

ALCONBURY PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 28th September 2010 in the Memorial Hall

Present:

Mr Senior Mrs Adams, Mrs Aylott, Mr Barnes Mr Boyce, Mrs Elphick, Mr Hardy Mr Lay, Mr Pickering and Mr Watson. County Councillors Laine Kadic and Sir Peter Brown. District Councillor Keith Baker. Mrs Sharp-Parish Clerk. 8 Members of the Public.

Public Forum

Mr Hodgson raised concerns over why the land at the proposed Travellers Site on Ermine St had been cleared. Mr Senior and Clerk assured him that they had spoken with HDC and it was just to tidy it up and had no bearing on the decision on the Travellers Site which had not yet been made.

Mr Hodgson also raised concern about the number of trucks parking on the pavement on the side road and in the small layby outside the Truckstop. Clerk agreed to contact PCSO Gemma Clark.

Mr Wolfe asked if the Parish Council is going to hold a public meeting with regard to the proposed Wind Farm. Mr Senior reassured Mr Wolfe that as soon as a planning application was received, a meeting would be held in order for any residents to air their views.

67. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Mrs Williams

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

Mr Lay and Mr Boyce expressed personal interests in item 57 as allotment holders. Mr Senior expressed a personal interest in item 79 as the owner of a property affected by the flood protection scheme.

69. To sign and approve minutes of previous meeting held on 31st August 2010

Minutes of 31st August proposed by Mrs Aylott and Seconded by Mr Watson.

70. Proposed Wind Farm

Mr Watson reported that he had been unable to attend the last Community Group meeting held by RES, who are proposing to build a Wind Farm at Woolley Hill. He did, however, report on the minutes and main points of the meeting. The planning application is still on track to be submitted at the end of October. RES sent out newsletters with a response form to approximately 6000 house including properties in Alconbury, Ellington, and Alconbury Weston. Out of these newsletter responses, 91 people were in favour and 76 were against. From the responses of people at the exhibitions held in Ellington and Alconbury, 16 were in favour and 27 were against. This showed a response rate of around 2.5%.

71. Proposed Travellers Site

Mr Senior advised that the Parish Council had been in contact with HDC about the clearing of the proposed travellers,Â site and that HDC had confirmed it was the decision of the land owner to tidy the site up and keep children away from a potentially dangerous area and was no indication of a decision on the travellers,Â site.

72. Allotments

Mr Lay reported that the AGM had been held on 24th September and there had been a good turnout. He also reported that there had been no progress on the borehole since the last meeting, however, the company doing it were due to return during the week in order to try and complete the work. Mr Lay reported that he had spoken with Donarbon waste management about getting some chippings for the driveway at the Allotment site and was awaiting a call back.

Mrs Aylott confirmed that renewal contracts and fees for the coming growing year were due in November and these would be processed by the Clerk over the coming weeks and sent out to Allotment tenants prior to 1st November.

73. Youth Group

Mr Senior advised that a meeting had been held between Mrs Adams, Mrs Sharp and himself with Alison Preece from Cambridgeshire County Council. Mrs Preece had advised that after April next year there would be no funding from CCC for Youth Groups. County Councillor's Laine Kadic and Sir Peter Brown agreed to look into this further to see if there is anything that they could do. Mrs Adams to speak with the YG committee in order to ascertain if any extra fundraising could be done. This would also be discussed at the forthcoming precept meeting.

Mrs Adams advised that the forthcoming quiz night on 8th October had been cancelled due to lack of interest.

74. Lordsway Park Signage (Standing orders relaxed for this item)

County Councillor Laine Kadic advised that CCC were not willing to provide a sign for Lordsway Park residents on the High St, at the junction or Rusts Lane. The residents of Lordsway Park had been to the press and appeared on the local news; however, this had no bearing on the decision. County Councillor Kadic advised that she had written to Jonathan Djanogly and was awaiting a reply. Mr Senior suggested that in the meantime, the Parish Council to investigate funding a sign to be erected. Clerk to action.

