Minutes of the Meeting of Aslockton Parish Council held in the Thomas Cranmer Centre, Aslockton, Nottinghamshire on Monday 9th May 2106

Present: Cllrs M. Barker (Chair), C.Haslam, K.Auckland, A.Crowley, J.Brown, B.Marshall

Also present: 4 members of the public

In the absence of the Clerk, Cllr Auckland agreed to take the minutes.

16.018 Apologies

Cllr R Sharpe, M Suthers (County and Borough) and M Rogers (Clerk)

16.019 Declaration of interest

Cllr Brown – bees on Matters of Consideration Cllr Auckland – planning application Cliffhill Lane

16.020 Public Meeting

Roy Morley asked for an update on the housing application on Cliffhill Lane – objections have been submitted by the Parish Council and the Borough Councillor, Martin Suthers, the application will be referred to the Development Control Committee should Rushcliffe Borough Council approve the application.

Chris Smith apologised for not attending the extraordinary meeting held on the 29th April. He suggested the Parish Council write to Central Government with reference to all the recent planning applications.

Fiona Barker reported: 1) The need for a new sprayer and compost for the planters – money allocated in the Village Amenities reserve. 2) The need for an official letter to be sent to Eastern Shires Housing requesting a fence to be erected at the end of a gulley that runs between Crawfords Meadow and Field's Drive as it is being used for access from Abbey Lane to the field behind Crawfords Meadow.

16.021 Adoption of April 11th minutes

APC resolved to adopt the minutes. They were signed off accordingly by the Chairman. It was noted the minutes of the extraordinary meeting of 29th April were yet to be completed and would be adopted at the next meeting.

16.022 Election of Chairman

Cllr Crowley proposed Cllr Barker as chairman, Cllr Brown seconded the proposal. The whole council were in agreement. The Declaration of Office was signed by Cllr Barker.

16.023 Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr Barker proposed Cllr Haslam as vice-chairman, Cllr Crowley seconded the proposal. The whole council were in agreement. The Declaration of Office was signed by Cllr Haslam.

16.024 Planning

APC discussed the suggestion of writing to Central Government regarding the pending application for 50 houses on Cliffhill Lane and the Public Inquiry for 65 houses on Abbey Lane. APC resolved to write to the Secretary of State for Communities and requested the help from Chris Smith in this matter

It has been brought to the Council's attention a "Training Day" has been arranged for the Development Control Committee on May 23rd. The Chairman to try and find out more information.

16.025 Clerk's Report

The report was received and noted by the councillors. A copy of the Standing Orders, Financial Regulations and Asset Register were received by all the Councillors

The 50 welcome cards have been printed – envelopes and the inner flyers still required.

Matters for Consideration

16.026 Footpaths

Jane Baines has reported that the footpath sign on Main Street (by Station Cottage) will be replaced and there will be funding for the improvement of footpath number 11 (by the side of the railway)

The Clerk to ask Jane Baines what the schedule is for the footpath cut by NCC and that there will be just 2 cuts required this year. Also to notify Jane Baines of a fallen tree branch partly blocking the beginning of footpath 1 (from The Capes to the Prison) the location is immediately after crossing the railway from The Capes end.

16.027 Queen's 90th Birthday June 12th

The Clerk to contact Graham Harper with reference to the cheque from APC to the TCC for £250 for the funding of the celebration and to request more details of the event for the website.

16.028 Playing Field Pavilion Project

Cllr Haslam explained that WAPFT need a response from APC whether they have any issues with the proposed survey to be sent out to all residents by Business Mail.

APC questioned the cost of £700 to deliver/reply the survey when it was felt it could be done by volunteers and that the reserve funds of the Trust would be depleted, however this is under the resolve of the Trust and therefore not for APC to decide. APC also raised concerns that by agreeing to a village survey this would implicate APC's approval of the proposal.

Standing Order were suspended for comment by resident Chris Smith

Chris Smith commented that the village would need to be consulted and suggested that the survey should include other options with cost comparisons and that there should be some reference to the possible financial implications to the Parish Council's precept.

Standing Orders were reinstated

APC resolved for the APC representatives of the WAPFT to report at their next meeting:

- Ask if Whatton Parish Council have voted
- That the WAPFT either do a presentation to the villages explaining all the options and then send out the proposed survey OR that the survey is amended to include other options.
- That the other options are signed off with a like for like costs based on cubic measurements.
- By agreeing to the survey APC do NOT endorse the preferred option.

16.029 Update on Bee situation on Abbey Lane

Cllr Brown reported that the number of hives had reduced. Contact with Ann Price from Environmental Health to be continued to monitor the situation.

16.030 Purchasing Speed Signs

Councillors had been sent details of a speed sign costing £2700 (plus VAT). For an extra cost of £250 there was an option of a data load (number plate information can be collected and downloaded).

The Clerk to contact Highways asking:

Do they have any objection to APC purchasing a speed sign and would there be any restrictions where they can be used?

Do Highways have any schemes whereby parish councils can buy/lease speed signs?

16.031 Allotments

The Chairman reported that the hedge at the rear of Ms Deborah Thompson's garden is the boundary hedge and as such needs to be cut back. It was agreed to ask Simon Thurston to top and cut the hedge back so Ms Thompson can put up a fence on her side of the boundary. Clerk to inform relevant parties.

Following two complaints of a dog on dog attack, it was agreed an official letter should be sent to tenant Mrs Rennie, insisting that her dog must be on a lead or tied up at all times whilst on the allotment.

16.032 Finances

For payment:

Clerk's salary (no tax payable) £283.78 (£300.30 less £16.52 employee's pension)
Pension Contribution £60.66 (£16.52 employees part, plus £44.14 APC)
Clerk's working from home allowance £83.50

WAPFT annual contribution £900
Allotment Rent (invoice RBC) £268.00
Cheque to TCC (Queen's 90th) £250
St Thomas Churchyard £125.00
D.Dixon audit services £60.00

Proposer to the above payments Cllr Barker, seconder Cllr Brown

Statement of accounts for approval – April

Proposer Cllr Brown, seconder Cllr Marshall

The Asset Register has been reviewed and a copy given to all councillors. It was duly signed by the Chairman.

A report form from the auditor D.Dixon was presented for signature by the chairman.

It was noted that a list of all payments in excess of £100 for the financial year had been prepared and would by put on the APC website.

16.032 Chairman's Business

Cllr Barker reported that on further inspection the Gateways were beyond repair. To go on the agenda for the next meeting.

16.033 Councillors Reports

Cllr Marshall reported the entrance to Stable Court (off Dawns Lane) have railway sleepers laid at the entrance to the two houses, these were not included on the application, due to being in the conservation area of the village, the Chair to raise with Chris Asher of Hamilton Knight.

Cllr Crowley reported that Western Power will be taking down some electricity poles and putting cable underground at the rear of some properties on Cliffhill Lane.

16.034 Correspondence

Bingham Pegasus Cub Pack requesting any projects available – the Clerk to reply suggesting they contact the school with reference to the adoption of the station.

A letter from Nat West in Bingham – reducing their opening hours to 10.00am-3.00pm

The Clerk reported further documents had been sent to the archives at NCC.

16.035 Items for the Next Agenda

Playing Field Pavilion
Speed Signs
Gateways
Queen's Birthday
Highways (congestion in village and overhanging vegetation)

16.036 Date of next scheduled monthly meeting

Monday 13th June 2016 at the Thomas Cranmer Centre at 7pm.