**ASTWOOD & HARDMEAD PARISH COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Wednesday 24th October 2018 at 8pm in Astwood Village Hall**

Present:Cllr Bob Stilton, CllrDerek Chapman, Cllr Teresa Giddings, (newly appointed Cllr Sarah Evans-Parker

Newly appointed Parish Councl Clerk AnnMarie Duggan

Apologies: Cllr Rebecca Geldart, Piers Shedden

**Declarations of Interest.**

Bob Stilton asked if there were any declarations of interest – response was no.

**Co-option of new Councilors.**

Bob Stilton stated that we have posted the vacancy in both Hardmead and Astwood and no-one apart for Sara- Armstrong applied.

Sarah was co-opted in and welcomed to the Parish Council.

**Minutes** of meeting on 8TH August 2018 to be adopted and signed as a true record.

**Ward Cllr’s report** - Keith McLean / Peter Geary / David Hosking

The Ward Councilors were invited but did not attend.

**Play Area** update – Cllr Rebecca Geldart

Cllr Sarah Evans-Parker provided an update on the application on behalf Cllr Geldart.

The application has been completed, submitted and we are awaiting the decision. ( expected mid- November.

**Neighborhood Plan update –** Cllr Rebecca Geldart

SA – provided an update on behalf of RG

The first Neighborhood Plan meeting was on October 10th.

Dianne Webber has been invited to the next monthly meeting.

There will be an open meeting on the 8th of January to which the public will be invited.

Kim Durden to invite someone form another location, who has experience in Neighborhood Plan.

The Neighbourhood Plan Committee have scheduled 12 meetings in the diary.

**Rock Salt Bins** – Cllr Bob Stilton has acquired 2 bins form Intu and located them in Harmead and Astwood.

MK Council say that the Astwood bin Located at the end of the Cranfield road, is not in a safe place.

RS is concerned that if relocated, that people will slip as they walk to get the salt.

RS proposes the Astwood village green and Hardmead on the entrance to the farm.

RS stated that there will be a cost for the salt, but that we will request an increase in the Precept.

RS has looked into the cost, and MK council are the cheapest and will deliver.

RS asked for comments:

SA asked if the Astwood bin could be located next to the dog bin in the layby (end of Cranfield Road).

Cllr Derek Chapman asked if we were liable if a car hit the bins?

RS does not know the answer.

DC suggest that it could be located inside the gate of the bridal path. We will need to ask A Boswell for permission.

The bins need to be labelled so property of Astwood and Hardmead so that the council don’t fill them.

Input from the public – Kim Durden – can we go back to the council and ask why the current location is not safe, and ask them for suggestions on where we should locate them.

Bill (??) suggested that we could locate the bin in the carpark at the back of the ex-Council Houses.

RS – we will need to go back to the Council and discuss the issues.

DC – we will need to ask people in the close if they agree as it is their Car Park.

**Councilor’s code of conduct** – Cllr Bob Stilton provide an apology on behalf of the Parish Council and reissued the the Councillors Code of Conduct to all members. ( copies were sent on to Cllr Piers Sheddon and Cllr Rebecca Geldart

**Additional signatories’ to be agreed** – RS asked for additional signatories and Cllr Teresa Giddings and Cllr Sarah Evans-Parker both volunteered.

**Finances**

Parish Clerk AnnMarie Duggan provided and update of the finances.

Following resignation of clerk on 31st August 2018, the bank balance stood at £2982.55.

The following bills have been settled or are pending signatures tonight:

Astwood Village Hall £ 900.00

Playground Planning Application Fee (Sarah Evans-Parker £ 251.00

Parish Council Filing Cabinet (Robert Stilton) £10.00

Zurich Insurance (to be signed) £541.25

TBS Hygiene Ltd - dog bins (to be signed) £30.00

Wayne Elsey – Grass cutting (2nd half) £600.00

The balance after bills settled is £ 648.30

RS added that we will need to ask for an increase in the annual precept, as we now have more financial commitments as a Parish Council.

**Questions from the public:**

Clare (??) –Is there any funding for the Neighourhood Plan?

Answered by RS – “yes we do have funding. As we do more, we will need to ask for an increase in the Precept.”

SA asked how the Precept is calculated.

Answered by RS – “based on need”. We also need to check if we can add the cost of CCTV to the costs.

Bill (??) – you mentioned CCTV is this definite.

Answered by RS – No its just a question.

Bill (??) – The hedges to the right of the Junction on Main Road with the A422, need cutting back as visibility is poor.

RS is in agreement and suggests that we go back to MK Council rasign a Helath and Safety Concern.

SA volunteered to pick this up as an action.

Kim Durden – regarding Zurich Insurance. Why do the Village Hall Committee had to pay insurance as well?

RS – the PC insurance covers outside areas, and the VHC covers the building.

Bill – we have the anniversary of 100 years of WW1 – can we explore taking the memorial out of the church as this belongs to the village and not the new owner?

Answered by RS – we need to see who officially owns it and ask for access to remove it.

**The next meetings to be agreed and confirmed.**

**January 16th 2019**

**May 16th 2019**

**14th August 2019**

**16th October 2019.**

**Any other business**

Cllr Teresa Giddings has a sign for the Bridal Path gate. She has spoken to A Boswell and he is happy for it to be located.

TG wrote to a neighbor regarding hedge cutting and the neighbor has cleared the hedges to increase visibility.