



ASLOCKTON PARISH COUNCIL

Summons:

You are summonsed to a meeting of Aslockton Parish Council which will be held online on Monday, 08 March 2021 at 19.00.

LOGIN – please follow this [link](#):

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87197553819?pwd=Wjl4TG01OWNiNWtrTyt6Ujhocjl xQT09>

to join the meeting. If you cannot connect to the internet you can join the meeting by phoning one of these numbers for an audio connection. Your phone provider may charge you for this call.

Dial by your location

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
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| +44 131 460 1196 United Kingdom | +44 203 481 5237 United Kingdom |

Meeting ID: 871 9755 3819

Passcode: 967172

One tap mobile

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Meeting ID: 871 9755 3819

Passcode: 967172

Please contact the clerk at clerk@aslockton-pc.org.uk if you are having any problems logging in.

Signed

Belina Boyer

Clerk to the Council

AGENDA

584. To receive and approve apologies for absence.
585. To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests pursuant to section 31 Localism Act 2011 from councillors on matters considered at this meeting.
586. To receive minutes of previous Aslockton Parish Council meeting(s) and resolve to sign these as a true record of the meeting(s).
- To adjourn the meeting for the Public Forum
 - To adjourn the meeting for reports from Borough & County Councillors
587. To receive new information on the return to physical meetings and consider bringing the date of the Annual Parish Council meeting forward to Wednesday, 05 May 2021 in light of this new information as suggested by Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils.
588. To receive a brief verbal update of the Town and Parish Forum - Thursday 4th March 2021.
589. To receive a progress report on the Parish Council Facebook Page.
590. To consider and approve the Council's assets register.
591. To consider the desired location for four dog waste bag dispenser locations and authorise the necessary expenditure for purchase and installation
592. FINANCE
- a) To approve the of Statement of Accounts for February 2020.
 - b) To approve the bank reconciliation and resolve for this to be signed.
 - c) To consider whether any payments will need to be added to the schedule for payment.
 - d) To approve the Payments Schedule for February/March.
593. To consider whether to submit any observations to the following consultations:
- Right to Regenerate
594. PLANNING
- a) To consider the following planning applications for comment
There are currently no requests for consultation that have not already been commented on.
 - b) To note the following planning decisions
 - 21/00098/NMA | Application for a non material amendment to planning permission 18/02728/REM to revise plot 4 and 6

(mirrored) by replacing 2 no. bay windows with standard windows to front elevation. Chimney made external rather than internal and remove flat roof from rear single storey. | Land To North Of Cliffhill Lane Aslockton Nottinghamshire – **Not Agreed**

595. PLAYING FIELD

- a) To receive verbal update on the progress of works on the playing field
- b) To note the date and time of the next trustee's meeting.

596. ALLOTMENTS

To receive an update on allotments.

597. To consider and adopt a media policy.

598. To note correspondence previously circulated by email.

599. Items for next agenda

600. To confirm the Date and Time of the next Parish Council Meeting: 12 April 2021 at 19.00.

Clerks Report March 2021

To receive new information on the return to physical meetings and consider bringing the date of the Annual Parish Council meeting forward to Wednesday, 05 May 2021 in light of this new information as suggested by Nottinghamshire Association of Local Councils.

On this item you will need to take two votes requiring proposer and seconder

1. To amend resolution 522 in light of new information.
2. To move the May meeting to an earlier date.

Monday 3rd is a Bank Holiday, on the 4th Clipstone will have its meeting so I will not be available, unless you would be willing to meet at an earlier time and be finished by 18.45 at the latest, this leaves the 5th and 6th of May to meet virtually before the current legislation "runs out". Apparently it cannot be simply "extended", which is what everybody thought would happen, and there may not be sufficient parliamentary time to ratify a new law.

By May, it is unlikely that all members and staff will have been vaccinated, the same will be true for many members of the public. So any physical meeting would have to follow Covid guidelines and it would need to take place in Covid secure premises. The wearing of face masks would be compulsory as would be social distancing both of which will make interaction and debate tricky.

A month later the situation may well have changed again.

To receive a brief verbal update of the Town and Parish Forum - Thursday 4th March 2021.

To receive a progress report on the Parish Council Facebook Page.

