



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

Parish Clerk Helen Butcher

Minutes Annual Parish Council Meeting 15th May 2023

- 36/23 **Nomination and acceptance of Chair** Councillor Hockley took control of the meeting. Councillor George nominated Sherri Holland as Chair, Councillor Goodger seconded and the vote was unanimous. Councillor Holland accepted the role.
- 37/23 **Nomination and acceptance of Vice Chair.** Councillor Holland nominated John Hockley as Vice Chair, Councillor George seconded and the vote was unanimous. Councillor Hockley accepted the role
- 38/23 **Public Open Forum (under adjournment);** Three members of the public were present. It was brought to the Council's attention that human faeces been found along Chapel Lane on the verges and in the bushes. Clerk to contact highways for advice and put a Facebook post alerting residents
- 39/23 **Attendance and apologies;** apologies had been received from Councillors Jones & Eastwood and County Councillor Mordue
- 40/23 **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.
- Councillor Holland declared an interest in Pig Roast & invoice reimbursement
- Councillor Hockley declared an interest in any discussions on Leys Field
- 41/23 **Approval of Minutes;** Council RESOLVED to approve the minutes from the footpath diversion meeting held at St James & St John School Hall on Thursday 4th May 2023.
- 42/23 **Review of Councils policies for 2022/23**
- Council RESOLVED that Councillors George & Holland would review the following policies, which are the oldest ones, and report back to the next meeting in July 2023
- Co-option policy 2020
- Appraisal policy and protocol 2020
- Councillor Code of Conduct 2020
- The rest will be reviewed at another time as they were adopted more recently*
- disciplinary policy 2021
- grievance policy 2021
- health & safety policy 2021
- sickness absence policy 2021
- expenses policy 2021

equality & diversity policy 2021

anti bullying & harassment policy 2021

social media policy 2021

standing orders 2022

Applications policy 2022

Meeting with Developers policy 2022

Information Policy 2022

Financial Regulations 2022

- 43/23 **Appoint representatives i.e. Community Boards – Council RESOLVED** to continue with policy of whoever is available attending and reporting back

Regarding the Community Boards priorities for 2023/4 – Council **RESOLVED** to suggest merging green spaces and environment, plus road safety under health & well being that way all could be considered. This has been fed back to the Community Board

- 44/23 **Review inventory of Assets**

Council received and noted the asset register. Councillor Goodger to attend refresher course for use of strimmer so that he can maintain certain areas.

- 45/23 **Confirmation of Insurance cover-** The Clerk is awaiting confirmation from Zurich as to details of the LTA extension. Council **RESOLVED** to approve payment on condition it is still worth while and, in the Councils, best interest.

- 46/23 **Review of the Councils subscriptions to other bodies i.e. BMKALC, NALC, SLCC,** Council **RESOLVED** to approve renewing subscriptions

- 47/23 **Determine the time & place of ordinary meeting of full Council up to and including the next annual meeting of the Full Council**

Monday 3rd July 2023 7.30pm

Monday 8th January 2024 7.30pm

Monday 11th September 2023 7.30pm

Monday 11th March 2024 7.30pm

Monday 13th November 2023 7.30pm

Monday 13th May 2024 7.30pm

All to be held at Akeley Village Hall

- 48/23 **ADMINISTRATION**

- a. The Clerks report was received and noted
- b. No progress has been made on the recruitment of a new Councillor
- c. The Civility & Respect policy – Councillor George is doing the training this week and will feedback to July's meeting
The clerks appraisal – further request was made for feedback from the Councillors.
Clerk to look at employee benefit plan and report back to July meeting
- d. The remaining Coronation memorabilia, left over due the minimum size of batch required – wildflower seeds to be offered to the school
bookmarks offer to the village and if any leftover then offer to the school

- e. The future of Akeley News Letter- Thank you to Hilary Jones for her long service producing the newsletter. Council **RESOLVED** to put a post out on Facebook looking for volunteer to take it on as a project and develop the newsletter further. Any volunteers to be asked for ideas/proposals Put key info & village contacts onto notice board with email address for people to get a hard copy if required. To include contact details for the Parish magazine.
- f. Council **RESOLVED** to support Buckinghamshire Council consultation on charitable collections. Response has since been submitted.
- g. Councillor Holland volunteered to be a second contact for the Community Resilience Survey

49/23 **FINANCES;**

- a. The financial statement to end April 2023 was received. Current balance £11647.86
- b. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the invoices to be paid in May 2023 (see list of payments to be authorised) as proposed by Councillor George and seconded by Councillor Hockley
- c. Council noted the spending to end of April 2023 and payments made since the last meeting
- d. Council **RESOLVED** to approve the Escapes Quote 2023/4
- e. Council noted the Insurance payment for 2023/4 and **RESOLVED** to pay the premium subject to the conditions already noted under 45/23

