

**ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON  
TUESDAY 8 FEBRUARY 2022 IN THE  
PARISH HALL ROSEGARTH AVENUE AT 6.30 PM**

**PRESENT** Cllr L Pitchley (Chairperson)  
Cllrs P Amrith B A Bartholomew G Clough M Elliott  
S Forster D A Knowles J Peech H Ratcliffe S Smith R Taylor  
  
K A Butler (Clerk) M Haigh (Senior Admin Officer)

**IN ATTENDANCE** 5 Members of the Public

**22/19 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE**

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies and reasons for absence from Cllrs G B Davis, P Davis and D H Gee be accepted.

**22/20 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the minutes of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 11 January 2022 as being a true record of the business transacted.

**22/21 MINUTES OF THE EXTRA ORDINARY MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the minutes of the Extra Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 27 January 2022 as being a true record of the business transacted.

**22/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest made.

**22/23 CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

Agenda items 16 and 17.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Members of the public raised the following items:-

- Is there any update on the defibrillator being sited at Townend Car Park? The Clerk informed the parishioner that she was awaiting further information from RMBC and BT as to whether there are any other telephone boxes available for the Parish Council to adopt, and that she would report back on this matter as soon as she has had a response.
- Did the Parish Council have the results of the recent legionella testing that had taken place at various sites around the parish? The Clerk informed the parishioner that she was awaiting the report from the company who had carried out the tests.

- A question was raised about the current state of Aston Cemetery. The Clerk reported that the attendants were currently spending 3 days each week clearing overgrown brambles and ivy from the graves and would continue to do so for the foreseeable future.
- The issue of parking outside Aston Springwood Academy by parents dropping off/collecting students was raised. The Chairperson stated that this was a matter for RMBC but that a request could be put to the Enforcement Team for them to come out and monitor the situation.

## **END OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

### **22/24 ONGOING ISSUES**

- The Clerk updated members following her meeting with the gentleman who would like a small memorial erecting to remember North Staveley Colliery.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk continue with her investigations into a suitable area to site such a memorial.

- The Clerk confirmed that the electrical company who had been assigned to replace the floodlights at Burgoyne Park had been given the go-ahead but as yet no date has been confirmed for the work to be carried out. Progress will be reported at the next meeting of the Parish Council.

### **22/25 ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR WITHIN THE PARISH**

The Clerk informed members that she had recently met with the parishioner who had been in touch regarding a memorial on the Parish Hall wall. The lady had asked the Clerk what amenities were available within the parish for young people and whether the Parish Council were in a position to assist in establishing some form of youth club for the area.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that this Agenda item be carried over to the March meeting for further discussion.

### **22/26 MEMORIAL GARDEN – BURGOYNE PARK**

At the September 2021 meeting of the Parish Council it had been resolved to plant a ‘memory tree’ at Burgoyne Park as part of the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations. In addition to this the Clerk put forward proposals for a possible memorial garden with a suitable seating area where parishioners are able to go and reflect.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would approach Aston Springwood Academy and other local schools with a view to gauging possible interest in designing such a garden. She would also approach Aston-cum-Aughton Recreational Charity and seek their involvement in such an initiative. The matter will be further considered at the next Parish Council meeting.

## **22/27 ITEMS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS**

- Cllr Forster questioned whether the burning of large amounts of timber for the Parish bonfire event was appropriate considering the ongoing climate change emergency.

Following discussion it was agreed that this was a matter for future public consultation. However, for 2022 the lighting of a beacon to mark the Queen's Platinum Jubilee in June, as well as the bonfire and fireworks display scheduled to take place in November, should still go ahead as planned.

- The discussion on meeting times as requested by Cllr Davis was deferred to the March Parish Council meeting.
- Cllr Forster enquired about the possibility of hiring the Swallownest Christ Church building to Rotherham Scorpions Table Tennis Club for the benefit of young people in this area. Since his request he has learned of Lidl's new interest in the site and therefore asked if there are any other suitable venues. Following discussion it was agreed that there is nothing available at present but that this is something that can be re-visited in the future.

