



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the ANNUAL Parish Council meeting held on Monday 16th May 2016 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Terry Cavender (Chairman), Clair Flynn, John Hockley (Vice-Chair), Mike Mortimer, Mary Taylor and from Item 2 onwards Joanne Eastwood and Lorna Joy. Acting Clerk - Elaine Rowlands.
M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran, Angela Hawker and John Tibbets.

1. APOLOGIES: County and District Councillor Warren Whyte and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).

2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS and CO-OPTION OF 6th and 7th COUNCILLORS.

TC stood down as Chairman and JH invited nominations. TC was proposed and seconded (CF, MT) and accepted. TC then invited nominations for Vice-Chairman; JH was proposed and seconded (MT, MM) and he also accepted the position for a further year. They both signed the necessary Acceptance of Office forms.

It was then proposed to co-opt the 6th and 7th Parish Councillors. Lorna Joy was proposed and seconded (CF, JH) and Joanne Eastwood was similarly proposed and seconded (MM, LJ). Both were duly co-opted and signed the relevant paperwork.

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

ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION

- **Akeley Beacon lighting in celebration of HM Queen Elizabeth's 90th birthday.** This took place on the evening of 21st April. The beacon was lit by Milly Soames, High Sheriff of Buckinghamshire 2016-17. A copy of a letter from Buckingham Palace to Bruno Peek, Royal Pageant Master, has been received by the organisers passing on the thanks of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh for this successful event which took place around the country and in overseas territories.
- It was noted that the cherry **trees** planted last year on the grass banks at the junction of Church Hill and Leckhampstead Rd and at Coronation Cottages are thriving. The oak saplings on the Wildlife area are dead. It may be possible to obtain replacements from Western Power when they next carry out tree/ hedge cutting in the village.
- MM noted that in the draft version of the replacement Local Development Plan (Public consultation end of May) the number of **new homes** that a small village such as Akeley would be expected to accept had increased from 9 to between 20 and 24. Villagers should be given the opportunity and encouraged to comment during this consultation. 200 forms should be ordered and circulated.
- CF indicated that she would like to attend the **Planning Event** for the Parishes meeting on 25th May.
- It was recorded that sadly, two villagers, Victor Gibbs and Pauline Cowley, have died.

4. The MINUTES of the last meeting, held on **7th March 2016** were proposed and seconded as a true record (JH, MT) and signed by TC.

5. MATTERS ARISING.

5a. Recreational Field - The pressure washing of the safety surfaces in the Play Area has been done. Grass cutting by the contractor is underway with no problems.

5b. Roads and traffic – Forthcoming road closure on the A413 between 10pm and 5am, 25th to 28th May, in order to clear the ducts for superfast broadband installation. The 3 potholes past Willows Farm have been reported.

5c. Annual Risk Assessments and Governance Checks –

RoSPA inspection of Children’s Play Area and recreational structures – due this month. The Clerk to check it covers the replacement basketball post.

Bus shelter cleaner & newsletter delivery person – no change to risk element.

Insurance Cover - new schedule circulated – no amendments needed. Premium to be paid (£838.08).

Standing Orders - annual review – Updated Model Standing Orders have been provided to each Councillor – no amendments needed.

Registers of Interest – updated or confirmed as correct by each Councillor.

AED maintenance – CF confirmed that the device and cabinet is checked every month as required.

Slight condensation problem noted but it was thought this could be dealt with by using silica gel. The battery will need replacing eventually (or after use) and it was noted that this would cost £250.

5d. Superfast broadband update – Several villagers have now had this installed. More poles need to be added along Leckhampstead Rd.

5e. Devolution update – Thanks to Lorna Joy, who has agreed to act as the P/Council representative and contact for the devolved grass-cutting, and the contractor, David Gowton of E.Scapes, for attending a safety briefing in Aylesbury. It seems this was very basic and LJ would have appreciated a feedback form from Bucks CC to comment on the content of the briefing.

6. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **accounts** for the periods 13/3/16 to 31/3/16 were approved and seconded (MT, JH) and those from 1/4/16 to 10/5/16 likewise (JE, MT). They were both signed by TC who also signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Annual accounts 1/4/15 to 31/3/16 - proposed and seconded (JH, MT), signed by TC.

Annual audit form - Section 1 – Annual Governance statement and Section 2 – Accounting statements approved by the Council, completed and signed by TC.

Reversal of decision 7/3/16 to opt out of the **Smaller Authorities Audit Arrangements**; this reversal is in the best interests of the Council and is thus minuted.

7. CORRESPONDENCE

AVALC £25 subs request - declined. BALC membership sufficient.

Akeley News delivery person required – The Clerk to put an item in the next Akeley News.

Website updater required - as above.

Letter from Chapel Lane resident asking if the P/Council would consider selling the unused entrance (off Chapel Lane) to the Recreational Field to ease the parking problem in that area. It was agreed that the land could not be sold but there was a possibility it could be rented out for parking. More information is needed regarding insurance etc.

8. PLANNING

- **16/00250/APP – The Mount, Buckingham Rd.** – Applic. for demolition of rear conservatory and erection of single-storey extension – **APPROVED.**
- **15/04257/COUAR – The Milking Parlour, Pottery Farm, Chapel Lane** – Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport & highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and locational considerations for the conversion of agricultural buildings into one dwelling (Class Q(a)) and in relation to design and external appearance of the building (Class Q(b))-**APPROVED.**
- **16/00014/REF – Old Akeley Village hall & Telephone Exchange site** – Applic. for 2 detached dwellings – **Gone to appeal.**
- **16/01162/APP – 3 Capel Close** – Applic. for 2 storey rear and side extensions.
- **16/01522/APP – Land adj. Rose Cottage, Chapel Lane** – Applic. for erection of 2-bedroom bungalow

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....July 11th 2016 (Apologies: MT)

Ellen Sayer Clerk to the Parish Council 18/5/16