



**AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2013  
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, John Hockley (Vice-Chair), Mike Mortimer (Chair), Elaine Rowlands, Mary Taylor and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).  
M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran, Sherri Holland.

**1. APOLOGIES:** Stan Bennett, District Councillor Pearl Lewis.

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

***ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION***

Nothing to report.

**3.** The **MINUTES** of the last meeting, held on **12<sup>th</sup> November 2012** were proposed and seconded as a true record (TC, JH) and signed by MM.

**4. MATTERS ARISING.**

**4a. Recreational Field** – The appeal for volunteers to stain the benches and the obtaining of the jubilee plaque will be postponed until the better weather. The **safety surfacing** in the play area needs cleaning before the next RoSPA inspection in May (BC to obtain quote). JH to ask the school about cutting the **overhanging tree** to allow more light on the area. **Dog fouling** is becoming a problem again. An item to be put in the newsletter and on the Facebook page (TC, ES). It is possible for the AVDC Dog Warden and the PCSO to become involved. The **grass cutting quote** for 2103/14 has increased by 4% but was accepted (JH, MT) and the churchyard cuts will cost the same (i.e. £105 per cut – accept, JH, MT).

**4b. Roads and traffic - The Speed Limit Reviews** for areas 10 to 14 have now been completed (We were Area 14) but further areas will have to be funded by the parishes involved. The issue of Leckhampstead Rd being unsafe to walk along was discussed with the Local Area Technician, David Hedley. He has arranged to have white lines painted along the sides of the road at the A413 end. The Road Safety Team at Bucks CC will look into whether anything further can be done. Thanks to TC for cutting back tree branches at the northern VAS site. Details of a **Saturday bus service** running until the end of March have been put on the website.

**4c. Neighbourhood Plans** – Akeley will not be producing a Neighbourhood Plan (only 5 parishes in the whole of the Aylesbury Vale have chosen to do so). **Village Design Statement** – MM to contact Tingewick P/Council to request sight of their VDS. It was noted that it is possible to nominate **assets of community value**. If it is the owner's intention to sell or lease such an asset, the P/Council would have to be notified 6 months beforehand. TC to ask DC Pearl Lewis for information.

**4d. Dispensation for P/Councillors to discuss the precept:** Parish Councillors had completed and submitted their application forms to the Clerk (Declarations of Pecuniary Interests) to apply for a dispensation, in accordance with Section 33 of the Localism Act 2011, to allow them to speak and vote on the setting of the annual precepts until the next ordinary election scheduled for May 2015. It had become clear that this item of business was exempt from dispensation under the 2007 Code of Conduct and so the passing of a resolution was needed. Accordingly, it was resolved that:

*The Parish Council considers that the number of members otherwise prohibited from taking part in the meeting would be so great a proportion of the body transacting the business that it would impede the transaction of the business. Therefore, in accordance with Section 33 of the localism Act 2011, the requested dispensations be approved to allow members to speak and vote where appropriate at this and future meetings until May 2015.*

**4e. Speaking at Parish Council meetings - To note:** Members of the public have no right to speak at a parish council meeting unless the council (not the Chairman) authorises this. A district councillor has no special rights above those of an ordinary member of the public. It was agreed that in Akeley's case, the Chairman use his discretion to allow public speaking at meetings (TC, JH).

**4f. Rules for Parish Councils** – MM had produced a summary of basic rules for Parish Councils which had been circulated to each Councillor. This P/Council declined to publish its lists of Disclosable Pecuniary Interests on the village website. However, the hard copies are held by the Clerk for inspection upon written application.

**4g. Contact email address** – It was agreed to set up an email system whereby emails to the P/Council from villagers (address to be put on the website) are automatically acknowledged with a brief message and then dealt with. The Clerk will respond to them after the content has been circulated to and discussed by the P/Councillors.

## 5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **accounts** for the period **13/11/12 to 12/1/13** were approved and seconded (JH, TC) and signed by MM who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Annual contribution of **£500 to Village Hall Committee's Building Maintenance Fund** - Agreed (BC, TC)

**Annual rent reviews** for the two 1 acre fields. – to remain as at present for a further year (JH, MT)

Setting of the **precept** for 1/4/13 to 31/3/14. – to remain as at present i.e. £9,500 (MT, ER).

## 6. CORRESPONDENCE

- Request for funding from Buckingham CAB – declined.
- 50+ Exercise Sessions available for parishes. ES to put item in the newsletter.
- Thames Valley Police alert messaging system – as above.

## 7. PLANNING

- **The Coppice, Akeley Wood** – Certificate of lawfulness for single-storey extension (to DCC 8.11.12) - **GRANTED**
- **Coppice Farm, Akeley Wood** - Demolition and reconstruction of barn, arena and stables - **APPROVED**
- **7 Church Hill** – 1 and a half-storey side extension - **PERMITTED**

## 8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....**March 11th 2013**

This will be the Annual **PARISH** meeting. Reports are invited from:

The Parish Council Chairman

The Allotment Officer

The Gardening Club

The Village Hall Committee

Akeley Charities

The C of E Educational Trust Fund

Parish Council website webmaster.



**AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the closed Parish Council meeting held on Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2013**

**Present:** Mike Mortimer (Chair), John Hockley (Vice-Chair), Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, Mary Taylor and Ellen Sayer (Clerk)

**Apologies:** Elaine Rowlands, Stan Bennett.

There was only one item on the agenda:

**In the light of further information, to alter or confirm the amount set at the previous meeting (14<sup>th</sup> January) for the precept for 2013/2014.**

After discussion of figures and their implications for the village, it was decided that the precept requested should remain at £9,500 for the coming financial year. (MT, BC).