

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held on 23rd September 2014 at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall.

Present

Councillors: Colin Newman (C.N.), Lorna Coates (L.C.), Frankie Evans (F.E.), John Harrison (J.H.), Andy Jones (A.J.) Simon Newman (S.N.). Clerk: Karen Blackwell (K.B.)

Also present: PCSOs Rob Gee & Natalie Lang.

Apologies

Maurice Bloomfield (M.B.), Marion Winship.

Chairmanship

Colin Newman has very kindly agreed to stand as Chairman, at least for awhile, following the resignation of Maurice Bloomfield in May. All other members & the clerk are very grateful to Colin for stepping into the breach! M.B. will stay on as Vice Chair.

The Minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2014 were held to be accurate & signed as such.

District Council reports

None available at this time.

PCSO Report

According to the PCSO's in attendance the crime rate in the village remains very low, & mostly concerns damage to property i.e. garden sheds etc.

A traffic speed monitoring van has been in Alvington in recent weeks, & volunteers had assisted with this. L.C. asked if the van could come to Aylburton & expressed an interest in forming a group of volunteers from the village, all of whom would receive proper training in using the radar gun as well as Health & Safety issues. PCSO Gee suggested that perhaps the gun could be shared between Parishes on a rota. Although the results of radar guns cannot be used to prosecute drivers they can be used as advisories, thus it was felt that this may well be worth following up.

Furthermore L.C. asked if any progress had been made regarding the problems of cars being badly parked on the side roads within the village. The meeting was advised that unless a vehicle is causing an obstruction, if there are no parking restrictions on a road it is very difficult to bring a prosecution. Obviously this is of little help in the event of emergency vehicles being unable to gain access where needed...

Matters arising from the minutes:

Gas line

J.H. had received an update on the prospective gas line installation, in which it was obvious that to go ahead would be prohibitively expensive. However, the Council would like to thank John for all his efforts the result of which will be published in the Ducktown Echo at some point.

Church yard trees etc

K.B. will approach John Ridley as he had supplied the name of a group possibly able to do the necessary work on a voluntary basis. A.J. will do some clearance work in the meantime. He will also get a formal quote for the work to be done with regards to the tree maintenance required.

Footpaths

The footpaths in the Mead Lane area have been cleared.

The path running between Milling Crescent & Millbrook Green is becoming very overgrown & the clerk will contact the necessary households, requesting that they arrange to have over-hanging shrubs / brambles etc removed, as they currently render the path dangerous to use.

Dog waste, Milling Crescent

L.C. reported that despite the provision of a dog waste bin this area is still suffering from a problem with dog mess on the paths. K.B. will approach the Street Wardens to ask for help.

Planning query

The clerk will chase up any progress regarding the large shed-like construction at a property in Vine Hall.

Furthermore F.E. advised that in future all applications not requiring comment should be returned to the FoDDC planning department stating this, to ensure that the Planning department at least knows that the application has been viewed. The clerk will endeavour to ensure that this is done.

New Business:

Allotments

One of the Upper Common allotments has been relinquished, meaning that the P/C currently has a surfeit of plots to rent, although it is likely that a further one will be rented by a village resident who has expressed an interest in doing so. The clerk had heard nothing back from either LPE or Lydney Town Council in answer to her queries as to the spare plots. She will chase up on these.

She will also approach LPE to clear the Kear's Moor culvert. If LPE will not do it it was suggested that the P/C hire a digger & ask A.J. or Ray Woodward to do the job.

Bollards / bench at the Cross

F.E. asked if those present knew who had responsibility for maintaining the bollards & the bench situated at the Cross as both are badly in need of smartening up. K.B. will ask John Ridley for advice in this matter. Furthermore the bin also sited there needs regular emptying, which should be done by Biffa as part of the village round. K.B. will contact FoDDC to ensure that this is done.

Thank you to Mr Graham Clark

At a previous meeting it was suggested by L.C. that the clerk should write & thank Mr Clark for his work in maintaining the grassed area on the approach to the Kear's Moor site. K.B. assured the meeting that a card had been sent thanking Mr Clark for his efforts.

Correspondence:

#8779 – 8787 were reviewed & dealt with as appropriate.

Planning: 8 Park Row Erection of 2 storey extension

Finances: Current account **£5557.26** Deposit account **£6488.64**

Payments made:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (June/July)	£200.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (June/July)	£210.00
A. Jones	– Church yard / allotments clearing	£60.00
Simply Gardens	– 2 x Grass cutting, July	£440.00
Whitehouse Press Ltd	– Ducktown Echo	£150.00
Merlin Waste Management	– Milling Crescent bin	£20.34
Simply Gardens	– 2 x Grass cutting, August	£440.00

Authorisations required:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Aug/Sept)	£200.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Aug/Sept)	£210.00
Zurich Insurance	– Annual Renewal	£430.00
Merlin Waste Management	– Milling Crescent dog waste bins	£30.00

Payments Received:

Allotment rent	– Chris Beverstock	£13.00
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Next meeting: Tuesday 25th November 2014 at 7pm