AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish COUNCIL meeting held on Monday 9th March 2015

Present: Terry Cavender (Chair), Alice Guise, John Hockley (Vice Chair**),** Mike Mortimer, Elaine Rowlands, Mary Taylor and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).
M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran, Angela Hawker, Sherri Holland and John Tibbetts.

1. APOLOGIES: Brian Coxall, County Councillor Warren Whyte.

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

ITEMS OF INTEREST & PUBLIC SESSION

- The possibility of hosting a forthcoming **LAF meeting** in Akeley Village Hall was thought to be a good idea.

3. The **MINUTES** of the last meeting, held on **12th January 2015** were proposed and seconded as a true record (MM, MT) and signed by TC.

4. MATTERS ARISING.
4a. Recreational Field - Play Area annual RoSPA inspection is due in May but a pressure-washing of the surfaces would not be carried out at this point as they are in quite a good state. Annual beacon inspection, due April, will be carried out once again by MM and JH. The beacon basket has now been painted. Thanks to Frances White, all the trees on the Wildlife Area have been identified and labelled. The 2 oak trees will be planted at the top of the Wildlife Area.
4b. Roads and traffic - 2 Cherry **trees** to be planted at Church Hill and 2 at Coronation Cottages. Two villagers have attended Speedwatch training and operational sites suitable for use with the hand-held equipment are being considered by the police (PC Dan Beglan). The equipment records data which could trigger a warning letter to speeding motorists. Bucks LAF have purchased a unit which could be shared between the 4 'trained' villages.
LAF **funding for Leckhampstead Rd**. - £1k for 'Pedestrians on the carriageway' signs and £6k towards looking into a potential weight restriction to limit HGVs and PSVs (Public service vehicles), but it must be ensured that this process does not encourage these vehicles to use Church Hill instead. TC to draft a letter.
Litter at Chackmore turn – This is an ongoing problem. The erection of a sign will be investigated.
4c. Superfast broadband update – Hopefully, by Sept., 75% of Akeley's residents will be receiving superfast broadband. (25% will remain on 'standard' and 1 postcode [Akeley Wood School] will remain on 'basic', but intervention funding will be requested via AVDC to remediate the latter).
4d. Devolution update – Only 25% of Bucks parishes have opted to take on devolved services. There is a co-operative in operation in Buckingham. It was felt that a face-to-face meeting is needed to clarify various points (e.g. can householders cut their own verges, could the P/Council employ a contractor to top up the number of cuts provided by the County Council).

5. FINANCE and **ACCOUNTS**
The **accounts** for the period 9/1/15 to 9/3/15 were proposed and seconded (MT, JH) and signed by TC who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts & Payments Book.
Proposed village expenditure:

- **AED** (£2,300 pledged) It was agreed that the P/Council would cover the £200 shortfall (MT, JH), which will eventually be repaid by the VAT reimbursement in 2016-17. An extra £150 to be included in the precept annually towards replacement.
- **Football posts** (£800 plus fitting) – grants will need to be applied for. TC to contact the father of the children requesting these new goalposts.

- **Basketball post** (£540 +VAT+ fitting) – This will be replaced as there is a safety issue. Many thanks to Warren Whyte - £250 grant due towards sports equipment - and that will be used towards this.
- **Notice board –** Community Chest Grant to be applied for (MM).
- **1 Street light replacement** (£600) – JH & MM to ascertain which equipment is to be replaced.
- **(Dog bin, Manor Rd** - £308 + £58 emptying per annum) – There are issues, aside from the cost, as to where it would be located in this residential area. An item to be placed in the Akeley News.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Amongst recent items of news and correspondence were:

- **TVP** are to lose **1 PCSO.** There has been a 19% reduction in crime.
- Simon Garwood from Bucks CC has offered to talk on the importance of **Physical Activity,** but we will decline.
- **Resilience in the Community** project – this was mooted previously with very little response from villagers.
- **Social Isolation**
- **Library use surveys –** opening hours are being reduced.
- Request for **Community Transport Scheme** volunteers
- **Bucks Minerals & Waste Plan** – to be re-examined as the construction of HS2 may draw on reserves.
- **Election Packs for Parish Councillors** – these are due to be with the Clerk w/c 16/3/15. They can be submitted between 23/3 and 4pm 9/4/15.
- **District Councillor Pearl Lewis** is stepping down as she is standing as MP for Hillingdon. We wish her success.
- **Warren Whyte** intends to stand for election to the post of **District Councillor** as well as being a County Councillor.

7. PLANNING

- **14/03605/APP –** Applic. for 2-storey rear extension – **7 Capel Close - APPROVED**
- **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) - **APPROVED** & **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) – **APPROVED, Listed Building Consent** – **Manor Farm, L'hampstead Rd.**
- Akeley Parish Council's definition of the phrase **'street scene'** in a planning context.

This has been agreed upon by the Parish Councillors and will be kept on record for future reference.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.....May 11th 2015

This will be the Annual /First PARISH COUNCIL meeting of the new financial year and the new 4 year term of office, when the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman will take place.

A card and a gift was presented to Elaine to thank her for her service after nearly 8 years as a Parish Councillor, as she has decided not to stand for a further term.