

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 1st October 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.),
Clerk: Karen Blackwell (K.B.)
Also present: Members of the public; Mike Praker, Carol Bendall. Street Wardens Damion Collins, John Cooke.

Apologies

Jane O'Donnell (JO'D). Andy Jones. District: Marion Winship (M.W.), Terry Glastonbury (T.G.)

Minutes of the meeting held on 30th July 2013

Agreed & signed by the Chairman.

District Council reports

None available at this time.

Street Wardens

Damion & John attended the meeting to discuss the issues of dog fouling & problem parking in the village, as well as updating the Council as to the duties & powers of the Street Wardens. They were keen to reiterate that the public has an important part to play in helping them to fulfil these duties, such as assisting in evidence gathering, utilising local knowledge & contacting the Wardens with complaints & information. Many problems can be addressed under Environmental Enforcement provisions & recent success had been achieved with regard to fly-tipping. In reference to the playing field, which experiences a high level of dog-fouling despite the presence of warning signs & penalty notices, it may be necessary to request an exclusion order (the cost of which would be contributed to by the FoDDC).

The parking problems arising in the village have been discussed by Damion & the PCSO for the area & we will await further advice.

Wind Turbine application

Resilience (the applicants) has taken the decision (refused) to Appeal. The clerk will write to the Planning Inspectorate reiterating the Council's position on this matter (this was voted on with 4 Councillors in favour & one (C.N) abstaining from voting). Carol Bendall stated that there has been much publicity recently with regard to landscape issues playing a greater part in planning decisions, & asks if this may be brought to bear in this case also. F.E declared a conflict of interest as she sits on the Planning Committee.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Millennium Wood

It was agreed after much deliberation that the P/C would NOT take on the lease for the Jubilee Wood. The uncertainty of future financial commitments is a major factor in this decision, as it is now known that there will be far-reaching cutbacks in all areas of finance in the near future. K.B & M.B will inform LPE of the decision, & perhaps suggest that Lydney Town Council be approached directly with the view to using the site for green burials.

The Gables / footpath

Colin Newman will monitor this matter from now on.

Grass Cutting

A final map of all areas to be cut will soon be available for interested contractors to base quotes upon. M.B. will also ask John Ridley for details of the contractor currently undertaking the work on the playing field. S.N. will attempt to find a free map for us to use.

Notice boards

The required maintenance has now been completed & the clerk will contact Tudor Rose carpentry to thank them & request an invoice.

New Business:

Aylburton C of E School

A letter of thanks had been received by the clerk for the donation made of £1000 towards the cost of equipment for the school.

Milling Brook / willow tree etc

Mr Adrian Bishop had contacted the clerk with a number of complaints chiefly relating to the brook being overgrown & the weeping willow tree overhanging the road, which causes damage to his car when he

passes underneath it. This has long been a problem with no one party seeming prepared to accept responsibility for the area, meaning that historically the work has been done by various groups or individuals. This is no longer satisfactory! As Two Rivers has recently posted notices stating "Two Rivers Residents parking only" it seems fair to assume that they will now accept that at least some of the responsibility belongs with them! K.B will contact the company to ascertain whether this is in fact the case.

Precept

It is highly likely that due to a financial shortfall at the FoDDC the precept will be affected next year. It is currently unclear just how large an affect this will have on the P/C but the clerk will monitor the situation closely & advise accordingly with regard to next year's budget proposals.

Portfolio reports

C.N wants all allotments to be examined again to ensure that people are adhering to the code as set out in the agreement issued last year. Some allotment holders are currently not complying.

Glos. Highways has been spotted doing some cleaning in the village

C.N asked that the residents of the Beeches be advised that their hedge & ivy are overhanging the path & need to be cut back.

M.B had received a funding request from Jean Williams for help towards the cost of placing parking 'Geopods' on the playing field. Given the current economic climate & the uncertainty of access to the field this request will be declined.

The culvert on the Kear's moor allotment site needs cleaning out & the fence needs maintenance. K.B will contact LPE to ask for help in these matters.

Correspondence

Items from #8703 to #8722 were reviewed & dealt with appropriately.

Planning.

No applications to be discussed at this time.

Finances: Current account **£3189.25**

Deposit account **£6485.38**

Payments made:

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
Aylburton C of E School	– Donation	£1,000.00
R. Morgan	– Invoice 053 (church x 1 cut)	£60.00
Zurich Insurance	– Annual renewal	£453.88

Authorisations required:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Aug / Sept)	£200.00
K. Blackwell	– Expenses (Review Ad)	£33.60
M. Blackwell	– Website hosting costs / Domain name reg.	£98.21
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Aug / Sept)	£210.00
A. Jones	– Allotments clearing	£60.00
AUCA	– Grant, 2 nd installment	£375.00
Royal British Legion	– Poppy Wreaths x 2	£60.00

Payments Received:

FoDDC	– Street cleaning remit	£630.00
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The meeting closed at 9.00p.m.

Date of next meeting: **Tuesday 26th November**