



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the meeting held on Monday 10th September 2007
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall**

Present: Stan Bennett, Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, John Hockley (Vice chair), Elaine Rowlands, Mary Taylor, Mike Mortimer (Chair) and Ellen Sayer (Clerk)

M.o.P. – Jackie Corcoran

N.B. Introduction of new order of agenda to accommodate para. 12.2 of the revised Code of Conduct

1. **APOLOGIES** :None

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ANY ITEMS ON THIS**

AGENDA: SB – Item 5, JT's rent review – neighbour

PUBLIC SESSION & ITEMS OF INTEREST

No issues raised

3. **The MINUTES** of the last meeting held on Monday **9th July** were proposed and seconded as a true record by SB and TC and signed by MM.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

4a. Recreational Field

Grass cutting – David and Emma Gowton doing a good job. Have quoted to cut through October. After the final bill they will be asked to quote again for next year.

Play area- it is planned to enclose the junior area with metal fencing by moving the middle fence currently dividing the area. This will prevent dogs entering and chewing the swing seats. Extra fencing will need to be purchased (around £684) and a barrier at the side of the swings installed (£50). The P/C will apply for a grant from the 'Community Chest' and village groups may make donations (helpful for the grant application).

The grind box needs to be moved back and secured to the ground. Will liaise with the V. Hall Committee.

Weeds on footpaths – Highways have promised to treat the weeds on the footpath from Church Hill with weed killer and then seal the footpath. JH has offered to cut back nettles and brambles at the entrance from Chapel Lane and up along the concrete path.

4b. Village website. TC gave a presentation on the progress made in creating the website and illustrated the implications and requirements in doing so, e.g. photos used on the website should be used under copyright, the person who is likely to update the website is a minor; Do P/Councillors who deal with her need to undergo CRB checks?

Three Councillors, TC, BC and ER, to form a sub-committee to deal with website issues.

4c. Overgrown hedges along footpaths and roads, potholes ER noted that there were several overgrown hedges in the village obstructing footpaths and growing into roads at this time of the year. An item is to be out in the Akeley News. Potholes should be reported to Highways on Call.

4c. A413 and traffic through the village. Speed survey results. The survey illustrated that there **is** a speeding problem at the southern end of the village. It was agreed to liaise with the police before putting the results in either the Akeley News or The Advertiser. MM to write to Highways.

4d. Need for light on corner of Church Hill with Leckhampstead Rd - No financial resources for this at the moment.

5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

The **Accounts 7/7/07 to 7/9/07** had been circulated. They were approved and seconded by MT and TC and signed by MM who, along with the Clerk, signed the Receipts and Payments Book.

Completion of Audit – there were no comments from the auditors.

John Taylor's annual rent review – for the 1-acre field at the Chackmore turn. Rent has been £90 for the past 2 years. The value of the field is estimated at £5,000 and the rent, calculated at 3%, should increase to £150 p.a. for the period Sept 07 to 08. The Clerk to write and indicate that it is anticipated that the value of the field will rise by at least £1,000 per year over the next 2 years (subject to review) and the annual rent will be reviewed accordingly.

Clerk's annual salary review – The Clerk is paid and reimbursed expenses every six months (Sept & March). The new salary scales from 1/4/07 have not yet been agreed by NALC. The annual increment of 1 point in the salary scale was approved (as per contract but at last year's rates) and the adjustment in the hourly rate will be backdated when confirmed.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - Various items which had been circulated and which were regarded as being of interest will be put in the Oct/Nov newsletter.

7. PLANNING

- **Akeley Wood School – Erection of temporary classroom - PERMITTED.**
- **Home Farm, Akeley Wood – Applic. for change of use of land to mix of agricultural and equestrian (amended applic., without barn).**
- **North of Bycell Farm – Applic. for erection of 5 stables and parking.**
- **The Coach House, 6 Main St. – Applic. for demolition, & erection of 2-storey dwelling.** (Possible contribution under S106 for tidying Chapel Lane entrance to Recreational Field?)
- **Akeley House, Buckingham Rd – Tennis court – REFUSED**

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING..... November 12th 2007