

ALCONBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on Tuesday 24th May 2011 in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Mr Pickering - Acting Chair, Mrs Adams, Mr Barnes, Mr Boyce, Mrs Elphick, Mr Hardy, Mr Lay, Mr Senior, Mr Watson, Mrs Williams, Mrs Sharp - Parish Clerk. County Councillor Sir Peter Brown. County Councillor Laine Kadic. District Councillor Keith Baker. 0 members of the public.

Public Forum

No items raised.

1. Appointment of Chair and Officers

Mr Senior informed the meeting that he had completed his 4 year term as Chairman and therefore (following discussion with Mrs Aylott as she was not able to attend the meeting) was nominating Mrs Aylott to be Chair. Mr Pickering seconded the nomination. Mr Senior then nominated Mr Pickering as Vice Chair, Mr Watson seconded the nomination. All councillors confirmed that they wished to remain on the Parish Council and signed their declaration of office forms.

Mr Pickering, as new Vice Chair, Chaired the meeting from this point. The Parish Council then agreed on who would be representative for various areas within the village. These were as follows:

Bramble End - Mr Senior and Mrs Williams

CPALC - All Councillors

Churchyard - All Councillors

Flood Protection - Mr Pickering and Mrs Elphick

Health and Safety - Mr Senior

Infrastructure - All Councillors

Newsletter Editor - Mr Lay

Planning - Mr Barnes, Mr Watson, Mrs Williams and Mr Boyce

Police Liaison - Mr Hardy and Mr Senior

Village Green - All Councillors

Allotments - Mr Boyce - This would need to be further discussed at the next meeting.

Emergency Planning - Mr Senior, Mrs Elphick, Mr Barnes, Mr Hardy and Mr Pickering

Memorial Hall - Mrs Adams and Mr Watson

Neighbourhood Watch - Mrs Aylott and Mr Hardy

Sports and Social Club - Mr Watson and Mr Lay

Youth Group - Mrs Adams, Mr Pickering and Mr Senior

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mrs Aylott.

3. Councillors' Declaration of Interest for items on the Agenda

Mr Lay expressed a personal interest in item 6 as an allotment holder. Mr Boyce also expressed a personal interest in item 6 as the spouse of an allotment holder.

4. To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 26th April 2011

Minutes proposed by Mr Senior and seconded by Mrs Williams.

5. Youth Group

County Councillor Laine Kadic reported that she had been to Alconbury Weston Parish Council's latest meeting and they reluctantly offered £360 per year for 3 years towards the Youth Group business plan and funding. Mr Senior advised that thanks to the hard work and generosity of the County Councillors, Youth Group committee, Alconbury Parish Council and local businesses, the Youth Group did not have to rely on support from Alconbury Weston. He also said he was very disappointed at the level of funding offered by the Parish Council of Alconbury Weston who were not willing to support the Young People of their village and it was the young people that would ultimately end up missing out.

Mr Senior also reported that he had attended a Youth Group committee meeting which was very positive. Everyone had been working hard towards the business plan and moving forward with funding and activities. There had been discussions around an outing later in the year and these were ongoing. The Youth Group were also planning to do some fundraising at the Village Fete in July.

6. Allotments

Mr Lay had attended a meeting of the AAGA. There had been concern that the AAGA and allotment holders did not fully understand the set up of the borehole and were looking for more efficient ways of running it. Matt from TWH who installed the borehole had visited the site and met with members of the AAGA.

Mr Lay requested that the Clerk investigates the Parish Council insurance policy in order to ascertain whether or not the borehole would be covered. Clerk advised that the community shed would not be covered as it was not purchased by the Parish Council.

The AAGA had asked about the possibility of a notice board being provided by the Parish Council. This was not possible at the present time as there was no money left in the precept, however, this may be reinvestigated later in the year if possible. Also, Mr Lay reported that footpath number 9 had now been diverted around the allotments and therefore the positioning of the access gate could be changed as required.

7. Heritage Bridge

Clerk reported to the meeting that the Heritage Bridge had been struck again. She had photo evidence that it had been hit by a Stagecoach bus and there had been considerable damage. The driver had been extremely rude when approached by the Clerk and all agreed that a letter should be sent to Stagecoach explaining the Parish Council's disappointment at this. The Clerk had been in touch with Cambridgeshire County Council who were going to investigate the damage and arrange a repair ASAP.

8. Parking on the Village Green

Clerk reported that there had been several incidents of people parking on the Village Green and damaging the land. All agreed that in future these incidents should be dealt with by letter to the owners where possible and if it were to continue, the possibility of signs on the Village Green would be investigated.

9. ASSC

Mr Watson advised that he and Mrs Adams had attended an AGM and a committee meeting. Finances had been discussed along with the possibility of a Family Fun Day in

early September. Date to be confirmed.

10. Memorial Hall

Mrs Adams advised that there had not been a Memorial Hall committee meeting since the last Parish Council meeting, therefore, nothing to report.

11. Committee Reports

a) Clerks Infrastructure Report

Clerk reported that the path at the back of Elm End-Willow End had been cleared and there had been a lot of compliments about the work completed. New footpaths had been laid along Spinney End and Chapel Street. Mrs Adams reported dead trees along The Maltings. Clerk to investigate.

(i) Churchyard

Nothing to report

(ii) Village Green

Concern was expressed about the edging that had been created on the approach to the footbridges on the green. In places the edges are up to 2 inches high and have created a trip hazard. Clerk to investigate.

(iii) General

Mr Watson expressed his disappointment over the vast increase in dog fouling along Church Way and Great North Road. All agreed that an article to be put in the next newsletter specifically targeting these areas. Mr Pickering reported to the meeting that he had investigated the possibility of drilling the locks on the Parish Council notice board that was broken however, it was agreed that a new board should be purchased. Clerk to obtain quotes.

Clerk agreed to contact Highways Agency about the trees that were broken along the path on Great North Road after a traffic accident had occurred. Also, the Mill Stone on Great North Road needed cleaning and the grass cutting back. Mrs Elphick, Mr Senior and Mrs Sharp agreed to organise this.

b) Planning Applications Received

None since planning meeting on 3rd March 2011

c) Bramble End

Mrs Williams reported that there had been less litter at the park since the litter pick from HDC. She also enquired as to whether or not a ROSPA inspection had been received. Clerk to chase.

12. Correspondence

CPALC E-Bulletin

Mr Pickering advised that the latest E-Bulletin had advertised Chair and Vice Chair training sessions and was interested in attending these with Mrs Aylott. Clerk to contact CPALC. There had also been a request for nominations for the Big Society Awards and all agreed that the Youth Group committee should be nominated.

Email ref the possibility of Chevrons on Great North Road

Clerk had received an email expressing concern after an accident on the Great North

Road near Polecat Lane. The resident concerned had enquired about the possibility of chevrons warning of the bend. Clerk to forward the request to Highways Agency.

13. Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Clerk reported that the Parish Council had been called to audit for 1st July and a new internal auditor had been appointed.

Cheques for signature:

- Demon - Web Hosting May 11 (paid by D/D) - £11.50
- J Sharp - Salary - £427.25
- SRH Gardening Services - Path clear at back of Willow End - £260
- YG Account Cash Cheque - £300 (running float)
- Judith Aylott - £70.13 expenses (Allotments)

14. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 28th June 2011 in the Memorial Hall.