AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE FIRST or ANNUAL MEETING held on MONDAY 12TH MAY 2008 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Stan Bennett, Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, Elaine Rowlands, Mary Taylor, John Hockley (Vice Chair, 7.55pm onwards*), Mike Mortimer (Chair) and Ellen Sayer (Clerk).
M.o.P: Jackie Corcoran, Sherri Holland.

1. **APOLOGIES:** None*
2. **ELECTION OF OFFICERS (Chairman and Vice-Chairman).**

MM stood down and BC temporarily took the Chair and invited nominations for Chairman. MM was unanimously nominated (SB, MT) and accepted the position for a further year. JH was again elected as Vice Chair (BC, ER).

PUBLIC SESSION & ITEMS OF INTEREST

- The mobile skate park event was a great success and a repeat hiring is being considered.
- An Owl exhibition is planned by the Social Group for Sun. June 29th, 2pm.
- The TV programme "Springwatch' has been in and around Akeley filming owls and the footage is likely to be shown on TV at the end of May.
- Durham University, via The Times newspaper, is appealing to villages which have the old variety of buttercups growing in their open spaces. MM to follow up.

3. **The MINUTES of the last meeting held on Monday 10th March 2008** were proposed and seconded as a true record (SB, ER) and signed by MM.
4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA:** BC – Item 8 – planning refusal for agricultural barn on land off Chapel Lane.
5. **MATTERS ARISING:**

5a. Recreational Field - Grass cutting – satisfactory, although the recent wet weather has hindered slightly. Children's Play Area –**Extra fencing** has been bought to extend the area and will be installed at a cost of £150. The feasibility of installing the **play equipment** offered by the school will be investigated further and a decision reached. A draft **Maintenance Contract** for the play area has been drawn up by MM. The regular emptying of a **new waste bin** (SB, TC) on the field to be added to this. A 'Play Area Closed for Maintenance' sign is needed for when the grass is being cut (BC offered to organise). The annual **RoSPA** inspection will take place this month. The **Mobile Skate Park** (the Parish Council paid for 1 hour's hire) will be booked again for Sat. 30th August and the P/Council will stand as guarantor for the total cost of £120 (MT, JH). The Social Group may be interested in sponsoring this event (BC). The grindbox, which had to be removed for health and safety reasons, has been sold for £40. An answer is awaited from Bucks CC about the feasibility of using **weed killer on the footpath from Church Hill.** ER has begun to **stain** the shed and bench.
5b. Roads and traffic: AVDC is funding 2 'patching gangs' and a 'parish gang', the latter consisting of 2 men to carry out small works around the village. A list of things needing attention has been forwarded to them. A response has been received from Simon Dudley regarding the drainage problems reported after the last meeting, indicating that Bucks CC will investigate and contact landowners. At the recent NAG meeting, MM was informed that the police may not be able to use laser guns in the village for speed traps but they will send someone out to ascertain.
5c. Street lighting: It was decided to replace the light at Coronation Cottages now, then the one outside Jasmine Cottage later in the year. The cost of this has been built into the precept for this year. Thanks to Mervyn Rowlands for cutting back foliage around a light on Leckhampstead Rd
5d. Affordable Housing Survey: An item will be put in the Akeley News informing villagers that the survey will be delivered (by George Whitton) early in July. Posters have already been put up around the village. The responses, via freepost envelopes, should reach Bucks Community Action by the end of July.

5e. War Memorial: The faculty authorisation ahs been received from the Oxford diocese and the go-ahead for the restoration work given to Masons. ER to check progress and likely timescale.
5f. Website: TC reported that the website is well-used and invited those involved in village groups to forward information to him to keep the website up-to-date.

6. **FINANCE and ACCOUNTS**
6a. The accounts 8/3 to 31/3/08 were approved (BC, SB) accounts 1/4 to 12/5/08 likewise (TC, JH) and also the annual accounts (TC, JH). MM signed these and the Receipts and Payments Book, along with the Clerk. A donation of £50 has just been received from Akeley PCC towards the churchyard grass-cutting.
6b. Insurance cover - annual review: No changes required.
6c. Completion and signing of Audit Return: This was carried out by MM with the approval of the P/Councillors.

7. CORRESPONDENCE:

- A review of the **Public Rights of Way** in Akeley has been shown to John Cowley, the Footpaths Officer, and will now be circulated.
- **GC2C** forum, 15/5/08 – MM and SB to attend.
- The letter from TFM Readers regarding the rent review for the **field at the Chackmore turn** has been replied to. It was noted that the current tenant intends to give notice to quit shortly.

8. PLANNING

- **Home Farm, Akeley Wood:** There has been correspondence from some of the residents of Akeley Wood asking if a member of the P/Council might attend a planning meeting if the application for the retention of a mobile home in the AAL goes to committee. MM liaising.
- **Thyme House (Lylo), Main St.** – Single storey front & side ext., single storey rear ext., new front entrance & porch, pitched roof over 1st floor flat roof – **REFUSED**
- **Land off Chapel Lane –** Erection of agricultural barn **– REFUSED**
- **Highfield House, Leckhampstead Rd. –** Applic. for 2 storey rear & front ext. with dormer **- REFUSED**
- **Rose Cottage, Chapel Lane –** Withdrawal of Applic. for 2 storey ext. Minor amended plans for garage & access. Replacement applic. for 2 storey rear ext.
- **Verendale, The Square –** Listed Building Consent **GRANTED** for internal alterations to create living accommodation and changes to external doors and windows. Further applic. for single storey rear ext. (APP), single storey rear ext. & alteration to store for residential use (ALB), applic. for works to trees.
- **Birchanger (was Mountside), Buckingham Rd. –** Applic. for demolition of existing garage & extension. Erection of 1 ½ storey side ext.
- **Old Village Hall plot, Lillingstone Rd. –** Applic. for detached house & garage (details, pursuant to 05/00364/APP).
- **Drive Cottage, Akeley Wood –** Applic. for 2 storey side ext., dormer window into side elevation, raise roof 800mm in single storey side element.
- **8 Manor Rd. –** 2 storey side ext., single storey front & rear exts. **- PERMITTED**

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING…….. July 14th 2008