

ASTON-CUM-AUGHTON PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON
TUESDAY 9 APRIL 2024 IN THE
PARISH HALL ROSEGARTH AVENUE AT 6.30 PM**

PRESENT Cllr M Elliott (Chairperson)
Cllrs P Amrith B Bartholomew G Davis P Davis S Forster
D Gee D Knowles W Mawson J Peech L Pitchley H Ratcliffe
S Smith R Taylor

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

IN ATTENDANCE 3 Members of the Public

24/68 APOLOGIES AND REASONS FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence received.

24/69 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 12 March 2024 as being a true record of the business transacted.

24/70 GENERAL PURPOSE COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the General Purpose Committee held on 29 January 2024 be received.

24/71 EVENTS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Events & Recreation Committee held on 27 February 2024 be received.

24/72 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Taylor declared an interest in respect of Agenda item number 21.

24/73 CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS FOLLOWING THE EXCLUSION OF MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

No items.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of public asked what the difference is between outline and full planning applications. Cllr Taylor was able to advise that it refers to the ownership of the land it refers to.

END OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

24/74 ONGOING ISSUES

- The Clerk had issued members with a photograph of the Beacon Brazier that has been fabricated. She now awaits approval from RMBC Planning Department before the installation can take place.
- The Clerk further advised that the planting scheme in the entrance to Swallownest Cemetery had been recently been completed and that the attendants have received favourable comments from members of the public visiting the cemetery.

24/75 FINANCE REPORTS AND ACCOUNTS

- The Clerk presented a paper detailing the Bank – Cash and Investment Reconciliation as at 31 March 2024. Following consideration it was agreed that the report be noted. The Clerk was thanked for the diligent way the information has been presented throughout the year.
- It was **RESOLVED** that the accounts at Appendix I amounting to £62,688.85 be approved.
- The Clerk presented a report detailing payments she has made on behalf of the Parish Council during March 2024. Following consideration it was agreed that the Clerk should be reimbursed as per the list submitted to members.

24/76 PARISH COUNCIL ELECTIONS

The Clerk confirmed that there will be no elections for Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council this year as the seats have not been contested. She asked members to arrange a time when they will be available to come into the office after 7 May 2024 to sign their Declarations of Office and complete all other paperwork, including their Register of Interests forms.

24/77 PARISH COUNCIL ASSET REGISTER

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Asset Register.

The Clerk advised that the information identified is submitted to the Internal Auditor and the figures are within the accounting statement of the External Audit.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the details of the Parish Council's Asset Register be approved.

24/78 PARISH COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT - FINANCE

The Clerk presented a report outlining the Parish Council's current Financial Risk Assessment.

The information identified any possible risks and recommended any necessary remedial action required.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the review of the Parish Council's Risk Assessment/Management be formally accepted and approved.

24/79 PARISH COUNCIL STANDING ORDERS

The Clerk asked that confirmation be given to the Parish Council's Standing Orders.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Standing Orders be formally accepted and approved.

24/80 PARISH COUNCIL STATEMENT OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The Clerk presented the Parish Council's Statement of Internal Control and Review of Effectiveness for 2023/2024.

The information identified the internal control measures in place and the internal audit process going forward.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council's Statement of Internal Control be formally accepted and approved.

24/81 PARISH COUNCIL FINANCIAL REGULATIONS

The Clerk presented a report outlining the Parish Council's current Financial Regulations.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the report be formally accepted and approved.

24/82 PARISH COUNCIL GENERAL & EARMARKED RESERVES

The Clerk tabled reports distinguishing between general and earmarked reserves.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council establish general & earmarked reserves as presented.

24/83 PARISH COUNCIL ACTION PLAN 2021-2023

The Clerk presented the Parish Council Action Plan for 2021-2023 which highlights the work completed to date and ongoing projects. A copy of the Action Plan is also available for parishioners to view on the parish council website.

Following consideration it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council Action Plan for 2021-2023 be noted.

24/84 PARISH COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD

The Clerk asked that consideration be given to purchasing a new noticeboard for display of parish notices outside the Parish Hall.

Following discussion it was **RESOVED** that the Clerk be authorised to purchase a lockable, wall-mounted noticeboard for outside the Parish Hall and that the matter be brought forward to a future meeting of the Parish Council for replacing the other noticeboards throughout the parish.

24/85 UPDATE ON THE PEDESTRIAN CROSSING ON THE A57, NEAR ELMWOOD FARM PUBLIC HOUSE

The Clerk advised members of an email she has received from the RMBC Head of Transport Infrastructure Services, regarding the installation of the new pedestrian crossing on the A57, near Elmwood Farm Public House. The email advises that the team have encountered a problem with the electrical supply to the crossing but that they are striving to find a suitable solution to the issue so that work can commence later this year as planned.

24/86 MATTERS REQUESTED BY COUNCILLORS

There were no matters requested by Councillors.

24/87 POLICING INFORMATION/REPORTS

There were no police officers present and no update had been received by the Clerk.

24/88 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to planning applications contained within **lists 11 – 14 (2023/24)**.

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

RB2024/0337 – Outline application for the erection of dwellinghouse with all matters reserved – Land adjacent Brentwood, Aughton Lane, Aston

It was RESOLVED that objection be made to the above planning application on the following grounds:-

- That the proposal would be inappropriate development in the Green Belt.
- That the proposal would lead to loss of outlook for neighbouring properties.

24/89 CLERK UPDATE

- The Clerk advised that the Close Down of Accounts for 2023/24 had taken place the previous day with no issues highlighted.
- The final year-end Internal Audit will be carried out on Thursday, 25 April 2024.
- The Talking Tables Seminar is to take place on Saturday, 27 April 2024, subject to adequate attendees.

- There are vacancies at Todwick Parish Council if anyone is interested.
- The remaining vacancy at Aston-cum-Aughton Parish Council will be advertised for co-option after the elections.

24/90 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.

24/91 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was **RESOLVED** that the next Ordinary Parish Council meeting be held on Tuesday, 14 May 2024 at 6.30 pm.

MEETING CLOSED AT 7.10 PM

M S Elliott

14 May 2024

SIGNED DATED