

## ALCONBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Thursday 22nd September 2011 in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Mrs Aylott - Chair, Mrs Adams, Mr Barnes, Mr Boyce, Mrs Elphick, Mr Hardy, Mr Lay, Mr Pickering, Mr Watson, Mrs Williams, Mrs Sharp - Parish Clerk. 0 members of the public.

Public Forum

Mrs Williams enquired as to whether or not the clerk had received an email from a resident concerned about the ownership of a small piece of land adjacent to the Alconbury Doctors Surgery. Clerk confirmed that this had been received and was on the agenda under the correspondence heading.

87. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mr Senior who had work commitments. Apologies also received from District Councillor Keith Baker and County Councillors Laine Kadic and Sir Peter Brown who all had prior commitments.

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

Mr Lay expressed an interest in item 102 as an allotment holder. Mr Boyce also expressed a personal interest in item 102 as the spouse of an allotment holder.

89. To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 30th August 2011

Minutes proposed by Mr Boyce and seconded by Mr Hardy. Minutes duly approved and signed.

90. Actions from last meeting - Clerk

- Bus diversion details organised by Clerk during bridge repairs
- Clerk has chased details of public Right of Way at the old ford on the village green
- Clerk sent a letter of thank to Mr Adams, local resident, for his work on the Great North Road
- Clerk has ordered new shackles for baby swings at Bramble End playground

91. Localism Bill - County Councillor Sir Peter Brown

County Councillor Brown was absent from the meeting and did not have anything to report. He did advise, however, that there would be an update at the next Parish Council meeting.

92. Urban and Civic - Update from Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott reported that there was no update specific to plans or building at the site. She reminded councillors that there was an open "discovery and design" day at the site on Saturday 24th September and then a feedback meeting at the site on Tuesday 27th September.

There had been a meeting held at the ASSC on 19th September for local residents to meet with developers and obtain information about plans for the site. This was attended by approximately 40 people including 4 Parish Councillors. Access was a heavily discussed subject and it was agreed that the meeting had been informative and helpful.

93. Heritage Bridge - Clerk

Clerk reported that Cambridgeshire County Council had repaired the Heritage Bridge one week ahead of schedule. Clerk agreed to chase CCC in order to ascertain if and when

they would be changing the road layout near the Bridge as it had been marked some time ago.

Mr Pickering offered to draft a letter to CCC to suggest that bollards are placed in front of the bridge; such that they would act as a buffer and prevent vehicles hitting the bridge.

#### 94. Playground Repair - Mr Senior

Mr Senior was absent from the meeting, however, had advised the Clerk prior to the meeting that a quote for the RoSPA advised repairs to the ASSC playground had not yet been received. Mrs Aylott requested that the Clerk obtain 3 separate quotes as this issue had now become extremely urgent.

#### 95. Parking on the Village Green - Mrs Aylott/Mr Pickering

Mrs Aylott reported that the Clerk had been informed by Cambridgeshire Highways, that the old ford on the Village Green was listed as a carriageway. As there was still an issue with a van being parked on the green at the old ford entrance, Councillors all agreed that the Clerk should contact Highways Agency and local PCSO Gemma Clark in order to ascertain what could be done in order to rectify the ongoing situation.

Mr Pickering advised that he had emailed the vehicle owner over a week ago but had received no response. He had also visited the property but there was nobody at home.

#### 96. Mission Statement - Mr Pickering

All Councillors agreed that the mission statement written by Mr Pickering was very well written and should be put on the Parish Council website. Clerk to action.

#### 97. Neighbourhood Watch - Mr Hardy/Mr Boyce

Mr Hardy reported that he had attended a Neighbourhood Watch meeting earlier in the month. Questions had been asked if there was any progress on the 20mph speed limits in the village. Mr Hardy advised NHW that this was being looked into by the Parish Council; however, no decisions would be made until after details of the Localism Bill had been received.

A date had been set for the next Village Fete as 14th July 2012. Also, Christmas Carols around the tree would be on 21st December 2011.

Speed watch had recently been carried out on the Great North Road and of 126 vehicles checked, 28 were found to be speeding. The NHW committee had advised of ideas for future possible projects as possible finger post signs or a Parish Footpath Map. It was suggested that maybe the NHW could provide benches for the bus stop at the junction of Great North Road and Mill Lane.

