

ASTON ROWANT PARISH COUNCIL (ARPC)

MEETING: 12th February 2025 at 7:30 PM in Kingston Blount Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs. A.Bernstein (AB), H Birks(HB), M.Day (MD), T Hill (TH), H Hopwood (HH).

D/Cllr: Ed Sadler.

Several members of the public (MOP) also attended.

Minutes:	Actions:
1 APOLOGIES: Cllr Chaplin (away), Cllr Hunt (Illness).	Noted/Accepted.
2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST: None	
3 MINUTES OF JANUARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING: Approved.	<u>Clerk:</u> publish
4 MATTERS ARISING: None.	
OPEN FORUM: Cllr Birks advised on AR school issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Recent fund-raising Quiz made £1,500 profit, and thanks given for all who supported. ➤ They are aware of parking issues and have sent communications to parents. ➤ Boundary fence to school lane due for upgrade in summer holidays to overcome safe-guarding issues (will be higher and less see-through). 2 members of public spoke on planning application P25/S0193/HH, see below for PC response.	All Noted.
PLANNING: 1. Applications as follows to be confirmed/discussed: P25/S0105/DIS Discharge of condition 3 (Landscaping Scheme) on planning application P24/S0885/HH (Creation of outdoor pool and associated landscaping works) at: The Malt House, Church Lane, Aston Rowant. For Information Only, no comment. P25/S0143/HH Remove existing conservatory and erection of single storey side and rear extensions at 6 Bennetts Yard K.B. NO OBJECTION/SUPPORT. P25/S0193/HH Erection of a first floor rear extension, single storey side extension and associated works at 10 The Green, Aston Rowant, OX49 5ST. Initial response made 05Feb, objection maintained 5/0 on grounds of incompatibility with other properties, potential light pollution & inappropriate design unsympathetic with conservation area. 2. Decisions of S.O.D.C. as follows: P24/S3981/LDP Proposed loft conversion with three rooflights & new air source heat pump at Chiltern House, 5 Plowden Park. AR. Certificate of lawful development GRANTED, 3. To consider applications or decisions received since the agenda was published: None. 4. Withdrawn Applications: None. 5. Applications Referred to SODC Planning Committee: We have asked for P25/S0193/HH to be called in for discussion at next SODC Planning Committee Meeting. 6. Planning Inspectorate Appeals: None. 7. Applications in Neighbouring parishes (which may affect Aston Rowant): None.	<u>Noted.</u> <u>Clerk:</u> respond to SODC. <u>Clerk:</u> respond to SODC. . Noted.
FOOTPATH & AMENITIES GROUP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Discussion on second councillor being member of FAAG (per, Terms of Reference for FAAG), Cllr Hill has volunteered to fulfil this obligation. ➤ Following recent River Thame Conservation Trust meeting re: preservation of chalk streams Cllr Day has asked for this to be considered as a FAAG project with support from the PC. To be discussed in March when FAAG chair can attend. ➤ Fiveways Bridge Repair currently underway and hopefully completed before Duck Race on 16/Feb. ➤ Details of Duck Race to website & KBAR. 	Noted. <u>Clerk:</u> March agenda <u>Chair/Clerk</u>
PLAY AREA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ February Update received and circulated to all by fund-raising committee chair. ➤ SODC Capital Grant part 2 - £10,158.00 - applied for, but will not be paid out until project is complete and other conditions met.. 	Noted. Noted.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ A potential shortfall for phase 2 (zip-wire installation), so decision made 5/0 to liquidate NS&I Investment, pending reimbursement from SODC. 	Clerk: arrange papers for March.
9	TRAFFIC CALMING: Proposal to purchase a "Cut-Out Cop" as further speed deterrent. Agreed 5/0. Clerk to order, delivery to Chairman & discuss positioning at March meeting	Clerk: Order on PC credit card.
10	HILLWERKE TRUST/VILLAGE HALL: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Final Draft of the proposed Operating Procedure documents now agreed by HRT, signed by Clerk & HRT Chair. We can engage our solicitor to draw up the formal agreement to attach to the lease documents. ➤ Awaiting quote for grass-cutting on field for 2025, which will need to negotiate new goal posts as permanent fixture on field – could potentially increase the cost. ➤ Potential new Chairman interviewing in next week or so, update when available. 	Noted. Clerk: chase contractor, report back on receipt.
11	FINANCE: See Finance Report as at 31/January – attached below. All new payments approved for payment this month. a) To note: Budget 2024/2025 – v10 (JAN). b) To Approve: quote from Complete Weed Control for 2025 sprays - £16 increase for the year, 3.02% Agreed 5/0. c) To Approve: expenditure of £509.06 + VAT for purchase of new solar panel from re-located SID base unit (from K.Stert, to A.Rowant). Agreed in Principle, but concern expressed at cost as seems too expensive. Cllr Day to investigate other options & report back. d) To sign: paperwork for new signatories on Unity Account (new signatories and existing, to confirm). Deferred several times due to absence of key members required for signature so now original applications have "expired". Still waiting for ID & address verification from one councillor -deferred again to March meeting	Noted. Noted. Clerk: confirm to contractor. Noted. Clerk: re-apply via Unity website and finalise in March.
11	CLERK'S REPORT/OUTSTANDING ACTIONS & CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED see below.	
12	POTENTIAL AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING (Deadline: 5 March 2025): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Complete and submit paperwork to add two new bank signatories. ➤ River Thame Conservation Trust Chalk Streams project, in support of FAAG. ➤ Footpath to Lockdown Larder – reactivate request to OCC? Liaise with KB Farms 	Clerk: to action.

