



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL
The Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 12th January 2015
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

M.o.P: Angela Hawker, Sherri Holland, Rob Kersey, Mr. Kersey Snr., John Tibbetts.

1. APOLOGIES: Alice Guise, Elaine Rowlands.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA: None further to what has been recorded previously.

ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION

- It was noted that the villager who had volunteered, at a previous Parish Council meeting, to seek funding for, and oversee the refurbishment of, the Children's Play Area has withdrawn the offer as she feels the project is too big for her.

3. The MINUTES of the last meeting, held on **12th November 2014**, were proposed and seconded as a true record (BC, MT) and signed by the Chairman.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

4a. Recreational Field

- The **Basketball post** is corroded and it was agreed that it should be replaced. The Clerk to obtain a quote.
- **Grass cutting 2015** – The quote for 2015 was an increase of 2% on last year's costs. This was accepted (MT, MM). David Dunkley has kept his costs for cutting the Churchyard grass the same at £105 per cut and it was agreed that he be asked to carry on (MT, JH).
- **Waste bin requirements** – It appears that the removal of the broken waste bin has had no detrimental effect. The situation to be monitored throughout the warmer months when the area is used more frequently, to see if there is an increase in litter.
- **Beacon lighting** at Pig Roast 2015 – TC and MM have met with the Events Committee and discussed the limitations of the Parish Council's insurance. TC to write formally to them. It was noted that the beacon has not been re-painted as promised after the last Pig Roast.
- **WPD power lines** maintenance – A meeting took place with WPD regarding the hedge. The village's sole power supply runs along this hedge and it needs to be trimmed. It was noted that Mr Fox has no objections as neighbouring land-owner. The tree stumps on Church Hill have now been treated to kill the roots. The village has now been promised 5 cherry trees and 2 oak saplings.

4b. Roads and traffic

- **A413 works** – The resurfacing, signing and lining and replacement of cats' eyes has been completed through Akeley.
- Possible funding for **marked footway, Leckhampstead Rd.**- This has been put on the list for possible action by the LAF as it is seen as a priority for the village, for the safety of children walking to and from school.
- **Salt bins** – The 3 new salt bins have now been installed. 2 are in the Manor Rd/Capel Close area and the other is at Coronation Cottages.
- Request for **waste bin, Chackmore turn** – If the Parish Council installs a bin, AVDC will empty it free of charge. The Clerk to check on the type of bin required and costs.
- Request for **dog bin on Manor Rd.** – It was agreed in principle that another bin at this location would be well-used. The Clerk to look into costs.
- **Surface water** between Meadow Farm and Willows Farm, **Leckhampstead Rd.** – It appears the ditches need digging out. TC to pursue.

4c. Devolved services proposals update – Jan 30th is the deadline to opt to take over the grass cutting of the village. Akeley P/Council will not be doing this. AVDC's proposals were double the cost of those of Bucks CC., which is proposing to reduce the number of cuts per annum to 6. The increase in the grassed verge area (since the Area 14 SLR and subsequent moving out of the 30mph signs and gates on the A413) has not been taken into

account. Basic questions are not being answered e.g. could the P/C employ its own contractor to top up the number of cuts if we do not opt for devolvement. The situation will be reviewed after 6 months.

4d. Main Notice Board – A replacement is needed and was agreed in principle. The finances will be examined before allocating a budget.

4e. Defibrillator (AED) – TC, JH and MM have met with the Buckingham charity which is willing to support the installation of a defibrillator in Akeley. The landlord and landlady of the Bull & Butcher are keen to site it on their external wall and have offered to liaise with Fullers brewery to obtain permission. A formal letter to them, asking for their support, will be sent. The initial cost is approx. £2,500 inc. VAT (£1,600 net), half of which has already been pledged in donations. There is a £60 annual service charge. The pads, if they have been used, are replaced free of charge. Community First responders will be needed and there is some funding available from the charity towards the equipment needed by them. It was agreed to proceed (JH, MT).

4f. Village Hall and Recreational Field Hiring Contract - It is confirmed that there appears to be no model contract for this situation and that the 'SAG' document will be given to hirers of the Hall and Recreational Field by the Village Hall Committee.

4g. Green boxes for broadband –2 green cabinets will need to be installed around March time to enable the provision of superfast broadband to the village. A suggested site is on the Recreational Field between the allotments and the BT telephone exchange building. A legal 'wayleave' process may be involved. This was agreed in principle.

4h. Dates for future meetings: Provisionally amended to 9th March, 11th May, **20th July, 7th September, 9th November.**

5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **accounts** for the period **11/11/14 to 8/1/15** were proposed and seconded (JH, BC) and signed by TC who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Annual £500 contribution to Village Hall Rolling Maintenance Fund – Agreed (MT, BC).

Annual rent reviews – Scouts field (1/4/16-31/3/17): kept at £50. Chackmore turn field (1/4/15 to 31/3/16): increased to £150 as indicated to the tenant last year.

The **precept 2015/16** – After much discussion it was agreed to increase the precept from £9,500 to **£10,000** (MT, BC).

It was noted that the **Section 137** amount has increased to **£7.36 pppa**.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The correspondent requesting that the name of **Harry Judd** be added to **Akeley's War Memorial** is now looking into the possibility that he may be listed on another memorial in the Leicester area, where his family lived.

7. PLANNING

- **14/03018/APP** – Second applic. for 2-storey rear and front extensions – **7 Church Hill – HOUSEHOLDER REFUSAL**
- **14/03371/APP** – Applic. for single-storey rear & side extensions - **Inleys, Church Hill-APPROVED.**
- **14/03605/APP** – Applic. for 2-storey rear extension – **7 Capel Close.**
- **14/03613/APP** - Applic. for conversion of loft into habitable accommodation with repositioning & additional dormers and roof lights (amendment to P/P 09/02302/APP) & **14/03614/ALB** – Applic. for works to roof, dormer windows & roof lights, replacement bedroom window, internal and other external alterations (Amendment to LBC 09/02301/ALB) – **Manor Farm, L'hampstead Rd.**
- Interpretation of the phrase '**street scene**' in a planning context – It was agreed that this term describing the view from the street is very subjective. There is no formal/statutory definition or guideline as to what makes a street scene appealing or attractive or otherwise.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....Annual PARISH meetingMarch 9th 2015

Reports are invited from:

The Parish Council Chairman

The Gardening Club

Akeley Charities

Parish Council website webmaster.

The Allotment Officer

The Village Hall Committee

The C of E Educational Trust Fund

Pursuant to the 1960 Public Bodies Act (amended), the Chairman advises that the participants & proceedings of this meeting may be reported upon (filmed, recorded, photographed, blogged, tweeted or streamed) but verbal reporting may not take place whilst in session. Non-participating attendees not wishing to be subject to such media should indicate this by sitting to one side.