



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL
DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on MONDAY 14TH JULY 2008
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Stan Bennett, Terry Cavender (4f onwards), Brian Coxall, John Hockley (Vice Chair), Mary Taylor, Mike Mortimer (Chair) and Ellen Sayer (Clerk). 15 members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES: Terry Cavender (prior to 4f), , Elaine Rowlands

PUBLIC SESSION & ITEMS OF INTEREST

- The recent well-attended Pig Roast, organised by the Social Group, raised £800. This will go towards the Senior Citizens' Christmas Lunch and the Children's Christmas Party.
- The recent Street Van Association rally and the Owl Display were also successful and will probably be repeated.
- It was requested that the Clerk look into obtaining "No Cold Calling" signs.
- It was reported by a member of the public that a neighbour of The Bull and Butcher may be in the process of requesting a formal review of the license for the premises. Several other members of the public expressed concern that such a review, should it take place, may affect the viability of the pub and, therefore, its future. The Chairman indicated that the manner in which this type of review is conducted should be investigated. Further, members of the public may wish to form their own committee, if thought necessary. The Chairman asked for the agreement of the Parish Council to add a discussion of The Bull and Butcher to the agenda. This was agreed as Item 4g.

2. The MINUTES of the last meeting held on Monday 12th May 2008 were proposed as a true record and seconded by BC and SB, and signed by MM.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST RELATING TO ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

All Parish Councillors – 4g – Either regular or occasional customers of the Bull and Butcher.
SB – 6. Correspondence from TFM Readers – neighbour of subject of letter.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

4a. **Recreational Field - Grass cutting** – satisfactory. **Children's Play Area** – MM finalising contract for maintenance. The extra commercial-grade fencing for the extension has arrived and it was agreed that the installation of this should now go ahead at a cost of £150 (JH, MT). RoSPA inspection report – protruding bolts – SB and JH to attend to, together with possible movement clash across swing arc. Tiles shrinking under swings – SB to investigate remedial action. The Clerk to write to Bob Rossiter to thank for maintenance work to gate. **Footpath from Church Hill** - MM wrote to Chief Exec. of Bucks CC. after a conversation with the Local Area Technician during which he was told that although the footpath would be 'weed-killed', there were no issues of safety and no action would be taken despite numerous complaints to Highways on Call. Subsequently, David Polhill (County Councillor) Tim Fowler (Bucks CC) MM and SB met and it was agreed and confirmed in writing that the path would be slurry-sealed. To date it has been treated with weed killer and trimmed. It appears that the footpath fence cannot be removed (which would make maintenance easier) as, according to the Easement document, the Village Hall Trustees would be liable if a child was injured and they must maintain the fence to the condition it was in when they accepted responsibility for it

4b **Roads and traffic – Drainage** – Due to an overspend last year, the replacement of the broken pipe, in the ditch on the A413 outside The Old Rectory, was removed from Bucks CC's 'work to be carried out schedule'. It has now been reinstated on the list. An item to be put in next Akeley News requesting that residents report any flooding along this stretch of the road direct to Highways on Call (tel.0845 230 2882)

Traffic speed – MM had reported at the last P/C meeting that there had been concern from the police during a recent NAG meeting that their carrying out of speed traps in Akeley was not legal. It has been confirmed that these *are* legally possible at Coronation Cottages and 4 speeding motorists have recently been fined.

Street lighting – It was decided that, as the streetlight outside Jasmine Cottage had failed for the second time recently, this should be replaced next rather than that at Coronation Cottages as previously agreed. The Clerk to notify the owner

4c. **Dormant Youth Club funds** – It was agreed that the Parish Council should go through the procedure to retrieve the funds, as advised by Lloyds Bank. This was proposed and seconded by SB and BC.

4d **Affordable Housing Survey** – The surveys have been delivered to every household and should be returned by 1/8/08. The Akeley News may be delivered too late for a reminder but it is in The Advertiser.

4e. **War Memorial** – The renovations should be completed in time for the unveiling by John Bercow at the ceremony on 18/10/08. An extra cut of the grass would be requested (£100 overspend approved JH,TC)

4f. **Requests to disclose residents'/landowners' names to Bucks CC** – In particular, with reference to the drainage problems on the A413. BALC have advised that there is no problem legally in our disclosing names from our electoral register. However, the P/C agreed that MM would write to Simon Dudley at Bucks CC asking the department to write to “The Occupier” as the information is available to them through other sources should they so wish to obtain it.

4g. **Bull and Butcher.** Regarding the issue raised in the Public Session, MM reiterated that the Parish Council acts on behalf of the whole village and will take the majority view into account in its discussions. Whereas the public will form their own committee, the P/C is willing to host (and fund) a meeting and facilitate discussion at a special open meeting, if required to do so and subject to a real threat of the pub being closed, in order that any villager or group can express their views. It was noted that over the years, the village has lost its church, Post Office and very nearly its school. The Bull and Butcher is a focal point of the village and an essential part of the community. The view of the Parish Council was that it would not wish to see the pub closed.

5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

Accounts 12/5 to 10/7/08. – Proposed TC, seconded JH, signed MM. The Chairman and Clerk signed the Receipts and Payments Book

Bus shelter cleaning - rate of pay review. The current cleaner has resigned. It was decided at this point that the rate should be increased to £20 per calendar month (MT, TC) and the post would be advertised in the next Akeley News.

6. **CORRESPONDENCE** MM had written to **TFM Readers** in April, looking for a guidance in setting the rent for the coming year for the field at the Chackmore turn. In reply, TFM have stated that the current tenant wishes to step down and hopes that we will accept short notice (agreed TC, BC). BC to investigate a possible new tenant and also the implications of accepting the chance to purchase the rights to a maintenance subsidy under the ‘single payment scheme’.

7. PLANNING

- **Akeley Wood School** – Applic. for new sports hall –APPROVED
- **Home Farm, Akeley Wood.** – Minor amended plans for change of use & retention of mobile home –DCC decision deferred for site visit. It was noted that Stefan Balbuza was very helpful.
- **Rose Cottage, Chapel Lane** –Applic. for 2-storey rear ext. - amended plans.
- **Verendale, The Square** –Applic. for single storey rear ext. (APP), single storey rear ext. & alteration to store for residential use (ALB) – APPROVED. Applic. for works to trees – PROCEED. Applic. for erection of garden shed - APPROVED
- **Birchanger** (was Mountside), Buckingham Rd. – Applic. for demolition of existing garage & extension. Erection of 1 ½ storey side ext. - APPROVED
- **Old Village Hall plot**, Lillingstone Rd. – Applic. for detached house & garage (details, pursuant to 05/00364/APP) - APPROVED
- **Drive Cottage, Akeley Wood** – Applic. for 2 storey side ext., dormer window into side elevation, raise roof 800mm in single storey side element.- APPROVED
- **Priory Mill House, Leckhampstead Rd.** – Applic. for 2-storey rear ext. and alts. to side window.
- **Woodlands, Main St** – Applic. for single-storey front ext. and internal alterations to garage to provide accommodation above.

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING..... September 8th 2008