

Minutes from the Akeley Parish Council Meeting held on 12th July 2021

at 7.30pm at the Village Hall

Helen Butcher - Clerk to the Parish Council

43/21 Public Open Forum; There were four members of the public present. One raised the issue of grass cuttings being left on the verges in Manor Road. An email has been sent to VAHT from a resident with photos but was rejected so the resident is now planning to write but was requesting support from the Parish Council. **Members Resolved to send an email to VAHT in support of the residents and PG will include in his inspection report.**

44/21 Attendance and apologies;

Present: Sherri Holland (Chair), John Hockley (Vice Chair), Claire Jones, Chris Clarke, Debbie Coxall, Paul Goodyer, Helen Butcher (Clerk)

Apologies: received from Cara George.

45/21 Members Interests; SH and CJ declared an interest in the Events Committee. SH declared an interest in the village hall

46/21 Approval of Minutes; The minutes were approved from a general Meeting held at Akeley Village Hall on Monday 17th May 2021 subject to the names of members of the public being removed from the minutes. SH signed the paper copy.

47/21 Finances;

- a. Sherri Holland updated the council regarding the internal auditor needing to be outside of the village. Members resolved to accept Fiona Lippman as internal auditor for the year 2020/21 at a cost of £95.
- b. To receive the financial statement: to 30 June 2021. Balance at Lloyds bank £20,192.13
- c. To note invoices to be paid in July 2021.
 1. JH reported that the bus shelter in The Square had needed more extensive repairs than first thought hence the invoice was for a higher amount than quoted for. Members **resolved** to approve the payment of £150.00.
 2. Members asked for a breakdown of the invoice for the inspection of the play area and to get other quotes before next year's inspection. Parish Clerk to contact the company for a breakdown of their charges.
 3. Invoice from BALC for training. **Approved** £38.00
 4. Invoice from previous clerk NT for purchase of mobile phone. **Approved** £34.99.
- d. Request for payment to village hall - Debbie Coxall proposed the contributions should also be made for 2021 and this was supported by the council. The Village Hall contribution was agreed for 2019 as it had previously been approved in September 2019 including the contribution towards the electricity costs. **£525.00**. Councillors **resolved** to make a contribution to the village hall maintenance fund for 2021 for the sum of **£500**. Members also **resolved** to make a payment to the village hall for the electricity for the light in the play area of £25 for 2020 and 2021. **£50.00**.
- e. Payment to Village Newsletter for printing was approved. £8.14

48/21 ADMINISTRATION

a. To consider policies for adoption

The following policies were adopted by the Council,

- i. Health & safety
- ii. Disciplinary
- iii. Grievance

The following policies to be reviewed at the next meeting

- i. Sickness absence
- ii. expenses
- iii. anti-bullying
- iv. equality & diversity

DC will draft social media policy which will state that any personal comments made by any Councillors or Officers away from Council meetings and social media pages do not represent the councils views .

- b. **Review of asset register** – to be undertaken by Clerk and Councillors George & Goodger
- c. **Review of the Council's risk assessment.** Members **resolved** that the council's risk assessment is still robust and effective for 2021/22
- d. **To appoint representatives of Community Board-** initially to be HB and asking to be supported by a Councillors where they have an interest and are able to attend.

49/21 ENVIRONMENT;

- a. Recreational Field; no problems reported. Quotes are being obtained to repair the legs of the seating area.
- b. Play park; health & safety report reviewed and comments noted. Andy Gibbs has adjusted the gates & is looking at ways to make the wooden rails on the slide safe. Plan to review options for updating the play area & grants to secure funding before May 2022. As Maids Moreton are updating their play area, can ask if they are selling any equipment no longer required.
- c. Scout Field; no problems reported
- d. Grass Cutting; no problems reported
- e. Wildflower area; it was reported that the wildflowers have benefitted from the grass being cut later as this enabled them to reseed. We can only use naturally seeded plants in this area, the orchids spreading well. **B Berry** will be asked to keep an eye to ensure orchids have chance to seed. Aim for end of August for mowing. **Plaque needs updating photograph & contact council wildlife Officer.**
- f. Village clean up- **Clerk to** contact school & ask them to remind mums to take home masks as lots being left on Church Hill. General litter around the village is not too bad so other ideas were to clean road signs, run campaign with school to design some signs re dog waste, letter to go round all houses via Jerry (postman). CJ & CC to compose. 200 houses. CC offered to print the leaflets for the cost of ink & paper. Budget max £75 to produce was proposed & agreed. The Council will consider running a survey on the PC Facebook page to gauge people's ideas & reactions.
- g. Roads and traffic; There have been some emails from villagers expressing concern about the speed of cars travelling through the village and about the line of vision at some points being obscured. A meeting has been requested with a member of the Highways team to discuss these plus the issue of a sign on the sharp bend along Chapel Lane. It was proposed that a 20mph speed limit through the village would be preferred and a mirror at the top of Church Hill would help with the blind spots for residents pulling out on the Leckhampstead Road. Two gullies have been tagged as damaged – CJ to check at Community Board meeting tomorrow when likely to be fixed.
- h. Footpaths; **Footpath warden** – Clerk to check status of volunteer insurance. Job description has been circulated & approved to go onto FB page
- i. .Allotments; Escapes has strimmed unused allotments, pig roast area needs doing as well.
- j. Street lighting; update on progress with project to change the street lights in the village to LED. Street lighting – SH updated that we have finally had a response from govt dept and was awaiting a response as to whether funding had been agreed. Also to check whether project costs have increased as the original quote was July 2020.
- k. Bus shelter repair has been carried out and needed more work than originally thought hence the higher cost than anticipated
 - l. Dog Bin, a new bin has been ordered. Clerk to contact dog warden service to see if we can get any bags & DC to contact Tom Hogg to see if he can make box for dispensing poo bags
 - m. Broadband; Nothing new to report.
 - n. Transformer in Chapel Lane; still awaiting a response as to when the screen will be planted in front of the new transformer as promised.

