

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held in the Memorial Hall on Tuesday 25th September 2007 at 7:00 PM

Present

Michael Praker (Chairman), Maurice Bloomfield, Simon Newman, Jane O'Donnell, Alan Edwards, Dave Thorne, Kath Harris (Councillors), Marion Winship, Terry Glastonbury (District councillors), Karen Blackwell (Clerk). Also present: Mr Phillip Jones (Policy Director at FoDDC).

Apologies

None

Discussion of Corporate Plan

Mr Phillip Jones attended the meeting to discuss some of the issues that Aylburton parish councillors had prioritised at a previous meeting. The current corporate plan will end in March 2008 and with the new administration at district level a new Local Development Framework (LDF) and Core strategy should come into effect in the new year. The key issues as ever seem to be the effectiveness of the parish council in influencing decisions made at district council level and the lack of proper consultation. Councillor Thorne expressed concern over the apparent lack of funding for maintenance of the A48 since its detrunking and Mr Jones agreed to raise this at district level on behalf of the council. Further issues such as the need for a housing survey and the lack of parking facilities within the village were also raised and these will be more fully discussed when the LDF is in place. Furthermore Mr Jones informed the meeting of an information network, MAIDEN, dedicated to Gloucestershire, which can be accessed to provide more detail as to the aspirations of the LDF and its associated strategies.

Following on from this discussion Councillor Winship informed the meeting of a new A48 "Action" group which has been formed in Alvington to continue to put pressure on the relevant agencies with regards to the condition of the road and its associated problems. Councillor Edwards would try to attend the next meeting. Councillor Winship also offered to follow up the matter of the "lost" money that had been promised for maintenance but so far seems to be spent elsewhere.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th July 2007.

Agreed and signed as a true record.

Matters arising from the minutes.

- 1. Condition of roads/speeding vehicles**
PC Timmins left a verbal report with the chairman saying that he had undertaken speed checks on passing traffic but as yet the results were inconclusive. He will attempt to have tubes placed on the road and hopes to get flashing lights put at the entrances to the village. In all other respects the condition of the roads and pavements remains sadly unchanged.
- 2. Parish Plan**
Councillor Bloomfield reported that early signs are encouraging and that much help was forthcoming from Kate Baugh of the GRCC. The committee had met twice to discuss how to proceed and it is hoped that should enough volunteers from the local community come forward the plan will be passed on to a steering committee. A public meeting to raise local awareness has been scheduled for January 2008.
- 3. Allotments**
Councillors Newman and O'Donnell had visited the Kear's Moor allotments in order to ascertain how many are currently being fully utilised etc. Those people renting spaces at present have no wish to relinquish them and indeed they are in the main well tended. However it was found that there are two untended allotments within the area belonging to LPE tenants. It was agreed to approach Nick Brown and request that they be made available for rent to the public, stressing the need for more allotments within the parish.
- 4. Stockwell Lane bank**
This has now been cleared by Mr Andy Jones at a cost to the council of £30.00. The parish council will continue to seek a long-term resolution to this problem but agrees to cut it in the meantime as necessary.
- 5. Overhanging trees at A48 roundabout**
Nick Brown has agreed to take this matter up with LPE management and ensure that the trees are properly cut back to minimise the danger to pedestrians.
- 6. Churchyard path/tree**
The dangerous tree within the churchyard has now been removed by Mr Richard Morgan. In addition, the chairman is continuing to search for someone willing to provide the small amount of tarmac that this job requires. The matter is therefore still pending.
- 7. Litter remit**
As requested Andy Jones had provided an estimate of the time required to cover a larger area of the village than is currently provided for. In essence the work would be doubled in terms of time and effort and the clerk will approach Richard Aston at the FoDDC to discover how much more funding

is available. Councillor Bloomfield volunteered to monitor the Sandford Road area to see whether the situation actually warrants a litter collector.

8. **Stockwell lane-speeding vehicles nuisance**
Due to a lack of progress on this issue it will be struck from the agenda.
9. **Stockwell Lane footpath**
Councillor Bloomfield will provide the clerk with a path reference number to give to the Footpaths agency. They in turn will investigate the possibility of diverting the path but this matter could take some time to resolve. A further suggestion was made that perhaps a gate or barrier may be placed at the bottom of the slope leading onto the lane to discourage pedestrians from running directly onto the road thus increasing safety.
10. **Overnight street lighting switch off**
This issue was raised by Councillor Edwards following a communication from the Environment department of the FoDDC requesting that we consider the possibility of switching some street lights off over key times in the night to help reduce emissions. However it was decided to put the matter on hold and raise it at a future Parish plan meeting.

Any Other Business

11. **Transfer of cash**
It was agreed to transfer £500 from the deposit account to the current to cover bills.
12. **Remembrance Day**
The chairman advised the meeting that he would be attending the church service and that Councillors Bloomfield and Edwards would place the wreaths on the village memorial for Remembrance Day.
13. **Bus shelter maintenance**
Councillor Harris raised the issue of the bus shelter in the high street being in need of painting. Russell George had offered to do this and Mrs Harris would approach him to do so.
14. **Allotment maintenance**
Matt Harding cleared undergrowth and trimmed trees/shrubs from the wall adjoining the allotments. This task should have been the responsibility of Lydney Park Estate. In addition to contacting Nick Brown regarding this matter, the clerk is to send a thank you to Matt Harding.
15. **Milling Crescent path**
The stalemate between Adrian Bishop and the Highways Agency regarding the clearing of the Milling Crescent path is still ongoing. Councillors Edwards and Prakes are to visit the site to ascertain the problem.
16. **Milling Crescent grass cutting**
Councillors Thorne noted that the grass by the garage(s) on Milling Crescent is in need of cutting. Clerk is to contact Lydney Park Estate to determine when this can be done.
17. **School Waiting area**
Councillor Glastonbury pointed out that it would be necessary for the council to ask for permission from the Highways Agency before any work can be undertaken on the area outside the school.
18. **Insurance policy claim**
The clerk is to submit a claim on the council's insurance policy with regard to the recent damage to the bus shelter.

Correspondence

Items #6073 to #7014 were reviewed and dealt with.

Planning

19. **Received**

	#7003 4, High Street	Erection of garage & storage/games room.
	#7012 Lydney Industrial Estate	Erection of 17 storage containers.
20. **Refused**

	#6083 Rockleaze, Upper Common	Conversion of double garage to holiday let.
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Finance

21. **Balances**

Current account	£604.26
Deposit account	£4820.64
22. **Authorisations required:**

A. Jones – Litter collection (Aug/Sep) & Stockwell lane bank grass cutting	£135.00
Zurich Insurance – Policy renewal	£413.66
23. **Payments made:**

#583 A. Jones – Litter collection (Jun/Jul)	£105.00
#585 K. Blackwell – Salary & Expenses (Jun/Jul)	£160.54
#586 K. Blackwell – GAPTC course reimbursement	£60.00
#587 FoDDC – Election expenses	£134.58
#588 Lydney Town Council – Cemetery upkeep	£150.00

#589	Royal British Legion – Poppy wreaths (x2)	£40.00
#590	R. Morgan – School grass (x1), Churchyard grass (x1)	£200.00
#591	R. Morgan – School grass (x2), Churchyard grass (x2)	£100.00
#592	GAPTC – Training course	£20.00

24. Payments received:

Grazing rights – Parish patch (2007)	£10.00
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Business concluded 8:50 p.m.

Next Meeting

7:00 PM Tuesday 27th November 2007 in Aylburton Memorial Hall.