

 **AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

Hall Farm Akeley Road Lillingstone Lovell MK18 5BL

**Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting of Akeley Parish Council held on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2022 at 7.30pm at Akeley Village Hall**

*Helen Butcher* - Clerk to the Parish Council

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

- 01/22 Public Open Forum (under adjournment);** One member of the public and one County Councillor were present.  
Concern was raised about the remaining land on Leys Field as to whether this will be developed in the future or whether the developer would consider selling it back to the village as he had once offered. The background to this offer being withdrawn was discussed. However the Council **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should write to the Developer and ask if there was any option to either buy the land or use it for some communal project that would go some way to redressing the wildlife and tree loss. The draft letter is to be circulated to all Councillors prior to sending.
- 02/22 Attendance and apologies;** All Councillors and Clerk were present
- 03/22 Members Interests;** Councillors Holland and Jones declared an interest in item 08/22 b The Events Committee
- 04/22 Approval of Minutes;** The Council **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes from 1<sup>st</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021
- 05/22 ADMINISTRATION**
- a. **The Clerks report was noted.** County Councillor Mordue updated the Council re the proposed changes to the Section 106 money allocation at County level. He and other Councillors are raising the matter in order to ensure the money remains for the use in the localities where the development is. There is a national framework for 106 money which he believes supports this. County Councillor Mordue will keep the PC updated, in the meantime he advises the Council continue putting together the proposal for the development of the play area as planned. The Council discussed the email received today concerning the Zoom subscription paid by Direct Debit from a personal account. As the Council was already aware Zoom had refunded this back in December directly to the account from which it was paid. Confirmation has been sought & has since been given from Zoom that this was done. Council **RESOLVED** to inform the correspondent that the matter has been resolved.
  - b. **Email addresses-** Council reviewed the quote to transfer the email system across to one offered by Aubergine which all have had the opportunity to trial. This should enable all Councillors to use the Parish Council email address and keep Council emails separately. The Aubergine system should also make it easier to send multiple documents etc. Council **RESOLVED** to accept the Aubergine quote and migrate the emails as soon as possible. Councillor Coxall to proceed this with Aubergine. Mark from Aubergine is willing to help anyone who is having any issues.
  - c. **Jubilee celebrations.** Council **RESOLVED** to hold a bring your own tea party at which the Beacon will be lit. Councillor Coxall suggested Councillor Hockley lights the Beacon in recognition of his hard work and commitment to the village over many years. The Events Committee have offered to help in any way needed which was gratefully received. Attendees will be able to book a table and decorate it themselves. A risk assessment is needed plus Zurich Insurance, Fire brigade and Thames Valley Police need informing. The Clerk is to look at the Jubilee website with a view to registering this event. Councillor Jones will design some posters ready for the next meeting & Councillor Coxall will prepare a post for the Facebook groups.
- 06/22 Finances;**
- a. The financial statement: to 30 December 2021 was received and noted.
  - b. Invoices to be paid in Jan 2022 – Council **RESOLVED** to pay the invoices as listed on the Financial statement. Councillor Hockley proposed & Councillor George seconded
  - c. The forward budget 2022/23 was reviewed. Councillor George queried the maintenance contract for the new street lights, Council was advised that we are still awaiting the final documentation from Zeta. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget.

 **AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

- d. The Precept 2022/23 was discussed as to whether to increase or not. Being mindful not to increase too much in difficult circumstances but also to keep the budget within line, Council **RESOLVED** to increase the Precept amount received by 2.5% bringing the total to £16,605.