75. Alconbury Airbase/Urban and Civic

Mr Senior advised that the meeting with Urban and Civic scheduled earlier in the week had been cancelled, however, a new one was to be rescheduled and he would report back to the Parish Council once this had taken place.

76. Committee Reports

(a) Clerk's Infrastructure Report

Clerk advised that she was yet again chasing CCC for the cleaning and resurfacing of the footbridges on the Village Green. County Councillor Laine Kadic requested copies of the emails that had already been sent and she would kindly chase this up.

Clerk advised that the quote from HDC for the repair of the bus shelter near the Heritage Bridge was over £300 and therefore she would be looking for other quotes over the coming weeks.

(i) Churchyard

Nothing to report

(ii) Village Green

Clerk reported that the contracted Grass Cutter had advised that he had completed his last cut for the season; however, it was felt by the majority that another cut may be needed. Clerk to contact.

(iii) General

Mr Hardy expressed concern at the overgrown garden at 28 Manor Lane. Also, concerns raised about overgrown trees near Willow End. Clerk to investigate and contact.

(b) Planning Applications Received:

None

Applications determined by Huntingdonshire District Council/Appeal:

1001041FUL - Proposed Single Storey side extension to 'Twyford' 2 Frummety Lane, Alconbury Cambs - Permission Granted

(c) Bramble End - Monthly Inspection Report - Mrs. Williams

Mrs Williams was not at the meeting but had forwarded a report prior to the meeting to say everything looked ok and the 'no dog' signs were now up.

77. Neighbourhood Watch

Mr Hardy and Mrs Aylott had recently attended the Neighbourhood Watch meeting. Mrs Aylott reported that Speedwatch was ongoing throughout the Village. The Fete had been very successful, making a profit of £674. This meant that there was £2066 in the bank, a proportion of which was to be spent on a Village Map that was in the process of being drafted. Mrs Aylott also advised that Neighbourhood Watch had kindly agreed to purchase lights for this year's Xmas Tree. Further to this, carols around the Xmas Tree had been scheduled for 21st December at 6.30pm.

78. Parish Pump

Mr Senior advised that Mary Watkin was to step down as editor of the Parish Pump and there had been some concern over the future of the magazine. Mrs Adams reassured the Parish Council that a replacement had been found and further details would follow.

79. Flood Protection Scheme

Mr Pickering reported that internal surveys of properties in the area were ongoing. He advised that there would be a 'flood fair' in the Memorial Hall on 22nd October to provide information and advice to residents. This would be attended by various organizations including HDC, Environment Agency and companies looking to supply flood protection equipment.

80. Coulson Way

Mr Lay expressed concern over the pathway behind Coulson Way. It was reported as very overgrown and untidy. Clerk to contact Gary Brunt to clear.

Mrs Elphick expressed concern at the small patches of land at the end of the gardens of the houses at the back of Coulson Way. Clerk to investigate whether or not these could be allocated to each property, therefore meaning that the Parish Council would no longer be responsible for the land.

81. ASSC

Mr Lay reported that the new swipe system was now in place at the club. Members were being contacted in order to ascertain whether they wanted to upgrade their membership to

a silver or gold membership.

82. Memorial Hall

Mrs Adams reported that the Memorial Hall committee was currently in the process of looking into having a comedian/cabaret evening. More details to follow.

83. Community Orchard

Mr Lay had been in contact with Bridget Halford at HDC and been advised that that some maple or ash trees could be provided to go into the Community Orchard on the ASSC site. Mr Lay to follow this up. In the meantime the Clerk would get in contact with current tree sponsors and offer further sponsorship of new trees.

85. Responsible Finance Officer's Report

Cheques for signature:

- Demon ,Äi Web Hosting September 10 (paid by D/D) - £11.50
- Jo Sharp-Clerk Salary for September - £427.25
- CPALC-Training Course - £200
- Grafton Projects-Stationary and Newsletters - £115.66
- Playsafety-Playground inspection - £151.58
- Antony Abbs-Grass Cutting - £470
- Petty Cash - £30

Cheques proposed by Mrs Aylott and seconded by Mrs Elphick.

66. Date of next meeting

Tuesday 26th October 2010 at 7.30pm in the Memorial Hall.