



AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on MONDAY 13TH JULY 2009
at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

Present: Mike Mortimer (Chair), John Hockley (Vice-Chair), Stan Bennett, Terry Cavender, Brian Coxall, Elaine Rowlands and Ellen Sayer (Clerk). No members of the public.

1. APOLOGIES: Mary Taylor

*****ITEMS OF INTEREST*****

* Mrs Cynthia Cowley of Manor Road, has been awarded an MBE for 'services to education' during her 32 years as caretaker and lunch-time supervisor at St James and St John CE Primary School, Akeley. John Bercow MP did a presentation at the school fete.

* There has been a recent car accident at the Bycell crossroads. The height of the grass verges may have been a contributing factor. MM to write.

2. The MINUTES of the last meeting held on Monday 11th May 2009 were proposed and seconded as a true record (JH, BC) and signed by MM.

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

4. MATTERS ARISING:

4a. Recreational Field - Grass cutting – very good. David Dunkley will cut and bale the wildlife area next month. Bucks CC have promised that the gang will return shortly to cut down the old gate posts at the top of the footpath from Church Hill, this time with the right equipment to carry out the job. The Village Hall Committee has not yet secured all the funding for the creation of a patio area in front of the hall.

Children's Play Area – the report following the RoSPA inspection has been received; there are some items needing attention.

i. Movement clash across toddler swing arcs – the Clerk to contact RoSPA for a definition of the term and JH, SB/BC will monitor. Signs/bars either side may be a solution?

ii. Platform with slide – needs a coat of child-friendly wood preservative. Andy Gibbs to be asked for a quote.

iii. Junior swings – to be dismantled and the bolts inspected and checked. BC/JH to be present and photos to be taken as the work is being done. Andy Gibbs to quote.

A limit of £200 for both jobs agreed.

iv. Gaps in tiles under junior swings – to be monitored and photos to be taken on wet days to show that the gaps have disappeared.

Fitness equipment – literature to be collected. Will be discussed at Sept.'s meeting and a response slip put in the Akeley News to gauge support for the purchase of some adult fitness equipment to be dotted around the field.

Outdoor tables and chairs – the old furniture from the old village hall is stored in the P/Council's shed but is very shabby. Some new outdoor tables and chairs are needed.

The Social Group may be willing to purchase some. The Scouts could be given the option of the old furniture. The Soc. Group will write to the P/Council who will then contact the VHC re. the contents of the shed.

4b. **Roads and traffic** – The Clerk to report that the bus stop sign on the corner of Manor Rd has been bent. A413 - the cleaning and review of the road signs and cutting back of excess foliage/vegetation through Akeley has been promised.

4c. **Register of Members' Interests** forms – updated/confirmed at this meeting.

4d. **Scouts** - It seems planning permission for the installation of a shipping container in the field off Chapel Lane *will* be required.

4e. **Local Area Forum** update (TC) – It has come to light that in the renewing of contracts by the council, rural grass-cutting was overlooked! It is planned to expand the LAF to include community groups e.g. Red Cross. Posters have been put up asking for 'Community Responders' to go out before paramedics can reach a cardiac case. An item to be put in the newsletter.

4f. **Neighbourhood Action Group** update – PCSO Nicole Bruce will shortly be moving on in her career. The Clerk to write a letter of thanks for all her input and work in the village. She will be replaced on the neighbourhood policing team. An Inspector will now also be installed at Buckingham Police Station.

5. FINANCE and ACCOUNTS

Accounts 9/5 to 8/7/09. Proposed and seconded (TC, JH) and signed by MM. The Receipts and Payments Book was signed by MM and ES.

The P/C's annual contribution (£500) to the VHC's annual insurance for 2009 had been agreed last year but was prop. and sec. (TC, BC) for the record. The situation will be reviewed again next year.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

* The Minor Injuries Dept. at Buckingham Hospital has been given a slight reprieve by the Scrutiny Committee looking at its possible closure.

* Bucks CC Resilience Team (formerly Emergency Planning) have asked if the P/C wishes to enrol in an emergency contact scheme to enable word to be spread in the event of a disaster/emergency. The Clerk will be the first contact but all P/Councillors are willing to be a contact.

* Jean Fox has been in touch to say that the colleague, from The Guinness Trust, who has been ill, has now returned to work and will be looking at Site 8 shortly. If the outcome is promising, JH will contact the landowner to see if his details can be passed on to her.

* E-on have notified the Clerk that they will be cleaning all the lanterns and replacing all the bulbs in the street lights in the village. They will also update, if necessary, their July 2006 survey on the condition of the lights.

* An enquiry by a resident re. the inspection of Members' Interests was not followed up.

7. PLANNING

* **The Mount, Buckingham Rd – 1st floor side extension – APPROVED**

* **Victoria House, Lillingstone Rd – Applic. for double garage.**

* **Willow Tree Cottage, Leckhampstead Rd – Applic. for erection of sun canopy.**

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING..... September 14th 2009