

ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 12 SEPTEMBER 2023 IN THE
PARISH HALL ROSEGARTH AVENUE AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT Cllr S Smith (Chairperson)
Cllrs P Amrith (from 7pm) B Bartholomew G Davis P Davis S Forster
D Gee D Knowles W Mawson J Peech H Ratcliffe R Taylor

K A Butler (Clerk) M Haigh (Assistant Clerk)

IN ATTENDANCE 5 Members of the Public

23/167 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

It was **RESOLVED** that apologies and reasons for absence from
Cllrs M Elliott and L Pitchley be accepted.

23/168 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ORDINARY MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the Chairperson be authorised to sign the minutes
of the Ordinary Parish Council meeting held on 11 July 2023 as being a true
record of the business transacted. The Clerk agreed to advise Swallownest
Community Association of future dates for Uniform Banks as soon as they
have been confirmed.

23/169 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purpose Committee
held on 20 March 2023 be approved/confirmed.

23/170 RECREATION & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Recreation & Open Spaces
Committee held on 27 June 2023 be approved/confirmed. The Clerk advised
members that item 2088 *Changing Rooms with Toilets* referred to Burgoyne
Park.

23/171 EXTRA-ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that approval of the minutes of the Extra-Ordinary
Parish Council Meeting held on 21 August 2023 be carried forward to the
October meeting.

23/172 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made.

23/173 CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

No items.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A parishioner advised members of recent criminal activity he has experienced at his home and the lack of assistance he has received from the local police service.

Although members were sympathetic to the resident's concerns there was very little the Parish Council could do to help. However, the Clerk advised that she is presently seeking to arrange a meeting between the Police Crime Commissioner and Neighbourhoods Policing Team in order for members of the public to come along and express their concerns about local crime and what initiatives are being put in place to help fight it.

The Clerk will provide an update at the next meeting.

END OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

23/174 ONGOING ISSUES

- The Clerk advised members that the grave owners at Swallownest Cemetery who have been asked to remove borders from their graves have now done so with the exception of one or two. Letters will be placed on the graves in question, in case the owners have changed address, and request that they remove all borders.
- There has been an increase in anti-social behaviour at Lodge Lane Recreation Ground. The Clerk has contacted the relevant officers at RMBC and they carried out a preliminary inspection yesterday. They will continue to monitor the area.
- As far as the Clerk is aware litter picks are now carried out at Swallownest Health Centre on a regular basis. Members should contact the office if they believe otherwise.
- The Skatepark at Burgoyne Park is nearing completion. Lightmain have expressed concern about turfing the surrounding area and have suggested grass seeding instead. The difference in cost will be deducted from the final invoice. The Clerk will meet them on Thursday, 14 September, to discuss where the sign is to be sited.

23/175 FINANCE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

- The Clerk presented a paper detailing the Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 31 July 2023. She has been unable to roll the month over as yet and is in contact with the software providers. Following consideration it was agreed that the report be noted.

- It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts at Appendix I amounting to £52,446.58 be approved. The Clerk advised that she has requested the interim payment already made for the Skatepark be reimbursed by the funders.
- The Clerk presented a report detailing payments she has made during the summer period on behalf of the Parish Council. Following consideration it was agreed that the Clerk should be reimbursed as per the list submitted to members.

23/176 ARTICLE BY ALEXANDER STAFFORD MP REGARDING PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON THE A57, NEAR ELMWOOD FARM PUBLIC HOUSE

Many households across the borough have received the latest issue of Rother Valley News published on behalf of Alexander Stafford MP. An article within this issue relates to the campaign to have a crossing on the A57, near to Elmwood Farm Public House. Members considered this article to be very misleading.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk contact the Head of RMBC Transportation Infrastructure Service and request a timeline of the action plan for this initiative. She will then prepare a draft statement on behalf of members advising parishioners of the substantial contribution that the Parish Council has committed to funding this project. The statement will also highlight the hard work that has already been undertaken by Ward Members in partnership with RMBC to prioritise road safety issues in this area.

The statement will be approved by the Chair and Vice Chair of the Parish Council prior to being posted on parish notice boards, on the Parish Council website, on the Council's social media pages and in the local press.

23/177 OPEN EVENT OF THE SKATEPARK & MULTI-USE GAMES AREA (MUGA)

The Clerk advised members that an official opening of the Skatepark and Multi-Use Games Area (MUGA) will take place at Burgoyne Park on Sunday, 8 October 2023 between 1.00 – 4.00 pm. Activities will be held on both facilities and the Mayor of Rotherham will officiate.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk be given delegated powers to organise the event and for her to be given funding up to £2,000.00 to provide extra entertainment for youngster attending on the day. She will extend an invitation for the press to attend.

23/178 PROPOSED PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE POLICE CRIME COMMISSIONER AND OTHER PARTNERS

The Clerk informed members that the public meeting she has arranged with the Police Crime Commissioner for next week has had to be cancelled due to the unavailability of the Neighbourhoods Policing Team. She will seek further dates to hold the meeting and update members as soon as a date has been confirmed.

23/179 PUBLIC MEETING WITH THE SOUTH YORKSHIRE MAYOR

The Clerk confirmed that the public meeting with the South Yorkshire Mayor to discuss local bus services is to be held on Monday, 18 September 2023 at 6.00 pm in the Parish Hall.

23/180 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

It was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Mawson be appointed to serve on the General Purpose Committee with immediate effect.

23/181 CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING PARTY

It was **RESOLVED** that the Terms of Reference for the Climate Emergency Working Party be formally accepted and approved with the minor amendment to the paragraph on page 2 *Meetings* to read Climate Emergency Working Party.

Following consideration it was agreed that membership of the Climate Emergency Working Party for 2023/2024 are:-

Chairperson of the Council, plus Cllrs P Amrith, G Davis, S Forster, W Mawson, S Smith.

23/182 PARISH COUNCIL PROTOCOL ON COUNCILLORS/CLERK/EMPLOYEE RELATIONS

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Protocol on Councillors/Clerk/Employee Relations.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Protocol on Councillors/Clerk/Employee Relations be formally accepted and adopted.

23/183 MATTERS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS

There were no matters requested by Councillors.

23/184 POLICING INFORMATION/REPORTS

There were no police officers present and no reports received.

23/185 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to planning applications contained within **lists 28 – 36 (2023/24)**.

At the time there were no comments to record on the applications listed.

23/186 CLERK UPDATE

- The Clerk reported receipt of complimentary letter from a local resident on the skatepark development at Burgoyne Park.
- She awaits her result following the Carbon Literacy Training Course she attended.
- She introduced members to the RMBC Parish Liaison Officer, Catherine Oxtoby, who was in attendance as a member of the public this evening.

23/187 FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The Clerk requested that any suggestions for future Agenda items be received in the Parish Council office no later than the Monday of the week prior to the next parish council meeting.

23/188 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting be held on Tuesday, 10 October 2023 at 6.30 pm.

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.20 PM

M S Elliott

10 October 2023

SIGNED **DATED**