**07/22 ENVIRONMENT;**

- a. Recreational Field; to receive any updates. E-Scapes quote is awaited to level the football pitch
- b. Play Park; to receive any updates
- To play area survey was discussed. 32 responses were received, all were in favour of the play area being updated. Other notable ideas were to install an all weather 2m wide running track around the recreational field and a trim trail which could be used by adults and older children. To date three quotes have been received with a further two to come. All would rely on the section 106 money, Community Board bids and Wren money applications. For the amount of money required the Community Board bid will need to go into the next financial year. 2022 criteria is yet to be announced for the WREN bids. One suggestion that could be acted upon immediately is to install picnic benches near the play area. The Council **RESOLVED** to apply to the Community Board now for those, the bid must be in by 1<sup>st</sup> February. A meeting of the working group will be set up prior to the next council meeting in March to review all the quotes and survey results in full.
  - Inspection fees quotes have been requested from Wickstead, and Rectory Farm
  - Safety surface cleaning Councillor Holland reported that the safety surface is very slippery under slide Council **RESOLVED** to clean whole lot including equipment. Clerk to contact Scrubs up nicely for quote assuming approx. £300 can proceed.
  - Replacement seating area quotes were reviewed and the Council **RESOLVED** to accept Lee Coopers quote to renovate the seating area and apply to the Community Board for the funding.
- c. Scout Field; no updates received.
- d. Grass Cutting; the Council reviewed the Devolved Services Agreement and **RESOLVED** to sign & return it. Councillor Clarke suggested requesting a map of the areas covered and seeing whether some areas could be left to grow and wildflower seeds sown.
- e. Wildflower area; to receive any updates, to consider new information signs and seat – The information boards are looking worn so quotes to be sought prior to March meeting for replacing them Councillor Holland has a report from the County Wildlife Officer detailing the range of wildlife found in the area.
- f. Village clean up – defer until March 2022 meeting
- g. Roads and traffic; To discuss any issues, to receive update on
- 20 mph speed limit/ Community Speedwatch Councillor Mordue reported that Bucks CC will support 20 mph initiatives within villages but they will have to be funded locally. Alan Griffiths volunteered to undertake Speedwatch training. Emails have been sent to TVP to register Akeley on the Community Speedwatch scheme. Once this has been confirmed the funding bid via Community Board will proceed.
  - Signs for Chapel Lane Bid is in with the Community Board awaiting approval
  - Gullies This is an outstanding issue as many have not yet been cleared Clerk to check with LAT timescales scheduled for work to be done.
  - Hedges Further letters to be sent to the residents along Main Street and Leckhampstead Road who have not cut back their hedges or removed the fallen branches. Clerk to notify Western Power and BT re the branches resting on the cables. E-Scapes to be asked for a quote for trimming back the hedge along Main Street as this is causing a serious hazard as they are rendering the footpath unusable. Residents to be given the quote.
- h. Footpaths; - There are some new styles due to be fitted by the landowners due around Akeley Wood. The rubbish in the brook and along Chapel Lane has been reported
- i. Allotments; to receive any updates- the two unused allotments will need strimming, and a replacement fence will be needed at some time in next couple of years There are also some trees growing along fence line. Councillor Goodger will do a report for next meeting.
- j. Street lighting; update on progress with project to change the street lights in the village to LED, to approve sign off of project. Emails have been sent to the area contact and the finance department at Zeta as they have been chasing an invoice already paid but not sent the final paperwork or invoice. Salix have confirmed they are ready to settle once the final invoice is available
- k. Dog Bin,
- l. Broadband; no updates.
- m. Transformer in Chapel Lane; it has been reported that there were workmen around measuring up in November nothing has happened since
- n. To receive update from the Community Boards bids – Councillor Holland

 **AKELEY PARISH COUNCIL**

**08/22 CORRESPONDENCE; To note and discuss;**

- a. **Email re Towcester development** – Councillors were concerned re traffic through the villages where the roads are not fit to take it, also the lack of local employment. Council **RESOLVED** for the clerk to respond accordingly
- b. **Events committee affiliation** – the Parish Council was brought up to date with the response from BMKALC to the clerks enquiry about the Events Committee becoming affiliated to the Parish Council. The Events Committee have decided on balance to remain independent

**09/22 Planning;**

- a. 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
- b. 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
- c. 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: Approved
- d. 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: Approved
- e. Proposed 1no. new three bedroom chalet bungalow   
**Land Off Chapel Lane Akeley Buckinghamshire**  
Ref. No: 20/03903/APP | Received: Wed 18 Nov 2020 | Validated: Fri 20 Nov 2020 | Status: Awaiting decision

**10/22** Date and time of next meeting; Monday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2022 at 7.30pm - Date to be confirmed

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.