The Page is up and running and needs followers. Please sign up to the page and encourage Aslockton friends and neighbours to do the same.

To consider and approve the Council's assets register.

To consider the desired location for four dog waste bag dispensers and authorise the necessary expenditure for purchase and installation Cllr Purdue Horan has kindly offered up to £800 for the "Hardware" from his community fund. At the time of application I did not yet have the cost VIA would be charging to install a post. This has since been quoted at £150 each, +VAT, not including the post.

I applied for the following:

Dog bag dispenser

| | | |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|-------|
| | excl. VAT | |
| 1 x Dog Waste Bag Dispenser | £ 79.00 | |
| 1 x 2.5m Galvanized 40mmx40mm Post and fixing | £ 28.50 | |
| Signage each | £ 46.00 | |
| Postcrete | £ 22.88 | |
| 1 x JRB-B12 Banding Bracket set for posts | £ 12.60 | |
| 1 x Tamtorque Screwdriver/Bit Tool | £ 3.95 | one - |
| Delivery | £ 7.50 | off |
| Cost per Dispenser | £ 196.48 | |

Total for 4 dog bag dispensers not including installation cost **£ 789.87**

10 Keep Britain Tidy laminated posters £ 25.00

£ 814.87
Total

Please note that this does not include "consumables", the bags themselves or the installation.

The overall cost will depend very much on the proposed locations. The footpaths office has no objection to the dispensers being attached to metal posts, but would not want them on wooden ones. If any of RBCs litter bins are on tall posts, maybe the dispensers could be attached to them, which would reduce the cost.

FINANCE

To consider whether to submit any observations to the following consultations:

- Right to Regenerate

Please see the summary document in the papers. It answers the questions in the NALC consultation (no closed) which reflected the government's one.

ALLOTMENTS

The person who currently rents plot 1a would like to give it up in favour of plot 13, which the plot holder is giving up from April.

Plot 14 will be vacated also as will the overgrown plot 6.

There are two people on the waiting list and I have had a telephone enquiry for another. Theoretically we should be able to offer everybody on the waiting list a plot – if they are willing to offer a challenge.

Plot 1a did not produce any decent crops, which is why the plotholder wants to swap. 1a borders the current hard standing.

To consider and adopt a media policy.

This regulates interaction with the press, in social media etc. It also deals with anonymous correspondence.

Minutes of the Meeting of Aslockton Parish Council on Monday, 08 February 2021

| Members Present | Members Present | Members Absent |
|-----------------|--------------------------|----------------|
| J Beet (JB) | C Haslam (Chairman) (CH) | |
| J Brown (JPB) | | A Lister (AL) |
| I Hanney (IH) | | |

In Attendance: The Clerk Mrs B Boyer

Also Present: Cllrs Stockwood (Borough) and Purdue-Horan (County) and one member of the public

562. To receive and approve apologies for absence.

Cllr Lister had given his apologies.

563. To receive disclosures of pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests pursuant to section 31 Localism Act 2011 from councillors on matters considered at this meeting.

There were none.

564. To receive minutes of previous Aslockton Parish Council meeting(s) and resolve to sign these as a true record of the meeting(s).

The Council resolved to approve the minutes of the meeting 11 January 2021 and to sign them as a true record of that meeting.

- To adjourn the meeting for the Public Forum

A Member of the public asked Cllr Stockwood to clarify the nature of a recent consultation by Rushcliffe Borough Council (RBC), whether this concerned the Aslockton Conservation area or Conservation (Nature) in the Borough. Cllr Stockwood confirmed that it concerned Nature Conservation in the Borough.

- To receive reports from Borough & County Councillors

Cllr Stockwood stated that RBC would increase its precept by 3.24%.

565. To receive an update on interactive speed signs and potential costs for purchase. Cllr Purdue-Horan referred back to a detailed email explaining why mobile vehicle activated speed signs could only be installed by VIA in Nottinghamshire.

The Council received the updated cost report and Cllr Purdue-Horan's explanation. No further action was resolved.

566. To receive a quotation for dog waste bag dispensers and consider whether or not to purchase any.

The Council received the quotation for dog waste bag dispensers. The Clerk pointed out that the final cost would depend on the locations chosen and whether existing posts could be utilised or whether additional posts would need to be installed.

