**ASTHAL PARISH COUNCIL**

**MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**HELD AT**

**ASTHALL LEIGH MEMORIAL HALL**

**TUESDAY 21st MAY 2019 AT 7.30pm**

**MINUTES**

Present: Lynne Hughson, Chairman (LH), Edward Walker (EW), Sue Wingfield Digby (SWD)

1. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council on 12 February 2019 were approved.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Rita Gunn, Toby Train and Christopher Allen. Sue Wingfield Digby agreed to take the Minutes.

1. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS  
   There were none.

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

a) Asthal triangle kerbing– CA had received a quote from OCC for £11,483 for the repair work to the Asthal Triangle to be carried out by Skanska, but we should only be paying for the materials, which amount to £3,284. It was agreed that we would ask NFJ if he had something in his budget to put towards this before proceeding. *NFJ has offered £500 towards this.* *He reminded the Council that RG will need to file the necessary form with OCC.*

b) Speeding through the villages – This had also been raised with NFJ in the Annual Meeting; we were particularly concerned about the incidents of speeding on the straight road through Field Assarts. LH would ask NFJ to ask the police to set a speed trap there.

c) The Avenue – this has been sorted.

d) Allotments and Land Registry (LR) – OS has now visited the allotments and have also asked for back minutes of the Parish Council. Things are progressing slowly.

e) Notice Boards –Steve Tomlin has completed the repair of the Field Assarts board and the residents are pleased that there is no longer a lock on it. Steve had estimated the cost of repair of the Asthall Leigh notice board to be £160 labour plus £60 - £80 for the materials. It was felt that this was considerably cheaper than replacing the whole notice board and Steve would be asked to go ahead with this.

f) Bench for Field Assarts and Asthall Leigh – The Field Assarts bench could be ordered by RG on her return; the request for a bench in Asthall Leigh would be deferred to the next meeting.

g) Pollution of the Windrush – NFJ had reported on this in the Annual meeting and it is very much on everyone’s agenda. LH had written to the MP, Robert Courts (RC), who was awaiting clarification on the deterioration of the situation before writing again. A number of months back Richard Aylard had informed RC that Thames Water and the Environment Agency would be undertaking a full investigation on the health of the River Windrush. This was vital to establish whether the condition of the Windrush has deteriorated, and if so what is causing the decline. NFJ reported that the Environment Agency has responded weakly and maintains the Windrush condition is “stable.” This shows extreme naivety and is based on old historic data. With the help of WASP and the support of Burford Town Council, this issue will not be allowed to fade away.  
h) Fordwells trough – LH reported that Christopher Codrington has someone doing some work for him who has offered to drain and re-point the trough for £50. It was agreed to proceed.

i) Format for meeting on 30th May – there is legal obligation to hold this meeting before 1st June even though time is short and not all Parish Councillors can attend. It was agreed that an informal ambience a bit like the ALMH pub nights would be appropriate.

* The evening will begin at 7.30pm and there will be drinks and nibbles, with tables and chairs set out as on pub nights. **ACTION: LH and IH.** The Parish Council will pay for the first drink (wine, beer or soft) but after that Ian will operate a pay bar, reimbursing ALMH for all drinks consumed.
* After about 10 minutes LH will say what the Parish Council has done in the past year and explain the focus of the Annual Parish Meeting. She will introduce the other Parish Councillors and also NFJ and AP who may each speak briefly.
* 8.00 onwards there will be informal mingling, chat and raising of issues for the Parish Council to consider in future.

j) Bench for Asthal (sic)– see item f)

k) The Windmill – breach of planning rules – Two residents of Asthal attended to voice their concerns about the Windmill restaurant marquee and lighting. Alex Postan had informed the meeting that the business is not operated by the people who own the land. The enforcement team have written to the people who run the restaurant and they will have to take the marquees down. Nothing has happened yet because it takes time. In addition the marquee is not covered by the restaurant licence so they must apply either to vary the licence or for a temporary event licence for each event.

It had been reported that there had recently been boxing matches there, with parking round the roundabout. AP reported that boxing is also a licencing activity. In addition he is concerned that people could build a more permanent building INSIDE the marquee, which would then be more difficult to take down.

Local residents also objected to the level of light pollution from the security lights (and one particularly tall one which shines into local homes). LH said she would drop an extra line to Environmental Health about the light pollution.

l) Gigaclear – they are behind so nothing much to report

m) Litterpick – this had gone well, but there was a depressing amount collected

1. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

This had taken place in the Annual meeting and there were no representatives of the public present at the Parish Council meeting.

1. PLANNING MATTERS

**18/03643/CM** **Disused Quarry Worsham Lane Asthall Leigh**. Importation, levelling and compacting of 10,470m3 of inert waste soils for the construction of 7 bunds (varying between 186m3 and 7,797m3) for use by Brize Norton Gun Club at Old Quarry in Worsham. **Under Consideration**

**18/03315/CND** **Asthal Manor Asthal** Discharge of Condition 5 (External windows and doors) on Planning Permission 16/04050/LBC. **Split decision. Door approved**

**19/00391/LBC Asthal Manor Asthal**. [Amendments to existing listed building consent (16/04050/LBC), including addition of woodburning stove; existing windows unsuitable for refurbishment an so to be replaced with double glazed timber flush casements; addition of timber shutter to rear glazed door.](https://publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PMJQ9VRKG6V00&activeTab=summary) **Under consideration**

**19/00400/NMA Asthal Manor Asthal**.[Non material amendment to allow addition of wood burning stove and flue; addition of timber shutters to rear glazed doors; all windows to be replaced with double glazed timber flush casements; sink unit moved from storage room to workshop.](https://publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PMJYMWRKG7600&activeTab=summary) **Under consideration**

**19/00319/CND The Hirsell Field Assarts** [Discharge of Condition 4 (Materials) of planning permission 18/02747/HHD](https://publicaccess.westoxon.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?keyVal=PM75INRKG2100&activeTab=summary) **Approved**

7. HIGHWAYS  
 a) Asthal Bridge – discussed at the Annual Meeting; RG will let NFJ know the name of the person with whom she has been talking.

8. FINANCE

a) The following payments were approved:

OALC Subscription £135.06

Insurance renewal £335.39

Parish Council Websites £130.00

Steve Tomalin – noticeboard repairs £126

ALMH- Annual hall bookings £62.50

b) The Annual Return of Accounts. There will need to be a meeting in June to review the annual accounts prior to internal audit, which will be done by Sue Meech. The audit needs to be approved before 1st July. Again we will need to claim exemption from an external audit. We are to address any queries to RG who will set a date for the Finance meeting.

The insurance paid to BHIB Ltd will be made electronically by Rita Gunn to ensure payment by the due date as the council account does not have this facility. The amount of £335.39 will therefore be reimbursed to her.

9. THAMES VALLEY POLICE

Nothing to report

10. RAF Brize Norton  
 Nothing to report.

11. OXFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL (OCC)  
 No further comments.

12. WEST OXFORDSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL (WODC)  
 No further comments.

13. INFORMATION AVAILABLE  
 None

14. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

a) Defibrillator training (with general First Aid) LH had been in touch with the person from [www.pintoflife.org](http://www.pintoflife.org) who had written about this in The Bridge. He will do the training for free but would ask for donations. It was agreed to ask the Maytime and ALMH if the training could be done in those two locations as before, probably in September. **ACTION; LH**

b) Days chosen for future meetings: as agreed in the Annual Meeting these can still be Tuesdays but NFJ can only attend if they are on the third or fourth Tuesday of the month.

15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

This was not decided.