



**AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012  
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

**Present:** Stan Bennett, John Hockley (Vice Chair), Mike Mortimer (Chair), Mary Taylor, Elaine Rowlands and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).

M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran

**1. APOLOGIES:** Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, District Councillor Pearl Lewis

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:** MM – 7. Planning: 5, The Close - neighbour.

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

- ‘Akeley News and Views’ launched on Facebook, accessed via a link from the website.
- The Gardening Club Show took place on 8<sup>th</sup> Sept. with Mick Hurdman claiming another overall win.
- New recycling bins are now in operation in the village.
- ITV are said to be filming for a TV programme about pottery found in the area.
- There have been no approaches re. the role of Chairman.

**3. The MINUTES of the last meeting, held on 9<sup>th</sup> July 2012 were proposed and seconded as a true record (SB, ER) and signed by MM.**

**4. MATTERS ARISING.**

**4a. Recreational Field - Thanks** to JH for hammeriting **the Jubilee Beacon**. An item to be put in the Akeley News to warn of the dangers of children **climbing on play equipment** not intended for that purpose. A volunteer has come forward to head a committee (on which there will be a P/C rep.) to provide a **play area for older children**. The **grass-cutting** has been satisfactory and the **wild flower area** is due its autumn cut.

**4b. Roads and traffic -** MM has yet to trim the tree over the **VAS at the northern end of the village**. Parish Councils are now able to buy post-mounted, **battery-operated VASs** from SWARCO for around £2,000. More info. will be obtained as this may be suitable for use on Leckhampstead Rd. The gravel on the footpath outside **Little Northover** has been reported.

**4c. Website – Thanks to John Norman** for overseeing the link to ‘Akeley News and Views’ and acting as moderator. **Thanks to Julie Dearden** who has restructured the website using ‘Wordpress’ and has kindly agreed to spend half a day a month for the next year on keeping the website up to date. It was agreed that her invoice should be paid (£460, MT, ER).

**4d. Neighbourhood Plans -** District Councillor Pearl Lewis has voiced concern, along with this P/Council, that the small **villages** in Luffield Abbey should have to produce Neighbourhood Plans, each at a cost of between £17,000 and £62,000. Charlotte Glitheroe, a Planning Policy Officer at AVDC, has responded to our letter raising concerns and indicated that ‘a Neighbourhood Plan would not be appropriate for Akeley’. MM to write stating that we are dissatisfied on many levels with her response and then circulate the correspondence to all Parish Councils in the area.

**5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS**

The **accounts** for the period 7/7/12 to 10 /9/12.were proposed and seconded (MT, ER) and signed by MM who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

**External audit** conclusion. – Signed off with no comments by the auditors.

**6. CORRESPONDENCE**

- **John Cowley, Footpaths Officer for over 20 years**, is having to stand down due to knee problems.
- **Affordable Housing Consultation** – MM considered this not relevant to Akeley.
- **Sustainable Communities Act** – there is the opportunity for Parish Councils to take on more responsibilities from their district and county councils if they wish.
- **Street lighting** –potentially more efficient scheme being launched. More info. required.

**7. PLANNING**

- **Akeley Wood School** – Applic.for fire escape to science block – **APPROVED**
- **5 The Close, Leckhampstead Rd.** – Applic. for erection of building for use as yoga studio - **APPROVED**

**The comment forms are to be amended slightly and will be available electronically.**

**8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....November 12<sup>th</sup> 2012**