



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ANNUAL Parish COUNCIL meeting on Monday 13th May 2013
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Terry Cavender, Alice Guise, John Hockley (Vice Chair), Mike Mortimer (Chair), Mary Taylor, Elaine Rowlands and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).

MoP: Angela Hawker, John Tibbetts and District Councillor Pearl Lewis.

1. APOLOGIES: Brian Coxall (MoP: Joan and Peter Hay)

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS: MM stood down as Chair and JH invited nominations for Chairman for the coming year. MM was nominated and seconded (MT, TC) and was re-elected. JH was nominated and seconded as Vice-Chair (MT, ER) once again.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:
None

ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION

- A thank-you card had been received from Stan Bennett after the presentation at the last meeting and this was circulated.
- Warren Whyte has been elected as the new (Conservative) County Councillor for our area, Buckingham East.
- There has been a change of management at the Bull and Butcher. A relief manager has been brought in and there are plans to refurbish the pub at the beginning of June.
- John Hockley has served 20 years on Akeley Parish Council and this was marked with a card and a small celebration.

4. The **MINUTES** of the last meeting, held on 25th March 2013, had been circulated and were proposed and seconded as a true record (ER, TC) and signed by MM.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

5a. Recreational Field - Grass cutting has started and is satisfactory. A new football net has been sourced and erected in the goal post. The annual risk assessment of the beacon has been carried out and it is structurally sound. The beacon will be lit at 10pm at the Pig Roast in June and the usual precautions will be taken by the P/Council to comply with our insurance.

5b. Roads and traffic - The first of 3 repayments of the interest-free loan for the VASs has been made to Bucks CC, sent with a letter again outlining dissatisfaction over value for money of the whole installation process. No reply received as yet. TC is to organise a speed survey of Leckhampstead Rd at school times. (This was previously cancelled due to snow). Welsh Lane, Stowe, will be closed 20/5 to 30/9/13.

5c. Village jobs survey - David Smith, the new Local Area Technician, recently accompanied some of the members of the P/Council on a walk around Akeley in order to identify faults and work required. The Clerk has produced a document detailing over 30 items needing attention. Action has been arranged as follows thus far:

- A 'supersucker' (rather than a normal gulley-sucker) will be sent to address the problems of drainage and flooding in front of The Old Rectory. An extra gulley will also be constructed. It was confirmed that the landowner at the above property *is* responsible for the ditch along the front of the property, (running along Buckingham

Rd). There are also grass cuttings deposited in the ditch which makes the problem worse. An item to be put in the next Akeley News.

- Pot-holes have been identified and have now been marked with white spray paint.
- The village ‘entrance gates’ are to be replaced with proper gate-like structures and will be maintained annually by Bucks CC.
- An item also to be printed regarding an idea to ‘adopt’ an item in the village and keep it clean/maintain it e.g. a bench, a street sign. The jobs could be carried out during a designated ‘village work day’.
- A replacement Footpaths Officer is still needed to monitor the footpaths and bridleways in and around the village. Alternatively, an annual walk with volunteers could be organised.

5d. Insurance cover annual review – the schedule had been circulated and it was proposed and seconded (TC, MT) that the cover is adequate.

6. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **accounts** for the period 22/3/13 to 31/3/13 (end of the financial year) and 1/4/13 to 13/5/13 were proposed and seconded (MT, ER) and signed by MM who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Annual accounts – these were approved (MT, ER) and signed by MM.

Annual audit form – this was processed and signed by MM and the Clerk. The internal audit carried out by Mr George Eagle has been completed.

The **extra grant** accompanying this year’s **precept** has been received.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

- We have received notice that the person who usually delivers the Akeley News will be unable to deliver the August/September issue as she will be on holiday. The Clerk has thanked her for giving us such good notice and ER has agreed to do the delivery.
- TC and BC have given their details to the authorities as emergency/disaster contacts for Akeley
- AVDC have requested help with a legal issue and asked for information from the minutes going back to 1989. Nothing relevant was found.
- The ‘Play in the Parishes’ scheme will again not take place in Akeley this summer as it would seem this is not something that the school (together with the P/Council) wishes to contribute to financially.
- The ‘New Homes Bonus’ will be used locally (£2million) to provide a better broadband service.

8. PLANNING

- 13/00582/ALB and 583/APP - **Stable hall, Akeley Wood School** – Applic. for mezzanine floor in stable.
- 13/00669/AGN – **Land at Chackmore Lane** – Applic. for agricultural barn – not proceeded with – full planning application required.
- A planning seminar outlining ‘material considerations’ is to be held at The Oculus, Aylesbury on the 20th May at 6.30pm. It was felt that this important event should be repeated in the north of the county at some point.
- We have received notification that if the comments of the P/Council regarding an application are at odds with the views of the Planning Officer, the application will not now automatically go to committee for a decision. In such a case, each application

will be reviewed with the Chairman of Development Control and could be determined under delegated powers. Anyone from the village can attend to speak on an application on behalf of the P/Council if no P/Councillor is able to attend.

- There is to be a further relaxation of planning rules regarding extensions but not for listed buildings or conservation areas.
- The Vale of Aylesbury Plan Strategy – The May 2013 document has been received for comment on its ‘soundness’. It has been noted that the Sept 2012 draft stated that Akeley’s new housing allocation was 9, capped at 10. This capping has been omitted from the recent document. It is not clear whether any ‘Rural Housing Exception Scheme’ would be included in this figure: from its title it could probably be assumed not. MM to forward comments to AVDC.

For information only:

- The case of the application for a further 80 homes on Moreton Rd, Buckingham, goes to the High Court in August. If successful, it can then go to the Inspectorate to apply for the permission to be revoked.
- The application for sheltered housing behind the small ‘Fayrefield’ development in Maids Moreton has been refused.

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....To be confirmed.