

COLD ASTON PARISH COUNCIL
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Minutes of the
ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
Held on Wednesday 17th May 2017
at the Village Hall at 7.30pm

Councillors present; Cllr Morris
Cllr Acland
Cllr Bullock
Cllr Minns

Parish Clerk D Hunt

Parishioners present; 7 members of the public were present

Draft Minutes

The Chair welcomed everyone and opened the meeting at 07:30pm

- 1. Apologies;** Geoff and Annie McNally
- 2. Chairs Report;** The Chair informed those present that the Council had continued to reduce the precept each year while maintaining sensible reserves. The Precept is currently half what it was in 2013, at the height of the Church Cottage Dispute.
The Council had continued to employ Cottage garden services to mow the Village Greens and Verges, who seem to get a positive response from parishioners.
The Council had assessed the parish trees for safety and have passed comments on some of the planning applications that have been made during the past year.
Full details of all the Parish Council activities are available in the published minutes on the Parish website.
- 3. Road Maintenance Report ;** Cllr Morris reported that the Council had conducted a speeding survey and were now awaiting the new guidelines on the installation of radar operated signs before deciding whether to purchase. The Council continue to make the Council aware of any pot holes. Finally the Council were hoping to have some more passing places.
- 4. Poor Lots report;** Cllr Acland reported that this had made £291.85. 2 parishioners in need had been gifted £150 each to help with winter fuel costs. The balance on this account was £936 and the current value of the units was £10,343.
- 5. Allotments report;** Cllr Minns reported that there were still a few vacancies. Rain harvesting mark 1 had not been as successful as was hoped. Mark 2 was in the pipeline. The unrented plots were in a

reasonable condition. He hoped to cost out for the full council to consider the purchase of special weed suppressant membrane for these plots.

6. Questions and Comments from members of the public;

One parishioner thanked the Council for all of their hard work. She raised the following issues;

- Allotments – commend the Council on their work and really likes the idea of rain harvesting as a water source
- Make the Council aware of the recent heavy damage to the conservation verges by the County Council verge cutters. She wished the Council to write to the County Council about this and to monitor the conservation verges sites A, B & C in future.
- Ash dieback is now in the village. She suggested recording the ash trees in photographs, poems etc. before they disappeared and warned of the dangers of using seedlings from abroad to replant.

A second parishioner felt that a major clean-up was needed on the allotments. Cllr Minns will endeavour to organise a tidy up day.

A third parishioner wished to raise concerns about the excessive parking in the central village due to the pub (patrons, workers, owners etc.). It was suggested that a sign indicating there was a car park at the rear might help. Cllr Bullock said he would raise these concerns with the owners again.

A fourth parishioner suggested the Council consider re-shaping or extending the central green area to alleviate parking issues and create a safe play space for children. Much discussion took place. Councillors agreed to talk to the school and or the Church commissioners to discuss out of school hours use of their playing field.

The meeting closed at 8:02pm