

Aylburton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting held on 1st December 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall.

Present

Councillors: Colin Newman (C.N.), (Chairman), Frankie Evans (F.E.), Dave Bayliss (D.B), Steph Lord (S.L.), Ray Woodward (R.W.), Andrew Blamey (A.B.), Karen Blackwell, (K.B.), Clerk

Apologies

John Harrison

Previous Minutes

Agreed & signed as true & accurate. KB thanked FE & CN for the superb job done in her absence!

Declarations of Interest

None announced.

District Council reports

FE informed the meeting that new kerbside collections which will hopefully include plastics & cardboard are under negotiation possibly to start in 2017.

Matters arising from the minutes:

Defibrillator

Notification of successful FoDDC grant (£500) had been received. Further progress will be made upon completion of the Emergency Plan.

Adopt-A-Kiosk

Pending further advice from GAPTC. Some concern regarding future "hidden costs".

Tree Planting

R.W. had ordered Cherry trees to be planted in the village.

Remembrance Day

This had been undertaken with Maurice Bloomfield doing the reading. 2 wreaths were laid & the Council had given a £50 donation to the Royal British Legion. The P/C must look for another person to do the reading in future as MB doesn't want to continue. It was suggested that D.B. approaches the Vicar to ask him.

Weed spraying

RW will quote for this work, advising the Council that the job should be carried out 3 times per year.

Church yard tree

AB told the meeting that a quote (to remove the tree) must be obtained from a qualified tree surgeon; the P/C cannot rely upon the Church / buildings surveyors report. 3 formal quotes to be organised. However it may be useful to see the aforementioned report & the clerk will approach John Court to see if this is possible.

New Business:

Precept request

It was agreed to apply for a precept of £11,500 again to allow for future expenses, & to ensure a healthy amount of funds in case of emergency.

Change of meeting venue

The Village Hall committee had asked the P/C to consider using the Methodist Church meeting room in future to cut the cost re heating the Memorial Hall. This was agreed upon with the caveat that the change of venue be amended if the new room is deemed unsuitable.

KB will ensure that the public is made aware of the change.

Speeding through Aylburton

Following an incident where a car crashed into the entrance to the Methodist Church, causing much damage, it was agreed to approach the Police & Amey once again to ask for help dealing with the problem of speeding vehicles through the village. KB will also contact Mark Harper MP to request his input.

RW had spoken to Brian Watkins on this matter & been advised that bike-mounted speed cameras may be implemented thus avoiding the problems with siting a static camera.

Heart foundation grant

KB to investigate this matter ; may link in with Defibrillator issue.

Allotments

It was decided to review the Allotments contracts for the coming year. Many plots are still under-utilised & KB reported that not all holders had yet paid last year's fees. In future all fees are to be paid in advance. KB will also check other allotment sites to ascertain comparative costs ; fees will be raised accordingly (a

£5.00 minimum increase was agreed). It will be suggested that plots be divided if an allotment holder is struggling to maintain their area. J.H. will be asked to place an item in the Ducktown Echo advertising the availability of allotments.

Emergency Plan

A provisional date of 9th Feb. 2016 had been agreed upon as suitable for the Councillors to meet & discuss this matter. A public meeting will be held at a later date.

Other matters

Upper Common orchard

KB will apprise both AUCA & Lydney Park Estate of the intention to turn the un-used area of the Upper Common allotments into a community fruit area / orchard with heritage fruit grown. RW suggests that a steering group be formed to take this project forward.

Street cleaning

Following complaints that certain areas in the village had not been cleared of litter, KB will ask Andy Jones to confirm his intention to continue with this work. A map will also be generated in order to clarify the areas which are to be included.

Stockwell Lane fence

The fence above the lay-by is in a state of disrepair. AB has offered to try to repair it & CN,RW & DB will help.

Furthermore a street light in the lane is being obscured by a hedge which needs trimming. KB will report this to LPE.

Stockwell Lane business park / access

Carol Bendall had previously asked the P/C to examine the potentially hazardous issue of multiple access at the top of Stockwell Lane / the business park. RW had spoken to Brian Watkins but there is little that can be done other than to extend the white lines on the road. LPE will be asked to erect a "Give Way" sign as there is currently no stop sign present. The clerk was asked to stress the potential for serious accidents if the situation continues.

Bollards / seat

CN,JH & DB were thanked for painting the bollards around the Cross & for re-staining the benches. Good work! DB had also undertaken a good deal of work on & around the Church yard gate, & thanks once again go to him.

Correspondence:

#8845 – 8855 & e-mail items, dealt with as appropriate.

Planning:

None received.

Finances: Current account £6477.46 Deposit Account £6492.72

Payments made:

A. Jones	– Litter collection (Aug / Sept)	£210.00
Merlin Waste Management	– Aug / Sept Inv 2103	£20.34
Zurich Insurance	– Annual renewal	£384.68
Simply Gardens	– Invoices 2072,2073	£785.00
Royal British Legion	– Poppy wreaths x 2	£50.00

Authorisations required:

K. Blackwell	– Salary (Aug - Nov)	£400.00
K. Blackwell	– Expenses, stationery / paper	£20.00
A. Jones	– Litter collection (Oct / Nov)	£210.00
Merlin Waste Management	– Oct/ Nov Inv 2103	£20.34
Merlin Waste Management	– New bin, Upper Common	£??

Payments Received:

FoDDC	– Precept pt.2	£5750.00
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Next meeting: Tuesday 26th Jan. 2016

The meeting closed at 8.36pm