



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9th September 2013 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

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

M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran, John Cowley, Angela Hawker, John Tibbetts.

1. APOLOGIES: Elaine Rowlands, Alice Guise

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

ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION

Thanks to Angela Hawker and John Tibbetts who have provided and installed a **new wooden seat** on the grassed area on Manor Rd.

Car parking at school dropping-off and collecting times is becoming a problem once again. The Clerk to write to the school requesting that drivers use the Village Hall car park.

3. The **MINUTES** of the last meeting, held on **8th July 2013** were proposed and seconded as a true record (MT, TC) and signed by MM.

4. MATTERS ARISING.

4a. Recreational Field – The **grass-cutting** has been done to a good standard. The Clerk to request that the Leckhampstead Rd entrance be trimmed.

The **football goal** mouth needs levelling – The Clerk to follow up an offer to do this.

The beacon needs repainting after its last use. A quote to be obtained and the events committee advised that it is not designed to be lit annually but used to mark national celebratory occasions.

There are 2 unused and **overgrown allotments**. JC has offered to service the P/Council strimmer and JH has agreed to strim the areas.

There are several **trees around the Dog Walk** which need either trimming or removing. MM to establish whether AVDC's Bio-diversity Volunteer Group could help with this.

MM to contact the Village Hall Committee regarding the possible need to complete a Safety Advisory Group (**SAG**) **assessment** for overnight/vehicular events on the Recreational Field.

4b. Roads and traffic

The new **village entrance gates** were installed on 16/8/13. The two at the northern end need more electrical work. £350 is due to Bucks CC as a contribution.

The Clerk has requested information on equipment options and costs for replacing more **street lights**.

The Local Area Technician has indicated that work will be carried out on the village's **drainage system**.

TC to arrange a **Speed Survey** along Leckhampstead Rd now that the schools have started a new term as the last date was cancelled due to snow.

The Police have agreed that the junction at the **Bycell crossroads** is in an unsafe condition after a recent collision and that the warning sign should state 'STOP' instead of 'GIVE WAY'. TC is pursuing this.

Warren Whyte, the new County Councillor, has agreed that the severe **bends on the A422** need straightening after the recent fatality of a motorcyclist.

The non-functioning **cats' eyes on the A413** have still not been replaced. The Clerk to chase.

4c. Village 'Adopt a' Scheme – TC to compose some **Health and Safety Guidelines** before the scheme is re-introduced. Various jobs need carrying out around the village, one of them being a complete survey of the footpaths and bridleways. A small party of P/Councillors will walk them in October.

4d. Defibrillator – A dozen volunteers have come forward to help obtain or operate a defibrillator for the village. There are 2 types: a Public Space Defibrillator which is kept in an accessible location and has instructions on how to operate it, costing around one thousand pounds, or a unit costing around two thousand pounds which is passed around trained 'Community Responders' when they can be on stand-by. TC to progress.

4e. Wi-Fi for the village. The questions of where to host the service, and whether it is actually required, continue.

5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **accounts** for the period 5/7/13 to 9/9/13 were proposed by TC and MT and signed by MM, who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Audit completion – 2 comments from the auditors this year:

The Assets Register is not now to be adjusted annually in line with the insurance schedule which is index-linked.

The liability of the interest-free loan for the VASs is to be shown inclusive of VAT even though the Parish Council is not liable for VAT.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

The Clerk has written to thank the Glovers, who cut back **the trees on the corner of Church Hill.**

Artefact Web Design had requested a testimonial for the work on our website and this has been willingly provided.

The Clerk has written to thank Mr McDonald for arranging to have his hedge on **Leckhampstead Rd cut back from the street light.**

7. PLANNING

13/01271/APP – **The Mount Buckingham Rd.,** - Applic. for ground floor rear ext., followed by minor amended plans – **APPROVED.**

13/01321/APP – **3 Church Hill** – Applic. for s/s rear ext. & rear roof ext. to create bedroom in loft space. - **APPROVED.**

13/01139/APP – **Thyme House, Main St.,** - Applic. for single & 2-storey rear exts., rear decking, alteration of side roof to pitched – **APPROVED.**

13/01197/APP – **The Old School** – Applic. for removal of rear utility room & erection of S/S link to outbuilding – **APPROVED.**

13/01755/APP – **Land north of Bycell Farm** – Applic. for erection of agricultural building – **APPROVED.**

13/02163/APP – **4 Cedars Close** – Applic. for 1st floor side extension & amended plans.

13/01754/APP – **Land adj. Rose Cottage, Chapel Lane** – Applic. for erection of 2-storey detached dwelling – **REFUSED.**

MM had attended a 'Material Considerations' Planning Workshop in July and reported that the concern that the approval of an application may set a precedent, and the route of construction traffic, are not material considerations.

Since the South East Plan has been revoked, and the Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan is not yet in place, the developers, Bellway Homes, have had an application to build a further 80 homes in Maids Moreton approved, despite huge local opposition.

It is noted that the siting of 5 caravans/motor homes and 10 tents on 'Hedgehogs Retreat' on the Chackmore road does not require planning approval.

It is also noted that there has been an anomaly in the processing of the 'Land adj. Rose Cottage' application above regarding speaking on behalf of the P/Council. MM to query.

The landowner of an area of agricultural land on Main Street, adjacent to Coronation Cottages, is in discussion with a developer who has approached the Vale of Aylesbury Housing Trust. A draft affordable housing scheme, comprising 8 homes and 10 parking spaces, has been produced. It has been noted that this scheme removes parking spaces from in front of Coronation Cottages as the access road is shown to go along there. The VAHT has indicated that this scheme will be a Rural Exception Scheme, giving people with local connections priority. The survey carried out in 2008 indicated that there was a need for 6 homes; 2 fewer than in this scheme. It was agreed that a new survey and a meeting is required.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....November 11th 2013 (Apologies-MT)

