HOPESAY PARISH COUNCIL

USE OF ASTON GREEN

Aston Green is a public recreational open space. It is owned, maintained and managed by Hopesay Parish Council ("Council") for the benefit of parishioners and visitors in accordance with a 2003 Covenant between the Countryside Agency and the Council (and the terms and conditions attached to funding and land purchase). Council is keen to see maximum use of the facilities for as wide a range of lawful recreational activity as possible. **These notes are provided as guidance for those wishing to organise activity on the Green.**

ACCESS: Council is responsible for maintaining the Green in safe and good repair and keeping it open for public recreational use free of charge. Rights of public access exist over the village hall car park. Council can however prohibit activity that may cause damage and prohibit access for certain defined safety reasons. Council may also, on not more than 2 days in any calendar year, prohibit access except on payment of a reasonable charge; that charge being applied to maintenance or improvement of the Green and on condition that admission on payment is available to all.

The Green is therefore not available for hire for private functions. Nor may admission be charged for any community event unless proceeds benefit the Green. A charge for participation in an activity on the Green (a BBQ for example) may however be appropriate.

PARKING: No parking is allowed on Aston Green.

Council owns and manages the fenced public recreational open space immediately south of the Green to which different restrictions on use apply. It is available for car parking (for which a charge might be made) for events at the Village Hall and on the Green. **Event Organisers must engage Parking Marshalls / Stewards to organise parking on the Lower Field for large events**, to ensure their clients do not park where they are not supposed to, and to ensure safe access and egress into and out of the site.

DAMAGE: Any damage to Aston Green resulting from the erection, use of, or removal of any structures, including vehicles, must be made good or paid for.

INSURANCE: Council is insured against claims that might arise related to its ownership, maintenance, management and use of the Green. This insurance does not cover claims that might arise against others using (or organising activity on) the Green. Those wishing to use the Green should assess any attendant risks, act to minimise them so far as reasonably practicable and **seek their own insurance where necessary.**

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LICENSED ACTIVITY: Council does not hold a 'Premises Licence' for the Green. Any proposed activity required to be licensed (music, singing, dancing, drama, film, sale of alcohol, late hot food) is **likely to require a 'Temporary Event Notice' served on Shropshire Council and the Police by the organisers at least ten working days in advance.**

RESPONSIBILITES AND REQUIREMENTS: Hopesay Parish Council requires that organisers of events **must** ensure that they have provided sufficient additional waste bins at regular intervals on Aston Green. When clearing up after their event, organisers **must** remove all rubbish left on Aston Green whether they consider it generated by their clients or not. In particular, organisers **must** not leave the existing waste bin at Aston Green full up. If necessary, organisers must remove the full liner and replace it with a clean new liner, whether they consider the bin filled by their clients or not.

VILLAGE HALL: Council owns Aston on Clun Village Hall, which includes the tarmac car park and paved terrace. The Hall is managed, maintained and insured by the Village Hall Management Committee (Charity 702020) under a lease and trust deed, for the recreational benefit of parishioners. The Hall is available for hire by agreement of the Committee for private and public events for which admission charges or restrictions may apply. As members of the public, those attending Hall events may also use the Green, **but not so as to exclude free access to the Green by others**. Those organising Hall events intending to spill over onto the Green should note that their activity will not be covered by the Hall's insurance and premises licence (see also Village Hall Hire Agreement).

INFORMING THE COUNCIL: These notes provide an outline of only the main conditions and restrictions on access and use of the Green. Anyone proposing to use any part of the Green for an organised event should contact the Council at an early stage – at least 8 weeks before the proposed event - so that any difficulties or conflicts of interest can be identified and resolved in good time. Specifically, anyone proposing to erect any structure on the Green must ask permission from Council first, at least 8 weeks prior to the event - please contact the Clerk.

PLEASE NOTE: permission has to be granted at a full Council Meeting having been advertised on the Agenda. Permission therefore cannot be given immediately.

Contact the clerk by email: clerk@hopesayparishcouncil.gov.uk or phone 01588 660684