

# ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ASTLEY PARISH COUNCIL, HELD AT 7.30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2010 IN THE VILLAGE HALL, ASTLEY.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE: Two members of the public and Mr Mathew Mead, Regeneration Officer, Shropshire Council's L.J.C.**

## **PUBLIC SESSION.**

A member of the public asked a question regarding the budget which was clarified by the Chairman. The Chairman also welcomed Mr Mead to the meeting.

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### **80.3 APOLOGIES.**

Councillor Bayley had sent apologies for non attendance due to illness via the Chairman. The Council accepted the reason.

### **81.3 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 declarations. Also to notify the Monitoring Officer of any changes to their personal circumstances. There were no declarations of interest.

### **82.3 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING.**

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2010, having been circulated with the agenda, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

### **84.3 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.**

#### **1. New Notice Board- Astley Village and Upper Battlefield.**

The Clerk advised that the new notice board was almost completed and would be delivered and installed within approximately three weeks. The contractor would firstly remove the current Notice board to Upper Battlefield to replace the existing one and make a second visit to install the double notice board adjacent to the telephone kiosk. There was a problem, however, in that salt bin was located in the area. Councillor Bedell undertook to get this moved a few feet to the left prior to erection of the new notice board. The chairman undertook to be present whilst work was carried out. It had been agreed that the contractor would be paid as soon as the Precept was received as he was retiring at the end of April 2010.

#### **2. Electricity Supply.**

The Clerk had been unsuccessful in obtaining a new supplier of electricity for the street lighting.

### **85.3 CORRESPONDENCE & MATTERS BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE COUNCIL.**

1. Litter on A.53. The Clerk had reported this to Shropshire Council and most had been cleared. however, this was an ongoing problem. Shropshire Council had promised to talk to Wynstays and McDonalds, who were the main suppliers of the rubbish.

Litter on the highways was a major problem for Shropshire Council, who had successfully brought a number of culprits to court. The situation to be monitored.

2. Potholes. Although a number of potholes had been filled in this was also another major problem for Shropshire Council, as the severe winter weather had destroyed the surface of many roads in the County. The situation again to be monitored.
3. There had been a complaint to the Council regarding speeding in the vicinity of the Village Hall. It was thought that this was a "one off" incident and no further action to be taken.
4. The Council had been made aware of activity at Furber's Yard where it was alleged that large amounts of hardcore had been taken onto the premises and spread amongst the oak trees. The Clerk had brought this to the attention of Shropshire Council who had promised to investigate the matter.

### 86.3 FINANCE.

#### Accounts for payment at this meeting:

1.G.Nicholls. (Clerk's half-yearly salary & expenses).	Cheq. 000118	1033.45
2. Astley Village Hall. Room Hire.	Cheq. 000119	60.00

Proposed by Councillor Colclough, seconded by Councillor Booton, the Council **RESOLVED** to pay the above accounts.

#### Appointment of Internal Auditor

The Council **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** to re-appoint JDH Business Services Ltd as Internal Auditors for 2009-2010.

### 87.3 INCINERATOR.

Members of the Council had obtained up-to-date information regarding the emissions situation. It was understood that the Environment Agency were launching a further consultation on the draft decision to issue a permit for the installation under the Environment Permitting (England and Wales) Regulation 2007. The Consultation period to be from 19<sup>th</sup> March to 16<sup>th</sup> April 2010. Although the Environment Agency had stated that "they would only issue a permit if they were satisfied it contained the necessary conditions and control measures to ensure protection of human health and the environment, and that there would be *conditions* in the permit to ensure compliance with all relevant legislation, including strict air emission and monitoring standards for facilities *of this type* the Parish Council were still greatly concerned. The Council remained unconvinced that these would be monitored to their satisfaction. It was understood that "planned" checks as opposed to "random" checks would be made, and there appeared to be a lack of *continuous* monitoring of dioxin and radiation. A letter to be sent to the Environment Agency expressing these views.

### 88.3 TRAINING.

Councillor Booton had attended a FREE training session held by SALC for new councillors. He reported that this had been most interesting and informative.

### 89.3 PLANNING.

1. Removed of crowns on trees at Church House, Astley. APPROVED.

2. To approve the transfer of previously owned County Council land to Oakview Cottage. This was a formality as all the legalities had been dealt with between the owner of Oakview Cottage and Shropshire Council. The Council **RESOLVED** to approve this transaction.

**3. Shropshire Council's Local Development Framework - Core Strategy - Final Draft.** The Chairman and Vice Chairman had examined the documentation, which was lengthy and complicated. There appeared to be no plans in the foreseeable future for any housing development in Astley and no ribbon development between Astley and Hadnal. However, a further document listing areas for PROPOSED future development in rural areas is due to be published in April 2010.

The Council AGREED to invite Lois Lane of Shropshire Council to their July 21<sup>st</sup> meeting to discuss Hubs & Clusters. It was hoped to make this a public meeting.

**90.3 VILLAGE SPEED LIMITS.**

The Clerk had been advised by Alice Dilly of Shropshire Council that instructions had been issued to Enterprise for the work to be carried out as soon as possible.

**92.3 TELEPHONE KIOSK.**

1. Councillor France had completed the refurbishment of the interior of the Kiosk. He made no charge to the Council for his time, but submitted a small invoice to the Council for materials. This account to be paid at the next meeting. The Council thanked Councillor France. Councillor Locke was endeavouring to obtain old photographs of village properties and people. Councillor Booton thought he may have some available, as did a member of the public. The light was now operational in the kiosk.

**93.3. LOCAL JOINT COMMITTEE.**

Councillor Colclough reported on the latest meeting of the LJC. There had been an informative presentation by Shropshire Council on the Budget for 2010-2011, by B.T. on Broadband, and he reported on grants allocated during the meeting. He felt that the LJC was a useful body and as a group were able to deal with problems affecting more than one council.

**94.3 RISK ASSESSMENT & ASSETS.**

A list of assets and record of risk assessments had been submitted to all councillors with the agenda. The Council considered the risk assessment and felt that this was adequate. Any problems would continue to be monitored by the Parish Council on a regular basis and minuted accordingly as at present.

**95.3. MEETING DATES 2010-2011.**

A proposed list of meeting dates had been submitted to the Council for approval. The meeting for July 2010 was changed to **21<sup>st</sup> July 2010**. The list to be circulated to the next meeting and notice boards and website.

**96.3 DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

**WEDNESDAY, 19<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2010. ANNUAL PARISH MEETING AT 7.15 P.M. Tea/Coffee and Cakes to be provided by the Council in the interval.**

The ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE PARISH COUNCIL to follow.

CHAIRMAN.....

DATE.....