

 Akeley Parish Council

Email parishclerk@akeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk website www.akeleyparishcouncil.gov.uk

Parish Clerk Helen Butcher

MINUTES 26th September 2022

The meeting commenced with a minutes silence to honour the life of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

48/22 **Public Open Forum (under adjournment);** for members of the public to bring issues to the Council's attention. No issues were raised.

49/22 **Attendance and apologies;**

In Attendance were

Councillors Sherri Holland (Chair) John Hockley, Cara George, Paul Goodger.

Clerk Helen Butcher. County Councillor Ade Osibogun. Two members of the public

Apologies were received and accepted from

Councillors Debbie Coxall, Clair Jones and County Councillor Howard Mordue

50/22 **Members Interests;** Members are invited to declare disclosable pecuniary interests and other interests in items on the agenda as required by the Akeley Parish Council Code of Conduct for Members and by the Localism Act 2011.

Councillors Holland & George declared an interest in the Village Hall invoices & Councillor Holland also has an invoice for reimbursement.

51/22 **Approval of Minutes;** The minutes from the general meeting held at Akeley Village Hall on Monday 11th July 2022 were proposed for approval by Councillor Hockley and seconded by Councillor Goodger, Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes which were signed by Councillor Holland.

52/22 **ADMINISTRATION**

a. **The Clerks report was received**

b. **An update on the recruitment for a new Councillor was received, no volunteers as yet**

c. **The process for writing a Neighbourhood Plan – CC Mordue has sent through some contact details for a lady at Bucks CC who can advise**

53/22 **FINANCES;**

a. The financial statement was received: to end August 2022 current balance £8,529.20

b. The invoices to be paid in September 2022 (see Financial statement) were approved, proposed by Councillor Goodger and seconded by Councillor Hockley, clerk to check with Mr Gibbs if total on his invoice included all listed amounts. The Sign Wizard invoice was a late addition but was approved for payment as had previously been agreed. The Council **RESOLVED** to pay all the invoices listed

c. To consider appointing an Internal Controls Officer – deferred until November

54/22 **ENVIRONMENT;**

a. Recreational Field; to receive any updates.

- An update was received on the minor repairs to the shed by the play area

b. Location and fixing of new benches. Clerk to send info to Councillors Goodger Hockley and Holland before Saturday to enable discussions to be had re: location and fixing. A budget of

£150 max for fixing was proposed by Councillor George seconded by Councillor Hockley. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the budget

- c. Play Park
 - an update on re-establishing the working group looking at the play area refurbishment. A meeting has been arranged for Sat 8th Oct to compare quotes and select the preferred company ready for November's PC meeting. Clerk to contact BCC re: S106 money to clarify process for claiming the money.
- d. Scout Field; No problems reported
- e. Grass Cutting; Councillors agreed that all areas have been looking good this year. Clerk to check invoices and reconcile with quote in preparation for next year's budget.
 - . No mow May areas
 - – Council **RESOLVED** to just leave unmown this year and see what grows naturally then sow with wildflower seeds if needed the following year.
- f. Wildflower area; the wildflower area has been looking good with lots of wildflowers during the season
- g. Trees – the report from Councillors Hockley & Goodger was discussed and the following identified as needing attention
 - The large willow on the verge outside number 1 Manor Road
 - Dead tree at rear of village hall
 - The willow tree at top of Church Hill has had some branches removed by adjacent home owner and canopy needs raising.
Council **RESOLVED** to obtain report from Greensleeves Countryside Management on work required and 2 quotes for the work from them and E-Scapes
 - Cherry tree for jubilee, Council **RESOLVED** that the Clerk to contact Buckingham Nursery to purchase the tree and a small ceremony to be arranged for the planting.
 - Need to identify who owns the land opposite Daisy Bank cottages as some trees may need attention there. Clerk to contact Fullers Brewery to check & some local residents who may know, then Land Registry if needed.
- h. Wildlife conservation – defer to November
 - Hedgehog Highway Project update
 - Support Wildlife Parish update
- i. Roads and traffic;
- j. Community Speedwatch update. One training session has been completed another is to be arranged, Councillor Holland to check availability of Village Hall
- k. Footpaths; No problems reported by Footpath Wardens
- l. Allotments; to receive any updates
 - Second Quote for renewing the fence still outstanding.
 - Councillor George will carry out a risk assessment for the allotments
- m. The maintenance of Parish notice board completed at bus shelter outside Coronation Cottages. Clerk to contact Andy Gibbs re his plans for the other board so it can be cleared
- n. Lamp post poppies – A member of the British Legion has ordered some for us should arrive soon, to be put up Sat 29th OCT
- o. Warm Spaces initiative for Winter 2022/23 Mothers Union will do one soup lunch, Innovations will continue with their monthly afternoon teas. Council **RESOLVED** to ask other groups i.e. Scout groups if they would like to run something similar throughout the winter
Councillor Osibogun mentioned the Helping Hand programme from BCC which should be promoted.

