Minutes of Meeting – Alconbury Parish Council

Status: Draft

Date	Tuesday 23rd July 2012	
Meeting	Monthly Meeting	
Venue	Memorial Hall, Alconbury	
Present	Mrs Aylott	JA
	Mrs Adams	LA
	Mr Adams	JAd
	Mr Bush	AB
	Mrs Elphick	EE
	Mr Fayers-Hallin	VFH
	Mr Hardy	IH
	Mr Pickering	RP
	Mr Watson	PW
	Mrs Sharp-Clerk	
	2 members of the public	

Item **Action**

Public Forum

Mr Eddie Baker local resident, expressed concern over the state of the High Street at the Lordsway Park Homes end. He reported that there were numerous potholes, one of which was extremely large at some six inches. He also reported that the road near the gate to the allotments was in a very poor state of repair and asked the Parish Council what could be done about all the problems. The Clerk advised Mr Baker that whilst she would talk with Highways Agency about the condition of the High Street, she had already done this some months ago and been advised that they were unable to repair the potholes due to budget cuts. Clerk to report back to Mr Baker once contact had been made with Highways Agency.

Mr Pickering, Parish Councillor, informed the meeting that there had been two acts of car vandalism recently on the Great North Road, involving cars being "keyed" whilst parked outside owners' properties. Mr Pickering confirmed that the police had been notified, however, he urged people to be vigilant.

Mr Bust, Parish Councillor, expressed concern over the ongoing replacement of street lighting within the Village. He reported that there was very little activity, especially along Rusts Lane where works had started some weeks ago and been left unfinished. Mr Pickering agreed to contact the County Council as Clerk would be on holiday.

44 Apologies for Absence

No apologies noted.

45 Councillor's declaration of interest for items on the agenda

Mrs Adams and Mr Adams expressed an interest in item 55 as spouses of allotment holders.

46 To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 26th June 2012

Minutes proposed by Mr Hardy and seconded by Mr Fayers-Hallin. Minutes duly approved and signed.

47 Actions from last meeting-Mrs Aylott

Mr Pickering reported on the following outstanding actions from the last Parish Council Meeting:

- x Clerk to send response to traveller site planning application to HDC-Done
- x Clerk to complete outstanding website tasks as required-All done except hosting as Demon are dealing with it
- x Mr Lay to add Environment Agency flood warnings to the new website-Mr Pickering to chase.
- x Clerk to organise spraying of weeds in the kerbstones along Coulson Way-Clerk has requested this from local Highways Agency Officer
- x Clerk to ascertain which paint needs to be used to paint the milestone-Still outstanding

48 Update from County Councillors

County Councillors Laine Kadic and Sir Peter Brown had sent apologies for their absence from the meeting. Mrs Aylott reported that the new bus service had been well received at the last public meeting and so far, seemed to be running satisfactorily. She offered thanks again to Laine Kadic on behalf of the Parish Council and residents of Alconbury for all the hard work she had put in to obtain funding and subsequently provide a new bus service.

Roger Read, local resident, expressed his concerns over the route, especially as he felt that the County Council, who had previously tendered the original contract for the route, had not provided a full service for the whole of the old “46” route. Mrs Aylott advised that he should contact Laine Kadic to discuss his concerns. Mr Read also expressed his disappointment that, having written to local MP, Jonathon Djanogly some weeks ago, he had still not received a reply.

49 Community Orchard-Visit from Bridget Halford

Mrs Aylott welcomed Bridget Halford from HDC to the meeting to discuss the Community Orchard. Bridget praised the Parish Council on the orchard and said that it was a great success and an example orchard. She advised that, having visited the orchard immediately prior to the meeting, it had been a little overgrown and some weeding and cutting of nettles was required. Mrs Aylott agreed to organise a small group of people to perform the task.

Bridget felt that some more promotion of the orchard would be beneficial and suggested various ways to get the community more involved including “apple days”, interaction with the local school, a page on the website and apple picking days all of which were felt to be good ideas.