Cllr Hanney volunteered to refill the dispensers once installed.

Cllr Purdue-Horan stated that the Council could apply for funds under the councillors community fund scheme.

The Council resolved that the Council would apply for the installation of four dog waste bag dispensers under the scheme. Any additional cost not covered by the scheme would be carried by the council.

567. To receive a quotation for the purchase of dog fouling posters.

The Council resolved to purchase 10 A4 campaign posters from Keep Britain Tidy at a cost of £25.00.

The Clerk was asked to set up a Facebook Page to raise awareness of the problem.

568. To consider the details for the Annual Meeting of the Parish Electorate.

The Council did not set a date for an Annual Meeting of the Parish Electorate. A meeting could be called pursuant with Local Government Act 1972 Sch. 12 s15(1) by members of the electorate.

569. FINANCE

a) To approve the Statement of Accounts for January 2021.

Proposed by Cllr Brown seconded by Cllr Beet, the Council approved the Statement of Accounts for January 2021.

| Approved for payment at meeting in | February |
|------------------------------------|------------------|
| Details | Amount |
| Staff Costs | £ 588.06 |
| Secure -a-Field | £ 2,728.32 |
| NALC Annual Fee | £ 212.56 |
| ICO Fees - DD | £ 35.00 |
| Total | £3,563.94 |

b) To approve the bank reconciliation and resolve for this to be signed.

Proposed by Cllr Haslam seconded by Cllr Hanney the Council resolved to sign the bank reconciliation.

c) To consider whether any payments will need to be added to the schedule for payment.

There were none.

d) To approve the Payments Schedule for January/February.

Proposed by Cllr Haslam seconded by Cllr Hanney the council approved the Payments Schedule for January/February 2021.

570. To consider whether to submit any observations to the following consultations:

- NALC: EPC1-21 - Right to Regenerate

Councillors asked for a summary of the legal proposal before considering a response.

- CONSERVATION AREAS and AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

The Council resolved to support the proposal.

- Draft Planning Enforcement Policy

The Council resolved to support the proposal.

571. PLANNING

a) To consider the following planning applications for comment
There are currently no requests for consultation that have not already been commented on.

b) To note the following planning decisions

- 20/02861/FUL | Erection of four dwellings including the erection of garages, works to access road and landscaping | Foxborough House Abbey Lane Aslockton Nottinghamshire NG13 9AE- Permission refused.
- 20/02871/TPO | Trees: T1 and T2 (Oaks) - Remove as suppressed. T2 (Horse Chestnut) - Lift crown to 3m allow better access. T4 (Apple) Reduce crowding. Periodic crown thinning of no more than 10%. | 1 The Maltings Abbey Lane Aslockton Nottinghamshire NG13 9AE- consent granted.

The Council noted the above planning decisions.

572. PLAYING FIELD

To receive the Playing Field accounts as submitted to the Charity Commission and an update on activities.

The Council received and noted the Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field Trust accounts as submitted to the Charity Commission.

573. To consider any action to be taken to re-instate the damaged surface at the entrance.

Deferred to a future meeting once all work with heavy machinery had finished and the ground had dried up sufficiently.

The chairman of the Playing Fields Management Committee gave a verbal report and stressed the need for a trustees meeting before the end of March.

He reported that Whatton Parish Council had applied for funding to paint the containers on the Playing Field.

574. ALLOTMENTS

To receive a verbal update on allotments.

The clerk had not received any reply to her correspondence with one plot holder, neither by email nor post.

The clerk reported that two plots would be vacated by the end of March. There were two names on the waiting list.

575. To nominate a delegate to the Town and Parish Forum 4th March at 10 am.

The Clerk would represent the Council.

576. To consider and adopt a data retention policy.

The Council resolved to adopt the data retention policy as presented.

577. To consider and adopt a publication scheme.

The Council resolved to adopt the publication scheme as presented.

578. To consider a first draft assets register and any necessary amendments in preparation for adoption at the next meeting.

Councillors were presented with a first draft of a new assets register and asked to see if there were any items that needed adding to or removing from the register, define the locations of the various items and generally fill in any gaps.