ARPC - CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED **(for February 12th 2025 Meeting)**

Item	Decision Required	Action to be Taken
1. SODC – £60,000 available in grants for performing arts in South Oxfordshire	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 9/Jan
2. SODC - Councils should seek to influence Local Govt. reorganisation for the benefit of communities.	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 10/Jan
3. OCC - The latest news for your communities	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 20/Jan
4. Safety of Lithium-ion Batteries Campaign	?	Forwarded to Cllrs 20/Jan
5. Chinnor PC Newsletter with details about a Housing Needs Survey.	YES	Forwarded to Cllrs 20/Jan
6. SODC Cllrs News & Updates, Jan'25	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 21/Jan
7. Cuttlebrook, Sydenham & Chinnor Brook Community Currents Workshop – watercourse workshop notes	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs and FAAG members 25/Jan
8. SODC – January Edition of South News	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 25/Jan
9. SODC - Press release: Oxfordshire should be working with Berks and Bucks in a new Strategic Authority.	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 25/Jan
10. Email from a Chinnor Resident thanking the PC for work done at the chicane to reduce flooding	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 28/Jan
11. Chilterns National Landscape – Latest News	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 1/Feb
12. Police & Crime Commissioner January Update	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 1/Feb
13. SODC - Changes coming this spring to garden waste service in South and Vale (already received the info?)	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 3/Feb (already on website/KBAR)
14. OALC – January Update	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 3/Feb
15. SODC D/Cllrs February Report	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 4/Feb
16. KB Park Update Feb'25	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 4/Feb by KBPF Chair.
17. OCC - OCC Response to the Formal Consultation on Traffic-Sensitive Streets (Summer 2024)	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 5/Feb (We did not respond)
18. OCC - Small Business Sustainability Workshop	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 5/Feb (Website/KBAR?)
RECEIVED AFTER AGENDA PUBLISHED		
1. SODC - Enjoy a fun-filled February with free and low-cost activities for all ages. FYI - half-term activities?	NO	Forwarded to Cllrs 10/Feb

FINANCE REPORT AS AT 31/JANUARY 2025

	£	p
a) <u>The following payments through bank</u> @ 31/Jan (Costs include VAT):		
CLERK DECEMBER SALARY & HMRC/P.A.Y.E (re: Clerk Dec salary)		
THE PRINT SHOP, STOKENCHURCH (Reimburse Cllr A.Bernstein)	58.14	
P TINSON	27.99	
AMAZON UK (Pens for Planning Meeting 27/Dec – reimburse Cllr A.Bernstein)	6.86	
SHIELD MAINTENANCE	92.82	

b) Receipts as follows to be noted:
None

c) <u>The following payments to be Approved and Paid</u>		
CLERK JANUARY SALARY & HMRC/P.A.Y.E (re: Clerk Jan salary)		
OALC, Rebook Preparing for Audit Course (advance video & Q & A session recording)	60.00	
PLAYSAFETY LTD (Annual RoSPA Inspection)	420.00	
DAN CUADRADO (DC Tree Care and Landscaping Services)	1,278.00	
DAN CUADRADO (DC Tree Care and Landscaping Services)	420.00	
COMMUNITY FIRST OXFORDSHIRE (2025/6 Subscription)	55.00	
SHIELD MAINTENANCE	92.82	
DISCOVERY TIMBER PLAY	1,656.00	
AKC PARISH NOTES	60.00	

d) To approve: payment of any invoices received after agenda publication.

e) The financial situation as at 31/January:

Unity Current Account	11,864.53	
Unity Instant Access Savings (G/Reserve)	14,437.68	
Unity Instant Access Savings (E-M Reserves)	23,345.69	£49,647.90
National Savings (<i>awaiting Dec'24 Statement</i>)	11,703.72	£61,351.62

f) Reserves as at 31/January:

General Reserve	£14,437.68
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Ear-Marked Reserves:	Full breakdown to follow
Elections Reserve	700
Play Area Reserve	13067
Parish Notes Reserve	700
Trees, Footpaths & Environment FAAG)	1472
Village Hall Reserve	2,690
Hillwerke Trust	0
Traffic Calming	500
Neighbourhood Plan	4,217
Ear-Marked Reserves Total:	23,346

g) To ratify: Transfers to/from Reserves to cover invoices received, per Finance Report:

- £420.00 from E-MR (Play Area) to cover Playsafety Ltd Invoice.
- £60.00 from E-MR (P/Notes) to cover invoice for Feb/Mar issue.