

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held in the Memorial Hall on 26th May 2009 at 7:00 PM

Present

Maurice Bloomfield (M.B) (acting chair), Alan Edwards (A.E.), Kath Harris (K.H), Simon Newman (S.N), Jane O'Donnell (J.O'D), Dave Thorne (D.T.) (Councillors), Karen Blackwell (K.B) (Clerk).

Apologies

Mike Praker, Terry Glastonbury (District Councillor)

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th March 2009:

Agreed and signed as a true record (with 1 change of name).

- **Death of Viscount Bledisloe.**
The clerk reported that a sympathy card had been sent to the family following the recent death of Viscount Bledisloe. It was hoped that some members of the council would be able to attend the funeral service to be held at St Mary's church, Lydney.

Matters arising from the minutes

- **Parish Plan**
A small public meeting had been held but there were no major alterations to the plan as it currently stands. K.H. queried the subject of the Tack footpath and A.E. raised the issue of the Third Severn crossing. Both of these items will be dealt with in more detail once the plan has further progressed.
M.B. requested that if all members present were happy with the plan as it stands they formally adopt Draft Plan B. This was duly done. The clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the steering committee for all its hard work thus far. The steering group will also be invited to attend the next council meeting to discuss future progress.
- **Parish Patch**
Still pending.
- **Village Notice boards**
Following the receipt of a very reasonable quote from local company Tudor Rose Carpentry, the council decided to ask for a resubmission of the quote, with larger boards than had been previously thought, i.e. boards measuring 3' x 2' for all those other than the larger board outside the Memorial Hall K.B. will make the necessary arrangements including the possibility of grant aid to help fund the project.
- **Provision of bin at Sandford road**
Following discussion with Richard Aston at FoDDC it is likely that a bin will be placed in this area but as yet no further details are available.
- **Bus shelter damage**
M.B. has contacted the company responsible for erecting the bus shelter and is still awaiting a quote for the replacement glass.
- **Allotments**
The clerk reported that the demand for allotments is still far out –numbering those available. Requests that Lydney Park Estate make more land available for this purpose have not as yet elicited a positive response. Mr Baker, currently renting all the allotments on upper common, has said that he will relinquish 2 in the summer thus these can be re-allocated. The clerk holds a waiting list of 8 interested people at present, all of whom live in the parish.
- **Hole near footpath (area behind High street)**
A letter had been received in which Lydney park estate confirm that they will look into this potential hazard.
- **Dog fouling**
It was decided to place a further Penalty notice at Upper common, which seems to be a prime area for dog fouling. Mr Matt Harding of 5 Upper Common had written to the council asking for assistance in dealing with this matter. The clerk has spoken to the Street Wardens who re-iterated the advice that people need to help establish a pattern of behaviour, e.g. times at which the offences occur, vehicle registrations etc., which the wardens can then act upon. This advice will be passed on to interested parties, including Mrs Munday of Church road who has also reported the same problem.
- **Grants for Church yard / grass cutting**
K.B. had received word from Carolyn Mitchell at FoDDC that grants are unlikely to be forthcoming to assist with this matter. However investigations into possibilities will continue!
Furthermore, the issue of grass cutting in those areas previously maintained by Two Rivers will be put on hold until hopefully the two main parties can come to an agreement between themselves.

Finally it was decided to approach Andy Jones to ask if he will quote the council for cutting the grass at Upper common in the future.

- **New Business**

It was reported at the meeting that work has begun on the High street drainage system. A.E. suggests that proceedings & progress be carefully monitored by those able to do so.

S.N. reported a loose kerb stone on Church road, near to Russell George's property. K.B. will advise Glos. Highways.

Furthermore, M.B. asked that a request be put in to Highways in order that a lowered kerb is placed near to Mrs Anna Dalton's home to facilitate her getting about more easily.

With regards to the increased AUCA grant there is still a degree of unease concerning the value for money which the council & the village are receiving on the whole. The clerk will once again attempt to get quotes from other people interested in doing the work but as reported at the previous meetings this had been attempted recently but with no luck. AUCA will be invited to send a representative to the next meeting with the view to explaining to the council what AUCA does for the money received.

K.B. requested that the council authorise the transfer of £4500 from the current to the deposit account to maximise any available interest.

Correspondence

#8195 to 8218 were reviewed & dealt with as appropriate with the following items being of special note:

8218. Mr. M. Harding re dog mess, Upper common.

8200. LPE re Millennium Wood/ transfer of title*.

*LPE has suggested a meeting be convened to discuss this matter fully. The clerk will make the arrangements.

A letter had also been received from the Severn Estuary Partnership Group, offering the parish council the opportunity to get involved. D.T. advised that further information is needed as to costs etc before the council commits although on principle the idea seems sound. M.B. offered to make further enquiries & report back at the next meeting.

- **Planning**

No planning applications had been received.

Finance

- **Balances**

Current account	£6705.69
Deposit account	£3471.71

- **Payments made**

K. Blackwell	- Salary (Feb/March)	£146.00
K. Blackwell	- expenses; postage/phone	£20.00
A. Jones	- Litter collection (Feb/March)	£210.00
LPE	- Allotment rent	£165.00
GAPTC	- Subscription renewal	£138.37
R. Morgan	- Inv. #65	£204.00
FoDDC	- Street Wardens scheme	£100.00
GAPTC	- Book	£17.25
R. Morgan	- Inv. #69	£189.00

- **Authorisations required**

K. Blackwell	- Salary (April/May)	£153.00
K. Blackwell	- expenses; AGM advert	£12.94
A. Jones	- Litter collection (Apr/May)	£210.00
AUCA	- Grant	£375.00

- **Payments Received**

Allotment rents	£182.00
Precept	£6500.00

Business concluded 8:15 p.m.

Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th July 2009.