579. To receive a verbal update on the business banking switch scheme.

The Clerk informed the Council that the only bank that would have been suitable to the Council's needs under the scheme, Co-op Bank, does not accept parish councils as new customers as they are neither a registered charity nor a private enterprise registered at companies' house.

580. To consider the format of a probationary period and performance review meeting.

The Council resolved to exclude public and press for item 580 as personnel issues would be under discussion. The Council decided to discuss matters at this, rather than a future meeting as the relevant information had been received by council.

Proposed by Cllr Haslam, seconded by Cllr Beet, the Council resolved that the Clerk had successfully completed her probationary period to progress the clerk to SCP 25 from March 2021 due to examination success. A further SPC progression from April 2021 would be awarded in line with the clerk's contract.

581. To note correspondence previously circulated by email.

The Council noted the correspondence previously circulated.

582. Items for next agenda

- Playing Fields
- Dog Waste Bag Dispenser Locations + authorisation of purchase

583. Date/Time of Next Parish Council Meeting: 08 March 2021 at 19.00.

The date for the next scheduled meeting was confirmed as Monday, 08 March 2021 at 19.00.

Signed as a true record of the meeting

Date

Aslockton Parish Council 2021-22

Assets are defined as land, buildings, vehicles, plant and equipment with a value/purchase cost in excess of £100.

| Number | Item | Location | Year of Purchase | Purchase Cost | | Insurance = replacement value current year | Insured Yes/No | Category | Date of Disposal |
|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------------------------------------|----------------|----------|------------------|
| 1 | Whatton and Aslockton Playing Field (joint ownership with Whatton PC) 50% | Dark Lane , Whatton, NG13 9FE | 1996 | £ 15,000 | | | No | Land | |
| 2 | Land on the east side of Dark Lane, (joint ownership with Whatton PC) 50% | Dark Lane , Whatton, NG13 9FE | 2008 | £ 1 | | | No | Land | |
| 3 | Thomas Cranmer history board | Main Street, Near Saucer Farm entrance | 2011 | £ 1 | unknown cost | £ 1,000 | Yes | | |
| 4 | Notice Board Main Street | Mainstreet near Post Office | pre 2010 | £ 1 | unknown cost | £ 1,500 | Yes | | |
| 5 | Notice Board Main Street | Mainstreet near Post Office | pre 2010 | £ 1 | unknown cost | £ 1,500 | Yes | | |
| 6 | Welcome sign | Mill Lane | 2012 | £ 1,375 | | £ 1,800 | Yes | | |
| 7 | Welcome sign | Cliff Hill Lane | 2012 | £ 1,375 | | £ 1,800 | Yes | | |
| 8 | Welcome sign | Dark Lane | 2012 | £ 1,375 | | £ 1,800 | Yes | | |
| 9 | Laser Printer | ??? | 2014 | £ 100 | | £ 99 | No | | |
| 10 | Planter | Station??? | 2013 | £ 45 | | £ 99 | No | | |
| 11 | Planter | Main Street | 2013 | £ 45 | | £ 99 | No | | |
| 12 | Miscellaneous watering cans etc | behind TC history board | ??? | £ 30 | | £ 40 | No | | |
| 13 | Litter picking kit | Andy Lister's garage? | ??? | £ 88 | | £ 99 | No | | |
| 14 | Litter bin Grantham Road (50%) | Grantham Road | 2017 | £ 74 | | £ 80 | No | | |
| 15 | HP Laptop | Clerk's office | 2017 | £ 192 | | £ 192 | No | | |
| 16 | Self-Inking Stationery Stamp | Clerk's office | 2017 | £ 33 | | £ 35 | No | | |
| 17 | HP Laptop | Clerk's office | 2020 | £ 529 | | £ 529 | Yes | | |
| 18 | SkanDisk external hard drive | Clerk's office | 2020 | £ 79 | | £ 79 | No | | |
| 19 | Office 365 | Clerk's office | 2020 | £ 59 | | £ 59 | No | | |
| 20 | Internet security | Clerk's office | 2020 | £ 15 | | £ 15 | No | | |
| 21 | Hand held speed gun | Andy Lister's garage? | ??? | ??? | dispose? | | No | | |
| | | | | | | | No | | |
| | | | | | | | | | |
| | | | | £ 20,418 | | | | | |

Approved

Chairman.....

