough councillor fund can finance the repair of the bird's nest swing.
- Cllr Barker + Mr Tom Daws have replaced the seats on the small swings.
- Cllr Haslam was asked to mention to WPC representatives on the Playing Field Committee that APC continues to keep its ear marked reserve for spending on

the playing field; and could WPC commit to allocating a similar reserve for future playing field improvements.

16.148 Footpaths

Work on the Footpath 11 improvements has begun and is due for completion within a few days.

16.149 Rail times

In response to a request from a member of the Bottesford Neighbourhood Plan Group, APC discussed whether to support the group's campaign for more frequent trains along the Lincolnshire to Nottingham route (Lincolnshire Poacher Line).

APC could, at some point, put on record their view of the desirability of an extra train returning from the city centre in the late evening (see November's minutes). The clerk has the contact details for the relevant officer for the Department of Transport (passed on from Bottesford's parish clerk).

16.150 Interactive signs

Highways have completed their survey of speed data along Cliffhill Lane + Abbey Lane. The data does not meet the threshold for action from Highways in the foreseeable future.

At the NALC AGM the clerk had collected information about a company which could provide portable interactive signs – APC agreed this might be the way forward (not so expensive as fixed signs which would be in the region of £8k) and perhaps purchase could be financed by Avant Homes, the developer of the site south of Abbey Lane, who have noted the concerns villagers have about road safety along Abbey Lane

Representatives of the other four villages involved in the old Community Speedwatch are interested in having portable signs to share, the clerk reported. It had also been suggested that the shared Speedgun, which is no longer being used, could be sold or recycled to raise funds for purchase of the signs. APC felt that as this parish council had initiated the Community Speedwatch project a few years ago and the Speedgun is housed in Aslockton; any change to existing arrangements would need discussion between all concerned. Cllr Auckland commented that the gun is worth retaining because it remains usable and available for volunteers from Aslockton, Orston, Granby, Flintham and Shelton to use as a visual deterrent at any time.

16.151 Supporting Local Communities (NCC) – invite to bid

APC decided that it was better to delay a bid until next year. That way there would be adequate time to prepare; and show local commitment + investment; before applying for additional funding to improve facilities at the playing field.

16.152 Abbey Close Allotments

The Clerk had shown prospective tenants the site.

The plot 1 tenant will not be taking on plot 19 at the end of March as he is moving out of the village.

The clerk had asked Simon Thurston to do the annual hedge cutting; Mr Thurston had met Cllr Barker to look at Ms D Thompson's property border with plot 20 and will proceed accordingly.

16.153 Finances

For payment:

Clerk's salary	£286.66
Pension Contribution (employee's £16.68 + employer's £44.59)	£61.27
Room hire at Whatton Jubilee Hall	£19.00
S137 Vale of Belvoir First Responders	£100.00

Proposer to the above payments – Cllr Sharpe; Seconded Cllr Brown.

Statements of accounts November 2016: proposer Cllr Barker; seconded Cllr Sharpe.

16.154 Chairman's Business

- The hedge at the playing field needs pruning: Cllr Haslam will mention this to the rest of the management committee.
- New finger-posts installed on Abbey lane are looking smart.
- Potholes on Dawns Lane have been filled in.
- James Bate – RBC conservation officer – says that Aslockton and Whatton will be near the top of the list when it comes to reviewing the existing conservation area appraisals. Cllr Stockwood commented that this can be a long process – those of Screveton and Kneeton are being reviewed at the moment; and it is taking a while. Paddocks with 'ridge and furrow' are relatively important as there are not many in the borough; and farmers could plough them up at any time. However any extension of the Conservation Area couldn't include the dwellings built as late as the 1960s + 70s houses near such paddocks so perhaps another designation would be needed e.g. it could be noted as a point of interest that there is evidence of 'ridge and furrow' locally. Cllr Stockwood said that this is the sort of feature which could be included in a 'Neighbourhood Plan' if APC decided to reconsider drawing up one of these in the future.

16.155 Councillors Reports

Cllr Auckland suggested the parish council owned strimmer is given to Mr Tom Daws, a former parish councillor, who continues to do a lot of volunteering on behalf of the

parish council around the village. This will be discussed at the budget setting/precept request meeting.

Cllr Brown had noticed herself, and heard complaints about, parking on the pavement along Abbey Lane. This obstructs pedestrians who then have to walk on to the road. Cllr Barker will raise this again with the local PCSO – the danger could be pointed out to the offenders.

16.156 Correspondence

The clerk had brought along the this year's Notts Association of Local Councils AGM agenda + annual report, with the previous year's minutes for APC to note.

16.157 Items for the December agenda

Playing Field Pavilion/Equipment
Footpaths

16.158 Date of next scheduled monthly meeting

Monday 9th January 2017 at the Thomas Cranmer Centre at 7pm.