50/23 **ENVIRONMENT;**

- a. Recreational Field; the grass has been cut twice and Escapes have been asked to cut it again in time for the Pig Roast on 1st July
Clerk to put a post out to remind people that the recreational field is available for informal use anyone wanting to organise an event contact the Parish Council
- b. Annual Pig Roast – The Council received and noted the documentation regarding the annual pig roast and **RESOLVED** to support the event. Councillor George suggested having a bucket of sand or water nearby, and noted on the risk assessment, to deal with any potential sparks.
- c. Play Park
 - An update was received from the working group looking at the play area refurbishment.
 - The companies asked to quote have returned responses to the questions raised, these need to be emailed to the working party.
 - Council **RESOLVED** to approve the quote for play area inspection
- d. Scout Field; No updates
- e. Grass Cutting; Clerk to alert highways of risk down Chapel Lane re human faeces
- f. Wildflower area; growing well looking forward to the orchids
- g. Trees: Completed for now.
- h. Wildlife conservation – ask to be taken into consideration on all planning apps
- i. Roads and traffic; To discuss any issues, including
 - Community Speedwatch Clerk to arrange meeting & ask for volunteers for training and administrator for the scheme.
 - Local Plan for Buckinghamshire and Local Transport Plan 5 Survey. Clerk to forward email again for comments
- j. Footpaths; Thanks to Philip Roper for his input as a Footpath Warden. The Council is sorry to see him go but wish him well on his new ventures. A new volunteer has come forward and is considering taking up the role
- k. Allotments;
 - The risk assessment – Councillor George defer to July. Half the rents have been paid
 - The allotment fencing Council **RESOLVED** to approve the quote from Escapes for repairing the fencing and strimming the nettles between the pig roast area and the allotments
- l. The maintenance of Parish notice boards been done but ask Andy to redo the tope of the one outside the school to keep weather proof.

- m. Bus shelter; Clerk to contact Andy Gibbs re cleaning
- n. AED- Clerk to check if able to proceed on the lighting & signage to improve visibility of the defibrillator
- o. Street lights – awaiting quotes for options of electricity suppliers

51/23 **PLANNING;**

a. New Planning applications – none

b. Pending Consideration by BC planners

22/04319/VRC | Variation of Condition 18 (footpath material) relating to 20/02433/APP (Erection of five detached dwellings, and associated garaging, parking and amenity space, served off two new private drives, a replacement access for existing stabling/paddocks and the widening of Leckhampstead Road to also incorporate a new footpath (Revised re-submission of 18/03471/APP and APP/J0405/W/19/3237395). | Land Adjacent To Leckhampstead Road Akeley Buckinghamshire

Council **RESOLVED** to send a response to email from Bucks Council Definitive Maps Officer, as detailed below

Thank you very much for your email. We do however fully understand what the developer is claiming as his reason for wishing to move the footpath. In doing so though he would only create a footpath clear area of approximately half an acre which is well below the acceptable standard (1 acre per horse) for keeping horses on. Therefore this is not a valid reason for moving the footpath.

As stated on my previous email the path is a significant improvement for the residents of Manor Road but this is balanced out by other residents and path users for whom the re siting is not of benefit. The new footpath does not in places measure the 2m it is supposed to, has not been edged with concrete as it is supposed to and so will soon erode away and the exit onto Church Hill as you know is also unsuitable. So although it looks nice it is not fit for purpose as an accessible route across the village.

All of the above reasons are why we are unable at the moment to commit to supporting or opposing the proposed move of the footpath.

I hope this clarifies our position but if not please come back to me.

22/03762/AOP | Outline application for demolition of garage/store and erection of one dwelling (including details of access, layout and scale for approval at outline stage). | Maple Tree Cottage Chapel Lane Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HU

23/00966/APP | Demolition of garage and outbuildings, erection of dwelling, alteration of vehicular access and blocking up one first floor window at Vine Cottage. | Vine Cottage Chapel Lane Akeley Buckinghamshire MK18 5HU

c. Appeals

22/00154/ENFNOT | Appeal against(1) the material change of use of the Land from agriculture to a mixed use of agriculture and residential by the siting of 6 touring caravans, the laying of hardstanding and the construction of an earth bund and (2) the laying of hardstanding and construction of an earth bund | Lodge Fields Akeley Wood Lodge Road Akeley - ongoing

d. Decisions – nil since last meeting

e. Other

Council **RESOLVED** to take up the offer from Maids Moreton Councillor Hardcastle to attend a meeting and discuss the Neighbourhood Plan process. Clerk to also ask villagers with an interest to come along to meeting

52/23 **Date and time of next meeting; Monday 3rd July 2023 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.