Financial Statement for the Year to Date

26/02/2021

| | Year to Date Actual | Annual Budget | Balance Remaining |
|-----------------------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Receipts | | | |
| Precept | 11,905.00 | 11,905.00 | 0.00 |
| Interest from Bank | 7.03 | 25.00 | 15.37 |
| Allotment Rents | 355.00 | 150.00 | -190.00 |
| Allotment Deposits | 200.00 | N/A | N/A |
| Other | 3.80 | N/A | N/A |
| VAT | 0.00 | 8.71 | 8.71 |
| A) - TOTAL RECEIPTS | 12,470.83 | 12,089 | -165.73 |
| Payments | | | |
| General Administration | 1,812.12 | 1,550 | -262 |
| Section 137 and non S137 grants | 400.00 | 700 | 300 |
| Staffing | 5,284.32 | 4,809 | 4,021 |
| Allotments | 324.00 | 550 | 341 |
| Playing Field | 10,183.61 | 3,500 | -6,684 |
| Verges | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| Planters/other village amenities | 86.34 | 400 | 314 |
| VAT | 1,001.57 | 0 | 0 |
| Other | 970.61 | 580 | 54 |
| B) - TOTAL PAYMENTS | 20,062.57 | 12,089 | 4,127 |
| Bank Charges | 0.00 | 0 | 0 |
| C) - CASH BOOK BALANCE (A-B) | -7,591.74 | 0 | 4,127 |
| D) - BALANCE brought forward | 18,717.73 | | |
| Cumulative Funds for this Period (C+D) | 11,125.99 | 0 | 4,507 |

| RECEIPTS | February | | |
|-----------------|----------|----------|-------------|
| | Interest | £ | 0.09 |
| Total | | £ | 0.09 |

| PAYMENTS | February | | |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------|---------------|
| | Details | | Amount |
| | Staff Costs | £ | 563.93 |
| | NALC Annual Fee | £ | 212.56 |
| | ICO Fees - DD | £ | 35.00 |
| | WFHA | £ | 26.00 |
| Total | | £ | 837.49 |

***NB. Slight difference to payment schedule.**

CUMULATIVE FUND ANALYSIS

EARMARKED RESERVES

| | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------|----------------------|
| Village Amenities | 358 | |
| Playing Field Contingency | 1,350 | Play equipment grant |
| Allt Rents & Maintenance | 1,464 | |
| Allotment Deposits | 230 | |
| Footpaths | 300 | |
| 5 Villages Speedwatch | 152 | |
| Traffic Measures – interactive signs | 2,150 | |
| Elections | 514 | |
| Transparency Fund | 0 | Website and laptop |

GENERAL RESERVE 4,608

TOTAL BALANCE Cumulative Funds 11,125.99

| | |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Balance Current Acct Stat (286) | 310.64 |
| Balance Deposit Acct Stat (871) | 10,815.35 |
| | 11,125.99 |

Difference
0.00

SCHEDULED ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT IN

| Details | March | |
|----------------|---------------|--------|
| | Amount | |
| Staff Costs | £ | 581.07 |
| WFHA | £ | 26.00 |

Total £607.07

* late additions

Proposed By:

Seconded By:

BUSINESS CURRENT ACCOUNT

ASLOCKTON PARISH COUNCIL

| Branch Details | Your current details | Period | 30 Jan 2021 to 26 Feb 2021 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|
| WEST BRIDGFORD (A) 52 RECTORY ROAD WEST BRIDGFORD NOTTINGHAM NG2 6FF | MRS BELINA BOYER 3 JACKSON COURT FARNDON NEWARK NOTTINGHAMSHIRE NG24 3TS | Previous Balance | £298.13 |
| | | Paid out | £837.49 |
| | | Paid in | £850.00 |
| | | New Balance | £310.64 |

