

ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of Astley Parish Council, Wednesday 15th September 2021 7.30pm at Astley Village Hall

PRESENT

Councillors: K Lloyd (Chair), E Bedell, S Robinson

H Mardell was co-opted to the Council under item 6.1 of the Agenda and joined the meeting after co-option.

Also Present:

G Power (Locum Clerk), Cllr L Picton (Shropshire Council), Corporal Sarah Hudson,

1. APOLOGIES

Cllr A Wheeler.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. MINUTES OF ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21st JULY 2021

RESOLVED: Minutes approved.

4. MINUTES OF EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL ON 28th JULY 2021

RESOLVED: Minutes approved.

4. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None.

5. UPDATE

5.1 Update from Shropshire Councillor Lezley Picton

- an email regarding a recent accident in Astley on the A53, which involved a lorry, had been received from a concerned regular commuter, the email had been forwarded to Shropshire Council traffic engineers (Highways).
- Shropshire Council staff recruitment –there is a national shortage of planners
- Boundary Review – The Boundary Commission is going to do a Divisional Review so Shropshire Council may not now do a Parish Council Review.
- SC pedestrian scheme in Shrewsbury has now stopped, it will recommence at the end of October on Saturdays and Sundays
- SC budget for the next financial year is now being worked on, 85% of the controllable budget is spent on 3% of the Shropshire population.

5.2 Update from RAF Shawbury

Gliding was discussed. It was decided that parish councillors would monitor gliding activity over the next few months and feed back to Shawbury RAF with any evidence if flying when not meant to be or route not being changed.

6. OFFICIAL AND PARISH MATTERS

6.1 Co-option of New Councillor(s)

Since the application that was received earlier this year in July, an application had been received from a different parishioner, Helen Mardell. Ms Mardell's application was considered and following discussion, Members were unanimous in their decision that Ms Mardell be co-opted to the Parish Council.

RESOLVED: That Helen Mardell be co-opted to Astley Parish Council.

At this point Councillor Mardell completed an 'Acceptance of Office of Parish Councillor' form and also a Declaration of Pecuniary Interests form. Helen Mardell then joined the

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Parish Council meeting.

6.2 TRAINING

SALC Training Programme was considered.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Helen Mardell attend Fundamentals for Councillors training on 6th October 2021, cost £30 and Cllr Kate Lloyd attend Climate Change/Sustainability training on 28th October 2021, cost £30.

6.3 RECRUITMENT OF NEW CLERK

A discussion took place as to whom would form a working group for the process of recruiting a new clerk.

RESOLVED: That Councillors Lloyd, Robinson and Wheeler (or if Cllr Wheeler not available, Cllr Bedell) be appointed as a working group for recruitment process, Zoom meeting to be arranged for 6th October 2021, 6pm to:

- agree advert, job description and salary scale for position
- shortlist and interview applicants
- recommend successful applicant to Parish Council for recruitment.

6.4 PLANT A TREE FOR THE QUEEN'S JUBILEE

A lengthy discussion took place, mainly around thoughts of finding a location that would be suitable to plant a tree, also maintenance of such. One Member highlighted that there was no public green space in the area.

RESOLVED: After careful consideration Members resolved not to plant a tree as it would not be practical.

6.5 SAFER WEST MERCIA PLAN CONSULTATION (PCC)

A short discussion took place.

RESOLVED: That this be deferred to the next meeting in October.

7. PARISH ACCOUNTS –RECEPITS AND PAYMENTS TO NOTE/APPROVE

Receipts

2.9.2021 124.41 HMRC - VAT Refund for 2020-21

Payments

27.8.2021 - £271.60 Locum Clerk Salary Aug 21

27.8. 2021 £63.60 HMRC - Locum Clerk Tax (Aug 2021)

9.9.21 £144 Med UK Group – New pads for defib at Astley Village Hall

17.9.21 £271.80 Locum Clerk Salary Sept 21

17.9.21 £63.40

RESOLVED: Receipt noted, all payments approved.

8. COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Lloyd reported on her recent attendance at Shrewsbury & Atcham Area Committee meeting where a presentation on Climate Emergency had been given:

- Shropshire Council have received funding for electric charging points
- Shropshire Council Officers had visited Bristol, looking at the effectiveness of their electric scooters trial
- Bigger solar panel farms rather than smaller individual ones were discussed.

Cllr Lloyd also reported on her recent attendance at RAF Shawbury Reception evening:

- RAF students had not been able to have families at their graduations due to Covid
- RAF Shawbury are building a new youth club, to be used locally

Cllr Lloyd informed the meeting that a letter had been received from parishioners, regarding the caravan park in Astley, asking about the signs to divert traffic away from Astley, it was clarified that this had been agreed by the planning applicant and

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construction had not yet finished. The letter received also referred to traffic driving through the village at excessive speed after lockdown.

RESOLVED: That ' Varying Speed Limits in Astley Parish ' be an Agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting (20th October 2021).

9. CLERK'S REPORT

There was no report.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

20th October 2021

The meeting was closed at 9.05pm.

DRAFT

Signed by Chairman