## **22/28 POLICING INFORMATION/REPORTS**

There were no Police Officers present however the Clerk had received a report as follows:-

- Local PCSO's continue to go into schools as part of the mini Police project to advise on parking concerns/road markings, communication sessions and anti-social behaviour awareness.
- Partnership work has been carried out with councillors in relation to the road markings/safety issues at Aston Springwood Academy.
- Off road bikes continue to be a problem and need to be reported to the off-road team.
- Anti-social behaviour has been reported on the footpath behind the store on Hepworth Drive.
- Community Speed Watch continues; 79 vehicles checked in February on Aughton Road, none of which were in excess of the speed limit. Cllr Elliott requested future dates for Speed Watches be informed to Parish Councillors in order for them to take part.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the report be noted.

## **22/29 PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Consideration was given to planning applications contained within **lists 3 – 6 (2021/22)**.

At the time comments were made on the following application:-

**RB2022/0046 – Erection of 2 No. detached dwellinghouses & 2 No. semi-detached dwellinghouses plus parking and access – Land at Hepworth Drive, Aston**

The Clerk reported that the above dwellings had already been built but that an appeal had been lodged by RMBC Planning Department because permission had only been sought for 2 of the properties to be erected.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk submit an objection to this planning application on behalf of the Parish Council.

**22/30 PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS**

It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts at Appendix I amounting to £ 41,881.64 be approved.

**22/31 INVITATION FOR 1 PARISH COUNCILLOR TO ATTEND THE RMBC/CAP MEETINGS**

The Neighbourhood Officer has contacted the Clerk to invite 1 Parish Councillor to attend the monthly RMBC Ward/CAP meetings.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk would inform members of future meeting dates and any members wishing to attend should confirm their availability to her.

**22/32 INVITATION FOR CLLR ALLEN TO ATTEND A FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

The Clerk reported that RMBC Cabinet Member, Cllr Allen, had expressed an interest in meeting with local councils to discuss work currently being undertaken and discuss any issues relevant to them.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk extend an invitation for Cllr Allen to attend a future meeting at Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council.

**22/33 CLERK UPDATE**

The Clerk updated the meeting as follows:-

- The Practitioners Conference is due to take place virtually over 3 days next week. The Clerk will be attending the conference from the office.
- The YLCA Conference is on 25 March 2022; 3 members have already expressed an interest in attending, if anyone else would like to attend please inform the Parish Council office as soon as possible. The Clerk will also be in attendance.

**22/34 TREE SITUATED ON PARISH COUNCIL LAND**

The Clerk presented an update on the proposed felling of the tree on the snicket between Heron Hill leading up to The Chase.

No report has yet been received from the complainant's tree surgeons, however the Clerk has requested advice from RMBC officers and reported that an officer from Glendales were due to go out and inspect the tree for themselves later in the week.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that no action be taken on felling the tree until the Clerk has received details of the RMBC investigation and that she will contact members with the results of their findings as soon as she receives them. The matter will be discussed further at the March meeting of the Parish Council.

**22/35 PARISH HALL WALL**

The Clerk updated members following her meeting with the parishioner who has requested a permanent memorial for the two young men who had lost their lives in October last year.

The parishioner has been liaising with the bereaved families and they have agreed to the removal of the graffiti from the Parish Hall wall. The Clerk informed her of the proposed developments for Burgoyne Park and discussed the online survey available for local residents to complete to put over their points of view.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk employ a company to clean the Parish Hall wall and that she put a notice on social media when the work is to be carried out. It was further agreed that the Skatepark for Burgoyne Park will be discussed at the next meeting of the Recreation Committee.

**22/36 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

The Clerk requested that any suggestions for future Agenda items be received in the Parish Council office no later than Monday, 28 February 2022.

It was agreed that anti-social behaviour be one of the items to be carried over to the March meeting.

**22/37 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was **RESOLVED** that the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting be held on Tuesday, 8 March 2022 at 6.30 pm.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 7.55 PM**

*M Elliott*

**8 March 2022**

**SIGNED .....** **DATED .....**