| Date | Type | Description | Paid in | Paid out | Balance |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------|----------|
| BROUGHT FORWARD | | | | | 298.13 |
| 4 Feb 2021 | DIRECT DEBIT | ICO , ZA314076 , INITIAL PAYMENT | | 35.00 | 263.13 |
| 15 Feb 2021 | STANDING ORDER | NOTTS LGPS , ASLOCKTON P C , FP 15/02/21 30 , 39013441862796000N | | 20.58 | 242.55 |
| 23 Feb 2021 | ONLINE TRANSACTION | FROM A/C 69001871, VIA ONLINE - XFER | 850.00 | | 1,092.55 |
| 26 Feb 2021 | ONLINE TRANSACTION | SALARY , APC , VIA ONLINE - PYMT , FP 26/02/21 40 , 12023706406892000N | | | |
| | ONLINE TRANSACTION | HMRC CUMBERNAULD , 507PK00204964 , VIA ONLINE - PYMT , FP 26/02/21 40 , 11023706401929000N | | | |
| | ONLINE TRANSACTION | NOTTS LGPS , 200088 ASLOCKTONPC, VIA ONLINE - PYMT , FP 26/02/21 40 , 15023706413205000N | | | |
| | ONLINE TRANSACTION | NOTTS ALC , ASLOCKTON PC , VIA ONLINE - PYMT , FP 26/02/21 40 , 13023706409971000N | | 212.56 | 310.64 |

Deposit Guarantee Scheme Information

Your deposit is eligible for protection under the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS). A link to the FSCS Information Sheet and list of exclusions can be found on your online statement. For further information about the compensation provided by the FSCS, refer to the FSCS website at www.FSCS.org.uk

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Bank Reconciliation
Aslockton Parish Council
Financial Year ending: 31 March 2021
Prepared by: B Boyer. Date: 02/03/2021

Approved by: Date:

Bank statements date 26 February 2021

| | | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------|------------------|--------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| Reconciliation date: | | | | | |
| STATEMENT BALANCES | | | LEDGERS | | |
| Nat West Current | 310.64 | | All | | |
| Nat West Business Reserve | 10,815.35 | | Opening Balance | 18,717.73 | |
| | | 11,125.99 | Receipts to date | 12,470.83 | |
| | | | Payments to date | 20,062.57 | |
| | | | Running balance | 11,125.99 | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | Sub-total | - | 21,100.18 |
| | | | Un-banked Receipts | | |
| Sub-total | | - | | | |
| Un-presented payments: | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| | | | | | |
| NET BALANCE | | 11,125.99 | Cashbook balance | 11,125.99 | |
| Statement Balance | | 11,125.99 | <u>Difference</u> | <u>-</u> | |

Right to Regenerate

Summary

The Ministry for Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) have recently launched a consultation seeking views on proposals to reform of Strand 2 (land owned by a local authority or certain other public bodies) of the Right to Contest under the Local Government, Planning and Land Act 1980 operated by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. The main consultation document can be downloaded [here](#) .

Context

Currently longstanding vacant, derelict or underutilised public sector land can have a significant impact on the attractiveness of a local area, sometimes acting as a focus for anti-social behaviour. Since 1980, the public has been able to request that the government considers whether certain publicly owned land is unused or underused, and if so direct that it be sold (under strand 2 of the right to contest). NALC has been liaising closely with MHCLG since last Autumn on this right and currently local councils have the power to invoke the right to challenge other defined public sector landowners `s under use of land, and refer such cases for consideration to MHCLG.

The government wants to empower people to challenge the inefficient use of public sector land in their communities, and to bring it into better economic use, including to provide new homes. The government is consulting on the effectiveness of these requests as it considers reforms to make the process more efficient and more transparent.

The government believes that reforming the Right to Contest and relaunching it as a new 'Right to Regenerate' could provide a quicker and easier route for individuals, businesses and organisations to identify, purchase and redevelop underused or empty land in their area. In turn (the government believes), a strengthened right would support greater regeneration of brownfield land, boost housing supply and empower people to turn blights and empty spaces in their areas into more beautiful developments.

Currently local councils are not in the list of public landowning bodies which can be challenged under this right – but this consultations seeks views on whether local councils who own underused or derelict land should indeed be challengeable under this right in the future.

Q1: Do you consider the Right to Contest useful?