#### 98. Youth Group

Mrs Adams reported that at the last Youth Group committee meeting, a request had been made for a YG page to be added to the Parish Council website. All agreed that this could be done, however, should not be actioned until the new website was up and running. Mrs Adams also reported that there was a need for more volunteers for Youth Group nights and that the volunteers already active had recently been on safeguarding training.

The next YG meeting was to be held on 2nd November and a day out had been planned for the October half term.

Mr Pickering reported that the Youth Group minutes and agendas were being sent out at the last minute making it difficult to plan for meetings.

#### 99. ASSC - Mr Lay

Mr Lay reported that there had been a meeting held recently to discuss finances. Three main action points had been highlighted and these were being dealt with. Forecasts had been presented at the meeting and the details of these were discussed with Councillors. A volunteer rota was being put into place in order to have people offering hot drinks and bacon rolls on Saturday mornings whilst football was taking place at the club. Mrs Aylott reported that she would be attending a meeting the following week, with the ASSC and Parish Council representatives to discuss finance.

#### 100. Memorial Hall - Mr Watson

Mr Watson reported that all locks at the Memorial Hall had now been changed and all key holders informed. Also, a new boiler had been successfully installed at the hall.

At the recent meeting fundraising had been discussed and plans were underway to organize an event for March 2012.

#### 101. Allotments - Mrs Aylott

Mrs Aylott reported that she would be attending the AAGA AGM on 23rd September where she would be discussing the subject of devolved management with the AAGA committee.

She also reported that there were problems with the running of the borehole again which were being dealt with and the community shed had now been put up at the allotment site.

#### 102. Committee Reports

##### a) Clerks Infrastructure Report

Clerk reported that complaints had been received about the amount of litter at the underpass on High Street near Lordsway Park. Clerk had already contacted HDC about this. Also, there had been 3 incidents of builders parking on the village green near the underpass, Clerk has spoken with the building company and the situation has been rectified.

Clerk received confirmation that whilst the graffiti at the Rusts Lane underpass was to be removed at the end of the month, the graffiti on the properties in the village was, unfortunately, the responsibility of the property owners. All agreed that the Clerk should contact HDC in order to ascertain the cost of removing the graffiti then contact the property owners.

##### (i) Churchyard

Nothing to report

##### (ii) Village Green

Mrs Aylott requested that the Clerk arrange for removal of Willow tree branches from the green. Also, Clerk to confirm with grass contractor when the last cut of the year will take place.

##### (iii) General

All agreed that the Clerk should order the Christmas tree again this year, however, it must

not exceed 17 feet as per NHW.

Mr Hardy reported that there were some dumped items on Globe Lane including doors and a traffic cone. Clerk to arrange removal.

b) Planning Applications Received  
None

c) Bramble End

Mrs Williams reported that the see-saw had been damaged by older children abusing the facilities at the playground. A repair had been arranged with Creative Play and would take place in the coming weeks. Clerk advised that new shackles for the existing baby swing at the playground had been ordered. Mrs Williams also obtaining quotes for a new safety surface. Clerk also to order 2 new "no dogs" signs as the existing signs had been removed.

103. Correspondence

Request for donation from Victim Support

All agreed to give a £100 donation as per last year.

Complaint from resident at Lordsway Park

Email received from a resident of Lordsway Park complaining about the amount of litter and unsanitary waste at the underpass adjacent to Lordsway Park. Clerk has contacted HDC for removal and also local PCSO Gemma Clark in order to arrange some visits to try and rectify the problem.

Email ref Land near surgery

Clerk received an email from a resident in the village about the upkeep of the small triangle of land adjacent to the doctor's surgery. Clerk is currently investigating who is responsible for the upkeep of the land and will report back to councillors and the concerned resident as soon as possible.

104. Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cheques for signature:

Demon Web Hosting - Direct Debit - £11.50

J Sharp-Salary - £427.25

J Sharp-Broadband and expenses agreed at last meeting - £161.50

SJH Gardening - £62.50

Cheques proposed by Mr Hardy and seconded by Mrs Williams.

Cleared Balances:

Deposit Account £40,371.82

Current Account £6439.49

Youth Group Current Account £4891.54

Youth Group Ball Park Account £1812.17

105. Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday 25th October 2011 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.