50/21 CORRESPONDENCE; To note and discuss;

- a. Resident's email regarding the traffic along Leckhampstead Road. – meeting to be arranged with Transport Officer from BCC to discuss these road issues
- b. Resident's email regarding the obscured line of vision at top of Church Lane - as above
- c. Village Pig Roast – members **resolved** to approve the Events Committee using the village recreation field for the pig Roast, taking place on 21st August. Clerk received a copy of their public liability insurance and a risk assessment. – email to confirm to be sent

51/21 Planning;

- a. For Councillors and Clerk to discuss the implications of the Council's response to planning consultations, ie no objection. Support, objection. There was some discussion as to whether the Council could be more supportive of planning applications but it was felt that this could become difficult if there were different views within the village and the Council could be seen as taking sides. Therefore, it was agreed to allow more time to consider and discuss applications in the future.
- b. Delegated authority; to confirm a resolution made on 11th March 2019 – to **resolve** that when a non-controversial application is received and all the Councillors respond by email with no objection, the Clerk in conjunction with the Chairperson is delegated to send in a response of no objection to the Planning Authority. it was **resolved** to continue with delegated response. Any controversy on planning site would necessitate calling meeting
- c. To discuss response to consultation on S106 agreement for land off Walnut Drive and Foscot Road. Maids Moreton. Members agreed that we had sufficient information to make a comment. Clerk to ask the Clerk at MM for copy of Construction Management Plan.
- d. Submission of details pursuant to Condition 3 - Slab levels, Condition 4 - Construction Management, Condition 5 - Archaeology, Condition 6 - Surface water drainage connection, Condition 7 - Off-site drainage connection, Condition 8 - Preliminary ecological appraisal, Condition 9 - Ecological enhancement plan, Condition 10 - Materials, Condition 11 - Boundary Treatments and Condition 12 - Landscaping relating to permission 20/02433/APP (Appeal ref: APP/J0405/W/20/3259681)

Land Adjacent to Leckhampstead Road Akeley Buckinghamshire

Ref. No: 20/A2433/DIS | Received: Tue 29 Jun 2021 | Validated: Tue 29 Jun 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision

It was **resolved** that the Clerk would respond with previous objections by PC to be reiterated and need for no Saturday working to be emphasised.

- e. Submission of details pursuant to Condition 2 (landscape) relating to Planning Permission 20/00498/APP

Ashwood Chapel Lane Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HU

Ref. No: 20/A0498/DIS | Received: Tue 08 Jun 2021 | Validated: Wed 23 Jun 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision – **Resolved** that the PC has no objections.

- f. Detached dwelling

Land Adj Maple Tree Cottage Chapel Lane Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HU

Ref. No: 21/02258/APP | Received: Fri 28 May 2021 | Validated: Wed 16 Jun 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision – **Resolved** that the PC has no objections.

- g. Demolition of existing garage and erection of new replacement garage.

Manor Farm Leckhampstead Road Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HE

Ref. No: 21/01787/APP | Received: Tue 27 Apr 2021 | Validated: Wed 09 Jun 2021 | Status: Awaiting decision – **Resolved** that the PC has no objections.

- h. 21/01942/ACL | Application for a certificate of lawfulness for existing use related to the close boarded fencing, brick wall and iron railings and entrance gates. **The Old Rectory Buckingham Road Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HJ – Resolved** that the PC has no objections.

52/21 Date and time of next meeting; 13 September 2021 at 7.30pm. An additional meeting may be needed before this date to approve the accounts.

Pursuant to the 1960 Public Bodies Act (amended), the Chairman advises that the participants & proceedings of this meeting may be reported upon (filmed, recorded, photographed, blogged, tweeted or streamed) but verbal reporting may not take place whilst in session. Non-participating attendees not wishing to be subject to such media should indicate this by sitting to one side.