Is there any viable research that investigates the extent of underutilised land in public ownership? I would think not since question 3 indicates that there is no definition. Without a definition it would be virtually impossible to gather reliable data. In my -albeit limited experience, Local Authorities, even less so Local Councils are culprits of "underutilising land assets", whatever that actually means. Local Councils often suffer from a lack of land that they would like to utilise for the benefit of the community, be it as allotments, as burial grounds, recreation grounds, skate parks, play parks, places for picnics, family fun and recreation. All too often local land owners hold on to their underutilised (fallow, weedy, full of brambles) land in the hope to sell it to the nearest developer for a lot of money. This prices a local council out of the market, as they would be forced to purchase for instance cemetery land at prime housing developer prices.

Q2: Do you think there are any current barriers to using the right effectively, and if so, how would you suggest they be overcome?

I am not convinced that Local Authorities holding on to land for the sake of it is a huge problem. There are far more pressing issues.

Making it clearer when land is unused or underused

Q3: Would a definition of unused or underused land be useful, and, if so, what should such a definition include?

A suitable definition of what constitutes underused land should be the very first step, before anything else. Then research if indeed this is a problem. If it turns out not to be a problem, then maybe legislation is not required and money and energy can be spent where they would make a difference.

A local authority may well be holding on to a piece of land for many years, for instance to turn it into a burial ground when needed. One could call this underutilized. But once houses have been built, the land will be lost forever. Once publicly owned land is gone, it is unlikely to be replaced.

Extending the scope of the right

Q4: Should the right be extended to include unused and underused land owned by town and parish councils?

A resounding No. Local councils would be in a very difficult situation fighting a legal battle against a developer such as for instance Persimmon. A £10.57 and hour/7hours a week part-time clerk could be

left trying to fight a large developer's legal team. Parish Councils do not exist to make a profit. Housing developers are about making profit, regardless of the long-term consequences for the community.

[NALC Supplemental Question: Do you think that this proposal could lead to a back way in for developers to acquire redundant council-owned land and buildings?]

"Redundant" council owned land is rarely truly redundant, it is far more likely that the council is trying to raise the necessary funds, consult with the community as to how best to use the land and come to a consensus or at least a solution acceptable to most. This process takes significantly more time than some "one-size-fits all" plans of developers. If local authorities truly underutilized their land, maybe they could be coerced to develop them into individual serviced plots for self-builders rather than selling to one developer.

Land where a public body has an intended use

Q5: Should the government incentivise temporary use of unused land which has plans for longer term future use?

Is there any research to suggest that local authorities wantonly do not use land they own? And even if they did, if a private developer is allowed to "sit on land" for years in the expectation that greater gains could be made a few years down the line, then public authorities must be allowed to maximise their potential gain from selling their assets.

A greater role for local authorities

Q6: Should the government introduce a requirement for local authorities to be contacted before a request is made?

Always.

Presumption in favour of disposal

Q7: Should the government introduce a presumption in favour of disposal of land or empty homes/garages where requests are made under the right?

No, because this would take choice and power away from local communities who jointly own the property and favour private organisations who will make a profit to benefit their shareholders only.
Publicity and reporting

Q8: Do you agree that the government should require these publicity measures where requests are made under the right?

Right of first refusal

Q9: Should government offer a 'right of first refusal' to the applicant as a condition of disposal?

No.

Conditions attached to disposals

Q10: Should the government impose conditions on the disposal of land? And if so, what conditions would be appropriate?

Compulsory CIL payable to the local community within one year of the project starting irrespective of viability. If the developer would not be able to make sufficient profit to pay the CIL, then they should not be allowed to bid under the scheme. Compulsory affordable housing within the project, not elsewhere.

Q11: Do you have any additional suggestions regarding reforms that could improve the effectiveness of the Right to Contest process?

Media Policy

INTRODUCTION

Aslockton Parish Council's relationship with the community is vital to its work and the decisions it takes. An open and constructive dialogue is a key requirement for influencing and developing services, identifying attitudes and measuring satisfaction.

Effective media relations help to establish a good relationship between the Parish Council and the community. The public generally rely on the media for local information and news, it is therefore important for the Parish Council to present information about its activities and aspirations in a consistent way.

This document sets out the framework for Parish Council Members and employees to follow in contacting the media and informing the public about the Parish Council's activities, the decisions it takes and the services it provides.