55/22 CORRESPONDENCE

- Council discussed residents concern about the heavy traffic in Akeley Lodge Road and the effects on the road surface. Council **RESOLVED** to suggest that the residents fill in a planning enforcement form as this seems to be the most effective way of getting a response from the County Council. Reassurance was gained from County Councillor Osibogun that complainants anonymity is protected.
- Manor Road flats – Councillor Goodger updated that the bin stores outside the main doors were being removed due to them being a fire risk. They have been locked by Fairhive and the bins are now in the drying area. Some provision is being made for residents who cannot use the new location due to health issues. Clerk to reassure residents that the concrete slabs at the front of the flats will not be used as bin stores and can have flower pots or benches on them as required in the future. The moss on paths has been cleared. It is understood that communication from Fairhive has been poor and confusing but hopefully is now resolved.

56/22 PLANNING

a. Planning Enforcement updates

Akeley Wood lodge Road – a planning enforcement notice has been issued to the owners of the barn at Akeley Wood Lodge Road. This concerns the caravans, hardstanding they were on and the earth bunding which are all to be removed.

Leys Field development – There were three main areas of concern investigated by Planning Enforcement Team

1. The hours of working on the site. A warning has been issued to the contractor and the developer about the hours of working and the ensuing noise and disturbance at unsociable hours. The Planning Enforcement Team have been given assurance that this has been stopped.
2. The height of the houses has been investigated and found to be within the permitted limits
3. The run off of water from the site and drainage works is still an open case awaiting satisfactory work being carried out

a. New Planning applications – none

b. Decisions made by Bucks CC Planning Dept

22/01297/ATC Remove damaged Leylandii, Hillberry Lillingstone Road – Approved
22/01204/ATP Work to trees, The Rectory Buckingham Road – consent given
21/02258/APP land adj to Maple Tree Cottage Chapel Lane – Approved
22/00854/APP Woodland Cottage - application withdrawn
20/A2433/DIS Land adjacent to Leckhampstead Road – Approved
20/O3903/APP Land off Chapel Lane – Refused

c. Other planning Consultations –

20/00510/APP Land Off Moreton Road Buckingham Buckinghamshire- approved

57/22 **Date and time of next meeting; Monday 14th November 2022 at 7.30pm - Date confirmed**

Focus of this meeting will be the budget for 2023/24, All councillors are requested to notify the clerk about any budget requirements they are aware of.

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.

Signed

Name

Date

Clerks Report September 2022

Environment

The new picnic benches and a park bench have arrived but need assembling and securing in place.

The notice board by Coronation Cottages has been restored and moved inside the bus shelter. The wire cover has been removed to make it easier and safer to use.

The shed by the play area has had the section of floor by the door replaced plus new boards either side of the door.

E-Scapes are able to sow wild flower seeds at the top of Church Hill, Coronation Cottages between the bus stop and the hedge, outside the Wayleave exchange in Chapel Lane and outside Hillside Farm should we wish to proceed with these sites.

The sign cover still needs to be ordered for the basketball post.

Community Speedwatch

The first training session has taken place during which 4 locations were identified as suitable to monitor traffic into and through Akeley. These have been listed on the Community Speedwatch site and are awaiting approval by Thames Valley Police. A further training session is to be arranged for those who couldn't attend plus any other volunteers who may come forward.

A sign has been placed at the entrance to Akeley from Buckingham warning drivers the village is a Speedwatch area.

Facebook surveys

A couple of simple surveys have been conducted using Facebook and these seem to have gone well

HM Queen Elizabeth II

I am very proud of Akeley Parish Councils response to the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. Purple filters were immediately placed over the light on the Village Hall and the website and Facebook page were changed to show the Queens tribute. A book of condolence was set up in the entrance to the village hall which was opened daily for people to sign. and a candlelit vigil was

held in the village hall to mark the minutes silence on Sunday 18th before the funeral on Monday 18th.

Most of this fell upon Councilor Holland to action as I was on annual leave from 9th -16th September so a huge thank you to Sherri for organizing and overseeing the above on our behalf. We now look ahead towards the new era with King Chares as our sovereign. God Save the King.

Financial Report

Newsletter donation for printing Akeley News £10.00

Newsletter donation for printing Akeley News Philips Print £18.67

Clerks expenses Helen Butcher £52.00

Clerks salary & tax Clerks wages Helen Butcher redacted

Replacement & repairs repairs Andy Gibbs £144.80

Village Hall Hire Akeley Village Hall £75.00

Stationary Printing & postage Reimbursement Sherri Holland £12.12

Total £1,270.57 VAT £2.02 £1,272.59