



Aspley Guise Parish

Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting held on Saturday 27th May 2023 in the Link Room, St Botolphs Church, Aspley Guise starting at 10.02am.

Present: 26 members of the public

	Agenda Item
1	Welcome & Introduction Cllr Bailey - Chairman of Aspley Guise Parish Council welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies: Cllr Raper, Cllr Sayer, Cllr Nagle and Cllr Placsom.
2	To agree the minutes of the previous meeting held on the 15th April 2019 Minutes to be agreed next meeting, carried forward to next Parish meeting.
3	Reports from the following: - Aspley Guise School- Headteacher, Report (read by resident), full report available. One of a growing number of Eco-Schools in the county. The mission is simple: Be more sustainable because we have only one planet. One of our early changes came with trying to reduce the amount of waste we were generating. It led to changes in what type of bins we have and what we put in them! It also led to our Eco-Eating competition, with children trying to make sure their plate was empty at the end of lunchtime. We did so well with this that we won a sustainability award from Central Bedfordshire Council! By the summer term, 2022, we felt we'd worked really hard on sustainability and was the first school in all of Central Bedfordshire to be accredited with the coveted "Green Flag" award. We've tried to live this through this year's Eco-Code: Protect the Seas - Reduce energy - Healthy Living for You and Me Future Eco-Action and help from the Parish Council The Parish Council have already received our bid for funding to support the next phase of our commitment to the environment and environmental education: a request for funding to support the installation of solar panels! Such a move will be a great investment for the school as well as helping to reduce our carbon footprint. The longer term future of the school As the Parish Council will be aware, the two tier/three tier question continues to hang over the school. Whilst Central Bedfordshire have halted the conversion for us at this time, we know that building work continues at both Swallowfield Primary and Fulbrook Academy to convert them. We feel very much left out and know that there are a number of parents who are deliberately choosing Swallowfield over us because of this matter. Therefore, conversion to a primary school is essential for the long term future of the school. - Village Hall Management Committee - Report provided by John Barber, Chairman, Aspley Guise Village Hall Management Committee (read by resident) report available This has been a busy year for the Village Hall with bookings returning to pre-pandemic



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levels for regular hirers as well as private hires particularly for children's parties. Over a dozen local groups and charities are using the hall each week. All these groups are well supported by villagers and people from the local area.

The year's major project was the complete redecoration of all interior areas of the Hall and the replacement of the old curtains in the Main Hall with special blackout blinds that are also heat reflective to help reduce heating costs. Funding for this came from the Hall's own fund-raising reserves, the annual Parish Council grant to the Hall and the CBC COVID closure grant, provided to replace lost letting income. The refurbishment was completed in October 2022.

The Hall trustees would like to thank all our regular Hirers and villagers for their continued support using the Hall and the Parish Council for the Annual grant towards maintaining the building.

- Woburn & Wavendon FC – Robert – chairman WWFC, full report available

Woburn & Wavendon FC would like to express thanks to Aspley Guise Parish Council for the continued opportunity to use the Recreation Ground as part of our long standing relationship. Far from regarding the relationship as just 'renting pitches', the Club is committed to maximise the number of local youngsters who can enjoy all the benefits of organised football in a safe and fun environment. The representation from the Village within the Club has never been higher and we are therefore naturally proud to continue to be offering more grassroots footballing opportunities to more Aspley Guise locals.

- BEDS RCC (read by resident) report available

A new Rail Replacement Bus timetable will be introduced from Monday 22nd May in response to passenger feedback, particularly over improved connections at Bletchley for mainline services.

Train services are due to resume in the Autumn.

Updates will be posted on the Marston Vale CRP website and social media platforms once available.

No buses are provided on days when industrial action is taking place, currently planned for Wednesday 31st May, Friday 2nd June and Saturday 3rd June 2023.

For further information on any aspect of Marston Vale CRP or the Marston Vale Line please contact Stephen Sleight, MVCRP Officer, on 01234 832645, e-mail stephens@bedsrcc.org.uk.

- Helping Hands – report available online
- Planting group- Jane Owen – (read by resident) report available.

20 planters in village now, team of 6 looking after these, spring, summer, and autumn refresh. Then cared for around these times. Decorations in the planters for the jubilee and coronation. We would like to plant bulbs in the village in the autumn. If the public would like to suggest any areas in the community that needs. Vandalism – war memorial bench. Now removed and awaiting replacement. Moving to the bottom of The Mount. Full report online.



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	Questions: • Resident 1: call for a Parish Poll, rules read out. 21 residents present eligible to vote. Question passed to the Chair, Cllr Bailey Question – Should the Parish Council peruse a Housing Needs Survey, which will encourage development on Green Belt land? (yes/no) ➤ 11 hands up to confirm happy with the wording • Resident 2: We need greenbelt protection, forward application and the backing of the HNS. Creates a rural exception. Concerns around the ability to opens up the gates to developers to offer to the affordable housing to Enable a larger development. There would then be a call for sites. Concerns continue to grow over the Sheep Field, Allotments, clumps. A: We have taken legal advice and they strongly recommend that the PC has HNS. • Resident3: It may set a precedence using the HNS if one developer gets one. • Resident 4: Would like something to be done with the corner of Woodside, Appreciates we have some planters but there are too many builders using it as a parking area. • Resident 5: more bins are needs at the common. Also the monkey bars are broken Aspley Guise Parish Council – Stewart Bailey – Chairman Thank you for all coming and thank you to the hours of volunteers that give up all their time! Some of the things we have seen in the last year are the Christmas Tree, Family Fun Day, Planting, additional Defibrillators. Street lighting – ensuring the best lighting in the right areas, carrying on with Iffley project. NHP – this continues to progress. Play areas – continue to improve and refresh these for the residents. Looking to further improve Townlands. We are continuing into this year with exercise equipment at the Common, stage 5 of the streetlights, Welcome to AG signs, Christmas tree and lights secured, working with Sports trust to improve facilities, continue To grow the PC. Co-opting for the PC is coming up as we have 7 vacancies, a policy is being put in place to help clarify the process. We are looking to replant some trees at the ‘Clump’ this is a project we would like to involve Aspley Guise Village School with. The Aspley Guise Train Station wating room ‘hut’ – we want to hold a competition at the local schools to create some art to go up inside.
	Meeting closed at, followed by Light Refreshments