**MINUTES**

**ASTWOOD & HARDMEAD PARISH COUNCIL**

**Thursday August 22nd 2019 at 8pm in Astwood Village Hall**

**Attended:** Chair Neil Sewell, Vice-Chair, Cllr Sarah Evans-Parker, Cllr Teresa Giddings, Cllr Austen Cole, Cllr Piers Sheddon

Parish Council Clerk AnnMarie Duggan

**Ward Cllr’s** - Peter Geary

PCSO – Arlene Ormston

Apologies: Cllr Rebecca Geldart

**Ward Councillors update – Peter Geary**

* Quiet summer season, not much to report.

MK East is not getting any bid money, not yet accepted

Consultation is open and ongoing. No clarity about roads and traffic and where houses will be located.

**Community Policing update – PCSO Arlene Ormston**

* Reported that the local villages are represented on the Rural Committee held quarterly.
* Fly tipping was discussed – if it is soil then this should be flagged with Arlene as it could be related to growing cannabis
* Moulsoe- North Crawley and Lavendon have requested ANPR – consultation will need to take place as to where they will be located. It is a slow process.
* Piers Sheddon raised point about community APNR ( apporx costs of &1700)
* Hare coursing has started again and we should be aware – not a major issue in our villages
* Abandoned vehicles – check if they are taxed on the DVLA site. If not taxed then contact police. If taxed not a police issue unless causing access isues.

**Introductions to new PC meeting format – Neil Sewell**

* Neil Sewell provided an update on how the PC meetings will be run going forward. Meetings to continue quarterly, 3 meetings in Astwood, one in Hardmead (venue to be confirmed).
Meetings to be held on Thursdays at 8pm

**Our key priorities for the next year – Neil Sewell**

* Neil provided an overview of the key priorities for the coming year:
* Building relationships with the wider village community and raising the PC profile. Neighborhood hood plan, security, speeding in our villages, environment,

**Finances – Annmarie Duggan**

* AnnMarie provided an update on finances. The ongoing banking issues have finally been resolved, but we are still not receiving statements, and therefore accounts cannot be raised.
* Bank account includes: Precept, Playground fundraising, Neighbourhood Plan Grant.
* Current balance: PC £2981.52, NHP £5335.00, Playground, £6642.29 = **£14958.81**

**Recent payments:**

* Wayne – Grass cutting – £600
* Best Kept Village plants - £146.22
* Dog Bins – Bins £136.80
* Domain costs (81.17 + 150) £231.17
* NHP Consultant £3150

**TOTAL £4264.19**

**Astwood Playground** – Sarah Evans-Parker

* Sarah provided an update on the playground, which has now been installed and was officially opened on August 17th.
* 4 pieces of equipment have now been installed and inspected.
* Playground has been well received by local families.
* Sign posting and gates still required.
* Total monies raised are £6642.29 through fund raising and a £3000 donation from the Village Hall Committee.
* It was discussed that phase 2 should include the installation of some form of shade.

**Neighborhood Plan** – Sarah Evans-Parker ( in absence of Rebecca)

* NHP meet monthly. Consultant Sam Dix now appointed
* **Speeding update** – Austen Cole attended a speed awareness meeting with PCSO Arelene Ormston. They discussed visiting Nissan HQ in Cranfield to discuss speeding through our village by Nissan Employee

**Security**

Piers Sheddon is exploring a range of security options to improve the security of our villages. This include APNR. This would be a deterrent but also provide us with data when required.

**Website update**

* Teresa Giddings updated that website is up and running and has been visited regularly. Derek is updating regularly and would like one point of contact to provide updates. (Currently a number of people are approaching him). This was agreed that it would be Parish Clerk AnnMarie Duggan

**Permissive Path Astwood**

* AnnMarie updated that the old permissive path is now closed. A new path has now been cleared and access is from the top of the Manor Farm Drive.

AnnMarie is in discussion with Mr Boswell, to agree the installation of gates to replace the current stiles.

The cost of £70 / gate has been proposed and the PC mutually agreed to cover this cost. At a total of £140.

**Questions from the public**

No public were in attendance

**Any other business**

None