Mrs Aylott advised that an application for the tree warden position had been received and she would be contacting the interested person in the coming days and asking them to make contact with Peter Rowlings, former tree warden.

Mr Pickering agreed to monitor the orchard and requested that it was left on the agenda as a permanent item for the foreseeable future.

Bridget advised that an information board might be good idea. Mrs Aylott had

be needed to emphasise the importance of parental responsibility whilst children are using the playground. All felt that this was not necessary by the Parish Council, however, there would be no objections to the ASSC committee erecting such a sign if they so choose.

57 Grass Cutting in the Village

Mrs Aylott reported that the contract for the grass cutting within the village was due for renewal in October 2012. Clerk confirmed that the PC would need to go to tender, however, the current contractor could tender a quote to be considered also. To be reviewed at August meeting.

58 PC Website

Mr Lay was absent from the meeting. Clerk confirmed that all requested information had now been sent to the website developers and the only thing outstanding was the domain transfer. Clerk confirmed that she had emailed the details for this to Mr Lay to action whilst she was on holiday.

59 Footpath Diversion-Mrs Elphick

Nothing to report

60 Newsletters and Delivery Rounds

Mrs Aylott confirmed that Mr Fayers-Hallin would be editing the next Parish Council newsletter for distribution in September and asked all Councillors to try and submit a small paragraph for the newsletter. Clerk agreed to resend the route list for the newsletters to all Councillors and also provide a list of streets to be delivered to with each set of newsletters in the future.

61 Clerk's Infrastructure Report

i. Churchyard

Nothing to report.

ii. Village Green

Mr Pickering expressed his concern over a damaged concrete plinth and also a rusty bench on the Village Green on the High Street side. Clerk agreed to contact local builder for a quote to repair the plinth and make the bench safe.

iii. Roads and Footpaths

Clerk confirmed that she would report the potholes on High Street as previously discussed in the Public Forum. Mrs Elphick expressed concern over the footbridge on Polecat Lane. Clerk agreed to contact the County Council.

iv. General

Mr Hardy again expressed concern about overhanging bushes along High Street near Frummety Lane. Clerk confirmed that she had already written to the property concerned and would visit the property during August.

62 Planning

(a) (i) Applications received

1200906FUL | Conversion of former public house into a pair of semi-detached houses | 1 Mill Road Alconbury PE28 4EN

1200903FUL | Erection of extension to north of existing building U20 | U20 Research Centre Woolley Road Alconbury

1200904FUL | Proposed amenity building | U20 Research Centre Woolley Road Alconbury

The planning committee had reviewed all 3 applications as listed above and felt that "no comment" was the appropriate response for all.

63 Correspondence

Email from County Council ref cutting of grass verges

Mrs Aylott read an email from the County Council confirming that, unfortunately, they would not be carrying out anymore verge cutting until the end of the summer. The reason given for this was the weather in recent weeks.

Email report from Glyn Faulkner Community Fund reference Jubilee Event

Mrs Aylott relayed an email from David Senior on behalf of the Glyn Faulkner Community Fund. He had emailed to thank the Parish Council for the donation towards the Jubilee celebrations and reported that the event had been a great success, both well attended and well received.

Emails from various residents concerned about the bus service

Clerk confirmed that she had received various letters and emails expressing concern over the 46 bus service before the public meeting, however, had not received any since.

64 Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cheques for signature:

Demon Web Hosting Direct Debit-£11.50

J Sharp-April Salary £445.95

J Sharp-Broadband expenses £21.75

CAPALC Affiliation Fees-£484.74

Nigel Murphy-YG Expenses £589.75 This cheque is to replace the Youth Group cheque for £1000 raised last month.

Memorial Hall rental (From Youth Group account) £97.50

Easiprint £179.00

Cheques proposed by Mr Pickering and seconded by Mrs Adams.

65 Date of next meeting

Tuesday 28th August 2012 in the Memorial Hall

Jo Sharp-Clerk
5 Red Lion Close, Alconbury
Tel: 01480 896164
E-mail: ParishClerk@alconburyparishcouncil.gov.uk