

Minutes of the Aldwinckle Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 4th April 2016 in the Village Hall.

Present:

Bob Blakeman Chairman
Bernard Lowe
John Lawrence
David Strode-Willis
Brian Penney
Tim Hankins

Richard Reed – Clerk

There were no residents in attendance.

16/032 Public Open Time

There were no members of the public in attendance.

16/033 Apologies

ENC Cllr. Geoff Shacklock and NCC Cllr. Wendy Brackenbury.

16/034 Declarations of Interest

Pecuniary: None

Other interests: None

Requests for Dispensations: None

16/035 Minutes of the meeting held on 22.02.16

It was proposed by Cllr. David Strode Willis and seconded by Cllr. Lowe that the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd February 2016, and having previously been circulated, be accepted and signed as a true record of that meeting.

16/036 Matters arising.

Cllr. Lawrence gave a report of the recent litter pick in the Parish.

There has been no further progress on the playground lease. Cllr. Lawrence is to chase this up in view of the grant application for the proposed improvements which has now been submitted. **Action: JL**

NCC Cllr. Wendy Brackenbury had submitted further dates for the meeting to discuss parking. Councillors are to advise the Clerk of their availability so that a date can be chosen. **Action: All**

16/025 The Chairman had asked for quotes for the refurbishment of the village green seats and these were awaited.

16/037 Reports from Other Bodies

- (i) Police issues: PCSO Wallace said that there had been no reported incidents since the loss of Cllr. Hankins' batteries.
She would be able to attend the meeting with NCC on two of the suggested dates.
The Clerk will notify her of the date in due course.
The Cross-boundary initiative was still operating from Oundle.
Various farming offences were discussed.
- (ii) Village Hall: The chairman had attended the AGM and had received a copy of the annual accounts which are appended to these minutes.
Cllr. Lowe said that he would be retiring from the Management Committee at the end of the month and would no longer attend as the Parish Council representative. New rates and terms are to be introduced from 1st May with bookings to be paid in advance together with a damage deposit. The Chairman is to check that the meeting scheduled for the 16th May is booked and will also see if there are any events proposed to follow the Queen's Birthday Street Party. **Action: BB**

16/038 Pocket Park: Lease Update

It was reported that a tree had fallen in the Pocket Park causing some damage to an adjacent property. Savills had been notified and the debris cleared, The Pocket Park is now closed pending the making safe of any dangerous trees. Savills will install locks and the volunteers had been told not to carry out any work.

16/039 Highways

Chairman

Date

Cllr. Penney said that a number of potholes had been marked with paint together with defects in Lowick Lane but there had been no further action so far. A hole in the carpark entrance is giving cause for concern as it is a potential hazard. Cllr. Hankins said that he would see if he could arrange some holding repairs. **Action: TH**

Cllr. Penney is to follow-up lighting issues and also obtain a quote for a new light between Manor Farm and Mrs George where there are existing poles. **Action: BP**

The Chairman reported on discussions that he has had with the Rights of Way team over a timber Nene Way guide post that had rotted-off at its base. RoW are not forthcoming over replacing with a timber post but had proposed replacing this and a number of others with metal units. The Chairman said that there was no need for the others to be replaced and would continue to press for a timber replacement. **Action: BB**

A road closure order, requested on behalf of the Parish Council, has been published for the Queen's Birthday street party. There was an error on the location but this was being corrected.

16/040 Confirmation of Clerk's Appointment Following Probationary Period.

In accordance with the Clerk's contract of employment, it was proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Lawrence that the Clerk's appointment be confirmed.

16/041 To Consider Correspondence Received

Correspondence had been received regarding the pothole at the entrance to the Village Green car park, actioned above, and a fault in the pavement outside 52 Main Street, which has been reported via the Street Doctor web site.

16/042 Planning

- a) Applications for consideration: 15/00119/VAR: Priors Hall. It was decided to make no comment on this application.
- b) Applications considered since the last meeting: None
- c) There were no other planning matters.

16/043 Finance

- (i) The Clerk presented the monthly statement of accounts and the budget monitoring report to the end of March. There had been no receipts since the last meeting.
- (ii) The following invoices were approved for payment, proposed by Cllr. Blakeman and seconded by Cllr. Hankins:
 - E.ON Street light maintenance £43.76 Cheque No. 100627
 - HMRC PAYE £91.80 Cheque No. 100628
 - R Reed salary & expenses Dec-Mar £387.75 Cheque No.100629
 - Savills (UK) Ltd. £10.00 Cheque No. 100630 (*Subject to holding ending enquiries into its validity. Proposed Cllr. Blakeman, seconded Cllr. Lawrence*)
 - E.ON Street light energy £158.05 Cheque No. 100631
 - Came & Co. Village Hall Committee insurance (LTA) £768.06 Cheque No. 100632
- (iii) (a) The Clerk presented the Governance Statement for the Annual Audit Return. Cllr. Blakeman proposed that this be approved, seconded by Cllr. Lawrence.
- (b) The first grass cut had taken place and Francis Hale had agreed to cut the a reduced area at the front of the village green at a cost of £30/cut including collecting cuttings. He estimated that there would normally be seven cuts but this is dependent on growing conditions and would be monitored. The clearance of brambles, etc., in Baulks Lane was discussed and Cllr. Blakeman suggested a small working party to deal with this. **Action: BB**

16/044 Items Requiring Urgent Attention, For Information or For the Next Agenda

The Clerk presented a draft agenda for the AGM and this was agreed with one or two changes.

There had been reports of frequent aircraft activity by flights operating out of RAF Wittering.

Cllrs. were reminded to complete the recent questionnaire from NCALC.

16/045 Date of next meeting.

Monday 16th May 2016 in the Village Hall. This will be the Annual Parish Meeting commencing at 7:00pm followed by the AGM.

There being no further urgent business, the Chairman closed the meeting at 9:24pm.

Chairman

Date