

ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT 8 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY 19TH MAY 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ASTLEY.

PRESENT: Councillors Dorothy Dodds, Chairman, Malcolm Colclough, Stanley France, Margaret Locke, Edward Bedell and Graham Booton.

IN ATTENDANCE: Shropshire Councillor John Everall and two members of the Public.

As the meeting followed the Annual Parish Meeting there was no public session.

1.5.10 APOLOGIES.

Councillor Bayley Illness..

2.5.10 NOMINATIONS FOR CHAIRMAN.

Proposed by Councillor Booton and seconded by Councillor Bedell, Councillor Dorothy Dodds was UNANIMOUSLY elected Chairman for the year and duly signed her Declaration of acceptance of Office, witnessed by the Clerk.

3.5.10 NOMINATIONS FOR VICE CHAIRMAN.

Proposed by Councillor Bedell and seconded by Councillor Booton, Councillor Malcolm Colclough was elected Vice Chairman. Councillor Colclough accepted the position.

4.5.10 ELECTION OF PLANNING COMMITTEE.

Councillors Dodds, Colclough and Booton were elected to deal with emergency planning issues, through the Clerk.

5.5.10 CODE OF CONDUCT.

Members were reminded to declare any personal or personal & prejudicial interests on agenda items and to state the reason for any such declaration, which would be minuted. Also to notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes to personal circumstances.
There were NO DECLARATIONS.

6.5.10 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 17th March 2010, having been circulated with the Agenda, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

7.5.10 MATTERS ARISING.

1. The Clerk circulated an amended list of meeting dates to all Councillors and Councillor Everall. Councillor Bedell had kindly encapsulated lists to be displayed on all notice boards and a copy would be available via the website.
2. The new double notice board was now in place in Astley Village and the single notice board had been erected at Upper Battlefield to replace the old one.

8.5.10 CORRESPONDENCE AND MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL..

1. **Astley Village hall to increase their hire charges to £90 from £60 per annum.**
2. The Clerk distributed a copy of "Planning for a flourishing Shropshire." for the Loton & Tern district, issued by Shropshire Council, for discussion at the July meeting.
3. A draft document on the "Code of Practice for the Agricultural Use of Poultry Manure" **also issued by Shropshire Council, again for discussion at the July Meeting. However, Councillors were advised that they were free to make personal comments on these documents, but not as representatives of Astley Parish Council.**
4. The Clerk was asked to request Shropshire Council to move the Salt Bin, which was now in an inconvenient place, following the erection of the new notice board in Astley Village.

9.5.10 FINANCIAL MATTERS.

1. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT.

The Parish Council's affairs had been audited and the Internal Auditor reported that **"The Parish Council should aim to increase the level of general reserves to satisfactory levels"**

2. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS FOR YEAR ENDING 31ST MARCH 2010.

A copy of the Annual Accounts to 31st March 2010 had been circulated to all Councillors with the Agenda. The Chairman & Clerk formally signed the accounts.

3. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE ACCOUNTS FOR AUDIT - SECTIONS 1 & 2.

The Chairman & Clerk formally signed the Accounts for Audit and the Annual Governance Statement, which would be sent for External Audit.

4. PARISH COUNCIL INSURANCE.

The Clerk had obtained an alternative quotation for insurance through AVIVA from brokers Came & Co. who had been recommended by SALC and now used by a number of other local parish councils.

Although Shropshire Council, with whom the Parish Council were currently insured, were unable to state what their new premium would be, other than that there would be a slight increase over last year's premium of **£454.48** Came & Co. had sent a written quotation in the sum of **£386.31 which included a more extensive cover, and also included the new notice board. Thus there would be a minimum saving of £68.17.**

A further 5% discount could be saved if the Council were willing to commit to a three year Contract.

After full discussion the Council voted **UNANIMOUSLY** to change the Council's insurance to Came & Co. as from 1st June 2010 for one year only initially in the sum of **£386.31.**

9.5.10 Finance - Cont.d.....

5. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT.

A.	SALC Annual Subscription.	Cheq. 000120	148.28
B.	N.Power.	Cheq. 000121	88.32
C.	E.On. Kiosk Light.	Cheq. 000122	51.12
D.	S.G. France.	Cheq. 000123	5.62
E.	Astley Village Hall Donation.	Cheq. 000124	225.00
F.	JDH Business Services Ltd.	Cheq. 000126	73.95
G. *	Keith Oliver. Notice Board.	Cheq. 000127	1145.04
*	(Minute 57.11. (3) refers)		
H.	Broker Network Ltd (Came & Co. Insurance)	Cheq. 000128	386.31

Proposed by Councillor Colclough, seconded by Councillor Dodds the above accounts were **UNANIMOUSLY** approved for payment. However, the Council were still concerned at the outrageous "administration" charges made by N.Power on top of the electricity charges and it was suggested the perhaps the LJC could take this up as a group matter. The Clerk to provide Councillor Colclough with the relevant documentation.

Although not an agenda item, it was realized that Councillors Bedell and Booton were not Cheque signatories for the Parish Council. The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

6.PRECEPT.

Received and banked.

10.5.10 PLANNING.

1. Hubs and Clusters, meeting arranged with Lois Dale of Shropshire Council for 21st July 2010.
2. A & S Storage Yard Astley. Erection of storage building following removal of existing. No objections from neighbours or Parish Council. Shropshire Council were recommending APPROVAL.

11.5.10 WASTE DISPOSAL - INCINERATOR.

The latest information from Shropshire Council was the Primary Care Trust, the Health Protection Unit and English Heritage appeared to no longer have objections to the emissions. If this is proven then it is likely that a Permit would be issued as the Environment Agency feel that "this would be a well run facility of a modern day type."

The Parish Council were still deeply concerned of the likelihood of the incinerator being becoming operative, and the additional traffic which would inevitably be bringing rubbish from elsewhere in order to meet the burning capacity, together with the emissions issue, over which They were still not satisfied. A letter to be written expressing these objections once again.

12.5.10 VILLAGE SPEED LIMITS.

Although these were about to be implemented, there appeared to be a problem with the sign at Upper Astley which would now have to be moved slightly, involving a return to Planning and notification in the Press before further action could be taken. It was anticipated that the delay would be short.

13.5.10 LJC. LOTON AND TERN DISTRICT.

Councillor Colclough reported on the Summit which had been well attended. He said that many people were surprised at how well the LJC's had succeeded. There was £2,000 to be carried forward to 2010-2011 to add to the £34,000 allocated for expenditure. However, it was agreed that there would be a maximum of £5,000 per bid for the future, with a smaller "pot" for very small grants

General discussion took place and it was thought that even if for the future no funds were available, the LJC had a place and were able to deal with "group" matters outside the Parish Councils. The next meeting of the Loton & Tern District would take place tomorrow , 20th May. Councillor Colcough as the Parish Council's representative would attend, as would Councillor Dodds.

14.5.10 KIOSK.

Councillor Locke was still working on the project.

15.5.10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

WEDNESDAY, 21ST JULY 2010. 7 P.M. MEETING PRIOR TO THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING WITH LOIS DALE OF SHROPSHIRE COUNCIL.

There being no further business the meeting was declared closed at 9.20 p.m.

CHAIRMAN..... DATE.....