

# Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2012 at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall.

## **Present**

Maurice Bloomfield (M.B.) (Chair), Colin Newman (C.N.), Lorna Coates (L.C.), Simon Newman (S.N), Jane O'Donnell J.O'D), Frankie Evans (F.E) (Councillors); Karen Blackwell (K.B.), clerk. Marion Winship (M.W) District.

Also present Mr Simon Cullen, Strategy Engagement Officer, Environment Agency.

## **Apologies**

Andy Jones, Terry Glastonbury .

## **Minutes of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012**

Agreed and signed as a true record.

## **District councillor reports:**

M.W reported that leisure facilities in the region are being examined with a view to bringing them more in line with the national average in terms of cost/ accessibility etc.

Problems have been experienced with accessing a Registrar locally in recent months. It is hoped that the addition of 5 new staff to this post will ease the situation but as their training will take 5 months it is likely that those problems will remain for some time yet.

The Emergency Planning Agency has changed & is now the Civil Protection Agency.

A wind turbine is likely to be placed at Court farm in Alvington. This will be highly visible from Aylburton & is 1 of 8 planned for the stretch of riverbank between Chepstow & Awre. M.W remains sceptical about the profitability & efficiency of these turbines & the P/C is advised to regard any applications carefully.

The GRCC will pay towards a Housing needs survey if required. M.W. is to attend a meeting regarding this issue & will report back to the p/c.

## **Presentation by Environment Agency**

Mr Simon Cullen attended the meeting as the Environment Agency is attempting to facilitate increased community involvement with flood risk management plans. He discussed plans to manage the flood risk along the Severn estuary, specifically relating to river water rather than land run-off. He agreed to send a draft copy of the new strategy being forwarded for comments from all concerned parties. A meeting specifically for this may be arranged at a future date.

## **Matters arising from the minutes:**

### **Church yard shed removal**

Still pending. M.B. to research replacement shed / sheds.

### **Two Rivers Housing Survey (Deferred from Dec 2011)**

M.B. to look at survey again. See also note in District Councillor report.

### **Millennium Wood**

Still pending! K.B. will once again chase Robert Frankton for a resolution on this matter.

### **Allotments review**

Following a heated discussion regarding this highly contentious issue it was agreed that more research needs to be done as to how other parishes manage their allotments & in future we will use these as guidelines. Hopefully a written agreement will be available in due course for the allotment holders setting out their rights as well as rules which they should abide by or risk losing the allotment. K.B will e-mail LC & CN with details of the next 2 people on the waiting list as space has been made on the Kear's Moor site. The council may ask Andy Jones to quote for clearing the area of weeds etc. Those people who have had allotments for many years will be subject to slightly different provisos reflecting their longevity of use.

## **New Business:**

Green bin licences: At the request of Mr John Court 2 green bin licences will be applied for use in the Church yard.

Funds transfer : It was agreed to transfer £3000 from the current to the deposit account.

**Portfolio reports;**

Amenities & Leisure; Regarding the Diamond Jubilee it has been noted that events in the village seem to be very low-key. The clerk will arrange to pay the insurance as agreed for the event on Upper common.

Roads & Transport : PCSO Lang had informed the council that at some point Glos. police will be introducing a new scheme to help communities with speeding issues. They are going to provide radar guns and training and any persistent offenders will be monitored and if necessary warned off. We shall wait & see.

No other portfolio reports.

**Correspondence:**

Items from #8602 to #8611 were reviewed & dealt with as appropriate.

**Finances:** Current account **£6,868.09**

Deposit account **£6,480.79**

**Payments made:**

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Feb/Mar 2012)	£200.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Feb/Mar 2012)	£210.00
A. Jones	– Expenses (Salt bins, petrol)	£35.00
LPE	– Allotment rents	£225.00
R. Morgan	– Invoice # 19, # 31	£315.00
Glos county council	– Salt spreader	£121.20
Whitehouse Press Ltd	– Invoice # 028511	£208.00

**Authorisations required:**

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Apr/May 2012)	£200.00
K. Blackwell	– Expenses: postage, Review AGM Ad, stationery.	£40.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Apr/May 2012)	£210.00
*FoDDC	– Election expenses	£150.00
*GAPTC	– Annual Subs	£150.00
Aylburton Village club	– Hall Rental (back-dated)	£280.00
Jubilee Expenses	– (Estimate) Insurance	£140.00
Jubilee Expenses	– (Estimate) Mugs	£338.94
M. Bloomfield	– Expense: Petrol & Bridge toll, Plaque for seat	£96.25
FoDDC	– Green Bin licences x 2 (Church yard)	£52.00

**Payments Received**

Precept	£7,000.00
Allotments rents	£75.00

**Next meeting Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2012, 7pm**

**Meeting closed at 9.10p.m**