

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 30th July 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall.

Present

Councillors: Maurice Bloomfield (M.B.) (Chair), Colin Newman (C.N.), Lorna Coates (L.C.), Frankie Evans (F.E.), Jane O'Donnell (JO'D).
Clerk: Karen Blackwell (K.B.)
District: Marion Winship (M.W.), Terry Glastonbury (T.G.)

Apologies

Andy Jones, Simon Newman, PCSO Rob Gee.

Minutes of the meeting held on 24th May 2013

Agreed & signed by the Chairman.

M.B. then proceeded to tell the meeting that ex-Councillor Mark Sargent & his wife had been the victims of an overnight burglary within the previous couple of days. Unfortunately PCSO Rob Gee was unable to attend the meeting to give any further details but it is to be hoped that this is an isolated incident.

District Council reports

M.W. reported that the FoDDC had received a petition regarding the introduction of kerb-side collections for plastics & cardboard. However she stated that as the Council is tied into a contract with Biffa it is highly unlikely that any changes would be implemented in the near future.

Regarding the problem of those people living in England but registered with doctors & practices on the Welsh border, i.e. St Briavels etc, M.W. said that there will possibly be an amendment to the contentious Bill, which should mean that those residents thus affected will continue to have the choice of treatment centres.

An equally contentious issue is that of the proposed badger cull. It was reported that the NFU had attended a meeting in Alvington in order to discuss the matter & present the facts as to the necessity for it. Some farmers are being targeted for abuse & want it to be made known that the cull is a Government Directive.

The footpath known as The Tack is to be a Permissive path meaning that it will be open all year but must be used responsibly by walkers, in order to protect the diversity of wildlife found in the area.

Finally, the Wind Turbine proposal had been refused permission by the Planning department. The company seeking to erect the turbine will now take this to appeal.

T.G. told the Council that the Stockwell Lane industrial area has now been brought into the Employment Land settlement, as has the Taurus site. F.E. asked that the Council be provided with a map showing the changes to the area.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Millennium Wood

M.B. has come under pressure from Lydney Town Council which wants to use the Wood as a "green" burial site. An opinion poll will be taken among residents in the near future to gauge feelings as to the use of the amenity, or indeed whether the P/C should in fact take the lease on. It is hoped that Brian Reece will continue to consult over any necessary tree management etc. F.E. urges caution due to the financial commitment for future Councils to meet, given that funding for all local bodies is under threat of reduction. Lorna Coates raised the question of control over any burial site & wondered if it may be possible to renegotiate the lease in the future. M.W. suggested that the P/C could ask that the land be made a protected area under the ADPD. M.B. then went on to ask for 2 volunteers to think of other uses which may be more beneficial to the community as a whole. He went on to say that this issue must be resolved by the end of the year as it has dragged on too long!

K.B. will extend an invitation to LPE to discuss the matter at a future meeting.

General roads / pavements issues

Some of the work required on this matter has been completed, whilst some remains outstanding & will now have to wait until a new financial year. K.B. was asked to contact Councillor Alan Preest to ascertain exactly where the funding allocation has been spent as it certainly is not in this area!

Parking issue, Millbrook Green

The clerk will contact the Street wardens once more to ask for their help with this issue.

Dog waste bin, Milling Crescent

Following a very disappointing response (only 3 residents from the entire Crescent) it was agreed to ask Merlin Waste Management to place the dog waste bin according to majority opinion!

Notice boards

The clerk to chase Tudor carpentry as the required maintenance is not yet done.

New Business:

The Gables / footpath

This matter is causing some distress to the residents & as such the clerk will ask the Footpaths agency for advice & intervention (if possible) in the matter. K.B. will contact the resident to inform her of any progress made.

Grass cutting / general maintenance

Following a discussion with Ray Woodward, who expressed some concern as to the state of the verges etc in the village, it was agreed to put the grass cutting contract out to tender & as such the clerk will put an advert in the local paper & contact other parties who may be interested in doing the work. F.E. suggests that a map of all areas needing work be produced; K.B. & M.B. will attempt this as well as working out the frequency of cuts required etc.

Aylburton C of E School

A request for funding to help towards the purchase of an interactive whiteboard had been received. The school was recognised as being a valuable asset to the village & a worthy recipient of a grant & thus it was agreed to make a donation of £1,000.

Correspondence

Items from #8687 to #8702 were reviewed & dealt with appropriately.

Planning. Rock Bank, Lower Common; Conservatory & rear extension, link to garage to provide accommodation.

34 High Street; Alterations to front of property.

44 Sandford Road, Extension, revised plans.

No objections to applications viewed.

Finances: Current account **£6101.94**

Deposit account **£6485.38**

Payments made:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Apr / May)	£200.00
K. Blackwell	– Expenses (Review, AGM ad)	£30.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Apr / May)	£210.00
Friends of Bathurst pool	– Donation (previous cheque destroyed in post!)	£200.00
R. Morgan	– Grass cutting, Invoice 037	£321.00
Whitehouse Press Ltd	– Invoice 030119	£150.00
R Morgan	– Grass cutting, Invoice 044	£227.00

Authorisations required:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (June / July)	£200.00
K. Blackwell	– Expenses (postage)	£10.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (June / July)	£210.00
A. Jones	– Allotments clearing	£60.00

Payments Received:

Allotment rent & shooting rights	£35.00
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The meeting closed at 8.40p.m..

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 1st October.**