THE MEDIA

The term 'media' encompasses many different means of communicating a message to a wider audience, and includes broadcast media, websites and social media, and a wide range of printed media, including local newspapers, magazines, mailshots and posters.

The general principle is that the Parish Council Office will act as the Press Office. Any official contact with the media concerning the Parish Council's policies, decisions and services is to be initiated through this office.

Press releases and statements will be prepared by the clerk in consultation with the chair and other members as required and will normally be restricted to matters that have been debated and agreed by the Parish Council.

Members who are approached by the media should refer to the Council Office to ensure consistency. Members can, as long as they make it clear that it is a personal opinion, state their view on a matter. However, members should take care not to misrepresent and/or bring the Parish Council into disrepute, and must bear in mind their responsibilities under the Local Government Code of Conduct. The requirement of the Data Protection Act 1998 must be adhered to at all times.

Agendas, reports and minutes will be made available to the media on request and the media are encouraged to attend council meetings where appropriate space will be made available. Filming, photography and/or recording of council proceedings by the public or press is permitted by law. The chairman of the meeting will ask if any person intends to record the meeting in any form so all those present can be made aware. This will be a permanent agenda item on all council or committee meetings. Oral reporting, running commentaries or any other action deemed to be disruptive of the meeting is not permitted.

NOTICE BOARDS AND WEBSITE

Public notice will be given of Parish Council meetings and committee meetings. The LGA 1972 requires that at least 3 clear working days' notice be given and that the notice must be

fixed in some conspicuous place in the locality which is commonly understood to be notice boards.

The Parish Council's website will be updated regularly by the council office with copies of minutes, agendas and policies, information useful to residents and information that is required by law.

SOCIAL MEDIA AND NETWORKING

Social media is a collective term for ways to create and publish on the Internet and other forms of social communication such as Facebook or Twitter. It is clear the social networking sites can enhance debate and add positively to local issues when used correctly.

Aslockton Parish Council operates a Facebook page. It is to be a service advertised to members of the public. Most of the activity will be 'following' to gather information and to re-post items of information to residents of Aslockton. Social media will develop over time. The page is administrated by the Clerk.

The Council expects all language used on its Facebook platform to be courteous, polite, non-discriminatory and respectful of others. The Facebook Page may not be used to promote private or party-political business. The Council reserves the right to remove messages or entries that are considered offensive in any way by the council office.

Enquiries of the council or complaints should be sent to the parish office either by post or by email to clerk@aslockton-pc.org not through social media messaging.

USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA BY COUNCILLORS

When using social media councillors should not represent their personal views as being the view or the policies of the council, nor should they represent their views as being those of other councillors unless those councillors' have given their express permission.

Councillors should refrain from personal criticism in social media of other councillors and individuals or organisations with whom the Parish Council has dealings (in accordance with the Nolan principles of conduct in public life).

CORRESPONDENCE

All written/electronic Parish Council communications shall be issued by, or by arrangement of the Clerk. In the event of the Clerk's prolonged absence the Chair shall make arrangements for an alternative.

When councillors correspond with other authorities, service providers contractors about anything to do with council business, they shall copy in the clerk's email address so a record can be kept of any correspondence undertaken on behalf of the parish council.

ANONYMOUS CORRESPONDENCE

All correspondence with the Council must identify the author and clearly express their concerns to enable the parish council to address the issues raised as quickly as possible. Anonymous complaints will not be processed or replied to. The Clerk determines whether a correspondence should be considered anonymous or not. However, confidential issues will be dealt with using the required discretion.

2021 Correspondence to Meeting

March 2020

- Funding Bulletin
- 🍷 NALC CORONAVIRUS UPDATE
- Rushcliffe Stakeholder report February 2021
- Bingham and Radcliffe on Trent area crime figures for January 2021.
- Parish Wildflower seed offer
- CPRE: Affordable Housing guide
- NottsAlc: Training - Conduct Issues and Employee Relations – a HR Perspective
- NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2021
- NCC determined school admission arrangements 2022-2023
- VIAEM: Whatton Footpath No 20 Bridge over River Smite
- ☆ NALC STAR COUNCIL AWARDS 2021