



## AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of the ANNUAL Parish Council meeting held on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> May 2017 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

**Present:** Terry Cavender (Chair), Jo Eastwood, Clair Flynn, John Hockley (Vice Chair), Lorna Joy, Mike Mortimer and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).

M.o.P.: Jackie Corcoran and Sherri Holland.

#### **1. APOLOGIES:** Steve Goodwin

**2. ELECTION OF OFFICERS** – TC stood down as Chairman and handed the meeting over to JH, who invited nominations for Chairman. TC was nominated by LJ and seconded by MM. TC was duly reinstated as Chairman for a further year. It was noted that from April 2018 TC's work commitments abroad would increase.

JH was proposed as Vice Chairman by TC and seconded by CF and accepted the post for a further year.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:** TC – his home partially overlooks the Coronation Cottages site referred to in 8. Planning.

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

- The War Memorial, which stands on Diocesan land in the Churchyard, is now Grade 2 listed.
- The Bull and Butcher is now closed once more after the tenants of 2 months standing move on.
- Warren Whyte has been re-elected as County Councillor.

**4.** The **MINUTES** of the last Parish Council meeting, held on **13<sup>th</sup> March 2017**, were proposed and seconded as a true record (JE, LJ) and signed by TC.

#### **5. MATTERS ARISING.**

**5a. Recreational Field -Pressure washing** of Play Area – this has been carried out in readiness for the annual RoSPA inspection. **Events Committee Pig Roast 24/6/17** – The Events Committee to be asked to email their constitution to the Clerk and give sight of the relevant insurance document 2 weeks before the event, as agreed with TC. **Replacement basketball hoop** – The Parish Council is grateful to Mark Pallett for providing and subsequently repairing the basketball hoop. It was noted that funds could be raised for a replacement sprung hoop, which would be more resilient to damage, via the Tesco token scheme. CF agreed to look into this.

JH volunteered to cut back the branches of the **tree** on the bottom-left of the Dog Walk as they have grown so low as to become a hazard.

**5b. Grass cutting** – Annual Report sent to Bucks CC, confirming that no complaints have been received regarding the devolved grass-cutting over the last year, and that £540 has been spent on verge and hedge maintenance. The Clerk to query with the contractor when the siding-out of verges will be done (50% this year, 50% next).

**5c. Roads and traffic** – the damaged pavement on Leckhampstead Rd has been marked with spray paint but has not been repaired.

#### **5d. Annual Risk Assessment** –

RoSPA inspection of Children's Play Area – this is due to take place on an unknown date this month.

Bus shelter cleaner & newsletter delivery person – no increase in risk, but it was noted that the bus shelter in The Square has yet again been knocked off its base, presumably by a vehicle parking in front of it. TC to raise a request for a rail or bollards again at the next LAF meeting.

Insurance Cover - no amendments/ additions required. The premium of £857.21 was approved to be paid (JH, CF)

Standing Orders - annual review - no amendments required.

Registers of Interest – confirmed as correct or updated by all the Councillors

AED maintenance – The AED is regularly inspected by CF. It was noted that a new battery will be required in 2018.

**5e. Allotments (JE)** – Only 4 allotments are currently being worked. A quote will be obtained for the strimming of the overgrown plots and having a weed barrier membrane installed. It was agreed to consider individual applications for renting the allotments on a discretionary basis, perhaps not restricting hiring-out to individuals for domestic use only.

**5f. Street lighting** – A decision is needed as to the type of lantern to replace that outside 2 Manor Rd. The yellow sodium lanterns are no longer available. Due to economies of scale, it would be cheaper per unit to replace several lanterns at the same time (cost per single unit = approx. £350). In addition, we have been advised that the cabling in Manor Road is to be put underground, making 2 telegraph poles redundant, except for the fact that they hold 2 of our lanterns. We have been given the option of either adopting these poles or purchasing new lamp posts. It was agreed that we request that an E-on engineer visits, to advise us of the best options on both these points.

## **6. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS**

The accounts for the periods 7/3/17 to 31/3/17, 1/4/17 to 4/5/17 and the annual accounts 1/4/16 to 31/3/17 were proposed and seconded (JH & JE; CF & JE; CF & JH) and signed by TC who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

The Annual Audit Return was considered by all the Councillors and completed and signed by TC and the Clerk.

The internal audit will now be carried out.

## **7. CORRESPONDENCE**

- CF had received correspondence from an Akeley resident in connection with her work to trace lost **Rights of Way**. It appears that the footpath running through the field to the rear of Leckhampstead Rd has become de-lineated. The landowner will be contacted and asked to reinstate it.
- The Clerk had written to the Chairman stating her intention to stand down in September.

## **8. PLANNING**

- **17/00393 /AOP - The Leys Field** – Outline application with all matters reserved for the erection of seven detached dwellings with associated garaging, parking and amenity space, served off three new private drives and the widening of Leckhampstead Road to also incorporate a new footpath (determination deadline moved back to 26/5/17 due to request by Parish Council, to allow village response to late submission of traffic report by applicant).
- **16/04336/APP – Old Village Hall plot** – Amended applic. for 5 bedroom house with integral garages – **APPROVED**
- **17/00986/APP – 3, The Close, Leckhampstead Rd.** – Applic. for single-storey side extension and 1<sup>st</sup> floor rear extension - **APPROVED**.
- **Pre-application proposal** for 2x 3 Bedroom Detached houses and 2x 2 Bedroom Semi-Detached houses with on-plot parking and 4 additional parking bays to replace existing parking spaces on the site to the **rear of Coronation Cottages**. At present, the development is not proposed as an affordable housing scheme so some or all of the properties may be available to buy on the open market. One or more property may be marketed on a Shared Ownership basis if this is financially viable and a need can be demonstrated within the village. The Parish Council's view is that it has, in principle, no reason to object if and when this proposal becomes an official application, provided that neighbouring residents have been fully consulted. Drainage and lack of parking space could be an issue. The Parish Council would like to see a proportion of the development being affordable to local people.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....June 26<sup>th</sup> 2017**

*Ellen Sayer* Clerk to the Parish Council 15/5/17