

Aylburton Parish Council : Annual General Meeting

Minutes of AGM held in the Memorial Hall on Friday 22nd June 2007 at 7:30 PM

Present

Michael Praker (Chairman), Alan Edwards, David Thorne, Maurice Bloomfield, Jane O'Donnell Simon Newman and Kath Harris (Councillors), Karen Blackwell (Clerk), Terry Glastonbury (District Councillor); also Mr Matt Harding, Mr Bernard Fisher, Mrs Claire Praker and Mrs Margaret Edwards (Members of the public).

Apologies

None received.

Minutes of AGM held on 17th November 2006.

Agreed and signed as a true record.

The chairman opened the meeting by thanking council members for their time and effort over the year and also thanked Councillors Glastonbury and Winship for their attendance and advice.

Yearly Summary

Completed

Andy Jones appointed as litter collector. He will also clean the bus shelters in the village.
Additional waste bin provided for Andy Jones to use for Millbrook green grass cuttings.
Precept of £5500 requested and granted.
Elections. All current councillors reappointed as no new nominees forwarded.
Lydney Park Estate allotment rent increase passed on to tenants.
Donation of £500 to Village Club agreed upon.
High Street drains reported as having been cleared.
Approval of plan by Horticultural Society for improvement of village appearance.
Clerks salary increased to £840 per year.
All planning and other correspondence reviewed and dealt with as appropriate.

Still pending

Resurfacing of Chapel Hill loop road.
Maintenance of Stockwell Lane verges.
General condition of roads and pavements.
Parish Plan.
Safety issues regarding waiting area outside primary school.
Law enforcement/street warden attendance at meeting.
Mill Brook Green/Crescent pathway needs maintenance.
Upper Common wall by allotments needs maintenance.
Mead Lane footpath is overgrown.
Church path requires remedial work.
Church Road subsidence requires remedial action.
Provision of more allotments.
Kear's Moor fence still in need of repair.

New Business:

Public comments.

Mr Matt Harding (of 5 Upper Common) asked if the litter remit may be extended to cover more areas than it currently does. He states that the litter on Upper Common is often collected by himself with Chapel Hill being covered by Mr Malcolm Powell (of Little Gables) on a purely voluntary basis. The clerk confirmed that although this was a good idea in principle the funds available will not stretch to increasing the area. Investigations into increasing funding & thus the area of litter collection in the village are ongoing with the Environment department of FoDDC.

Mr Harding also reported that the wall surrounding the allotments on upper Common is in need of some remedial work. He has kindly undertaken this in the past but now feels the responsibility for it should lay elsewhere. The clerk will make enquiries.

(As an aside to the above Mr Bernard Fisher suggested withholding the rent for the Kear's Moor allotments until the long awaited & very overdue repairs to the fence are completed!)

Village drainage system.

Mrs Margaret Edwards requested that the issue of the village drains & sewers be discussed as she, along with many others, fears a recurrence of the problems experienced in recent years due to the inadequacy of the system currently in place. District Councillor Terry Glastonbury reiterated that the solutions to this problem are often prohibited by a lack of funding. The clerk is asked to contact Severn Trent again in the hope of attaining a longer term solution than the short-term cleaning which seems to be the present answer.

Stockwell lane grass bank/Milling Brook grass

This was the next item under discussion with cllr Glastonbury announcing that as the land has been found to be unregistered no single group is responsible for the maintenance of it .FoDDc originally took care of the area as it was a road safety issue but quite why this should no longer be the case is unclear. It was hoped that further correspondence with the FoDDC may help to clear this matter up permanently.

The area of grass on Millbrook Green should indeed be the responsibility of the housing association, Two Rivers Housing which runs most of the properties there

Public footpaths

Mrs Margaret Edwards & Mrs Claire Praker asked that the meeting consider the problem of access to many of the local footpaths particularly those crossing Lydney Park Estate land & those leading towards the river. Access is often rendered difficult if not impossible by overgrown hedges & poorly maintained paths with Mead Lane being virtually impassable in places.

Further to this the trees near the roundabout between Aylburton & Lydney are now so overgrown that pedestrians are forced almost into the road to pass by which is a safety issue. Cllr Glastonbury offered to contact both Lydney town Council & the Park Estate to seek a resolution in these matters as both are outside the remit of the Parish council itself. With regards to footpaths within the parish boundary the clerk will enlist the help of the footpaths agency.

In addition the issue of The Tack is still ongoing but the process of registering this path as a public right of way has commenced & will be reported on when a resolution is reached.

Financial Summary:**November 2006-June 2007**

Opening balance	£2825.09
Payments	£2109.27
Receipts	£5977.92
Closing balance	£6693.74

Affiliations:

GAPTC

Donations:

AUCA £250.00

Business concluded 8:10 p.m.