

LUDGERSHALL PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of a meeting of Ludgershall Parish Council held at Ludgershall Memorial Hall on
Monday 9th January 2012**

Present: Cllr. J. Cartwright – Chairman
Cllr. T. Chettle – from when co-opted
Cllr. Ms H. Cox
Cllr. R. Jones
Cllr. S. Lawson
Cllr. R. Simpson
Cllr. P. Thomas

Also present: Anne Wilson – Parish Clerk
6 residents

Residents Questions:

- Archie asked about the ditch backing up outside his property – this is covered later in the meeting
- Concern was expressed about the litter and tyres in the layby on the travelling to Bicester side of the A41
- Anne asked about resurfacing in the village an especially in Piddington Road – this is covered later in the minutes
- Anne stated that there was not “Beware Pedestrians in the Road” and “Beware Road Narrows” signs in the opposite was by Estelle’s Driveway and Helen Reynolds
- Amanda Benham expressed her disappointment that Cllr. Thomas did not speak with her on her application to removes some trees in her garden. Cllr. Thomas stated that Amanda was on holiday but Amanda stated that it was academic now as she was allowed to do the tree works
- Amanda Benham asked about the Deed of Easement at the White Hart

81/1112 Fire Safety Announcement

The meeting commenced with a fire safety announcement.

82/1112 Co-option of a Parish Councillor

Following the resignation of a Parish Councillor shortly after the elections the vacancy was advertised. There was no call for an election and therefore a Councillor can be co-opted to the Council.

Members were therefore asked to consider the Co-Option of a Parish Councillor. Tom Chettell had shown interest and was invited to address the Parish Council.

A secret ballot was held and it was unanimously **RESOLVED** that Tom Chettle be co-opted to the Ludgershall Parish Council. Tom was invited to and duly signed his Declaration of Acceptance of office. He was invited to join the meeting and sit at the Council table.

83/1112 Apologies

RESOLVED to note that there are no apologies from members

84/1112 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED to receive declarations of personal interest for:

- Agenda item no.: 7.2 Easement to the bungalow at the rear of the White Hart from Cllr. Ms H. Cox and Cllr. R. Simpson
- Agenda item no.: 5.2 Payments from Cllr. J. Cartwright (Village Hall grant)

85/1112 Minutes

RESOLVED to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 5th December 2011 **LPC/05/11**

It was agreed that the Parish Clerk should write on behalf of the Parish Council to show their appreciation to Mr Faulkner's co-operation in the cutting back of the hedge and installing a fence with gaps in along some of the hedgerow.

86/1112 Finance

86.1 Account Balances:

The Barclays Bank Accounts are now closed and the balances are in the new Co-op accounts.

The balances for the Co-op accounts are as follows:

Community Account (approx.)	£ 6000
Deposit Account	£ 2500
Village Green Account	£12,500

The Parish Clerk informed Members that she needed to ensure that the correct monies were in each account because of the change of accounts and the payments made by AVDC on behalf of the Parish Council during the period of having no Parish Council and setting up new Bank Accounts.

86.2 Payments:

HMRC		£ 57.38
Expenses - Black Computer Ink	£24.99	
Postage	£18.59	
Postage	£ 4.94	Total: £ 48.52
Memorial Hall Grant		£100.00
St. Mary's Church Grant		£100.00

86.3 Income

The Parish Council has received £100 from Helena Cox.

86.4 2012/2013 Budget

Members considered the draft budget proposals paperwork for the 2012/2013 budget and **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2012/2013 be £8500. This represented a 0% increase from 2011/2012.

87/1112 Police Matters

The Parish Clerk outlined to those present the latest crime information and restructure within the local Police area.

88/1112 Parish Council Business

- Broadband

Cllr. Thomas explained to members that he had met with Piddington Parish Council who is as keen as Ludgershall village to have an acceptable speed of Broadband for their parish. They invited Ludgershall PC to be part of their potential options scheme but this could cost the Parish Council money with no guaranteed outcome. It was agreed that we should watch what happens in Piddington with interest.

- Easement to the bungalow at the rear of the White Hart

The Parish Clerk outlined the agreed route with regard to the Easement to the rear of the White Hart and stated that Ms. Cox had accepted the proposal put to her.

Legal advice had suggested that by the General Disposal Consent (England) 2003 Local Authorities, including Parish Councils, do not need to seek the formal consent of the Secretary of State for a disposal at an undervalue if the following criteria are satisfied:

The Parish Council considered that the purpose for which the land is to be disposed is likely to contribute to the achievement of any one or more of the following objects in respect of the whole or any part of its area of or all or any persons resident or present in its area, namely i) and ii) ;

- i) the promotion or improvement of economic wellbeing;
 - ii) the promotion or improvement of social wellbeing;
 - iii) the promotion or improvement of environmental wellbeing; and;
- b) The difference between the unrestricted value of the land to be disposed of and the consideration for the disposal does not exceed £2,000,000.

The Grant is restricted to use and enjoyment of your property "as a single residence in the occupation of one house only and not for any other purpose whatsoever".

The Parish Council therefore offered Ms. Cox the Grant of Easement for £100 plus all legal costs associated with the Granting of the Easement which she had accepted.

- Horse Chestnut Tree on the Village Green

The Parish Clerk reported that AVDC have confirmed that this is not their tree and suggest that the Parish Council obtain a report on the tree works that may be required and carry out the work themselves.

RESOLVED that Cllr. Cartwright and Cllr. Jones investigate the possibility of carrying out any work themselves on behalf of the Parish Council.

The Parish Clerk reminded them that they should check if the tree is in the Conservation Area and the Parish Council obtain the necessary consents if this is the case.

- Tetchwick Notice Board

In early 2011 it was agreed that a notice board should be placed in Tetchwick by the Parish Council. Although agreed by the landowner in principle an exact location was never agreed.

RESOLVED that this was at the request was from a Councillor who lived in Tetchwick and no further request had been made therefore unless a further request is made that no notice board be placed in Tetchwick at the current time.

88.2 Aylesbury Vale District Council

- 2012 Community Events Update

This information was circulated to member by e mail for comment.

- Diamond Jubilee Events

RESOLVED that the Parish Clerk apply for Road Closures for the High Street for 2nd – 5th June between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. and 4th and 5th June between 5 p.m. and 11 p.m.

88.3 Buckinghamshire County Council

- Invitation to Anne Davies

As at the time of writing the agenda no response has been received from Anne Davies Head of Legal Services to the invitation to address the Parish Council on Village Greens

- Village Walk Round

David Smith had met with Cllr. Cartwright, Cllr. Jones and Cllr. Thomas. They had had a long and comprehensive look around the parish and agreed that the following would be looked at:

- Church Lane – looked at the verges and drainage ditches disregarded by the builders and he would contact them to re-instate the verge
- Wootton End – the kerb would be restored in setts to meet up the road and the entrance to the lane. He would make good the relevant surfaces and backfill the grass verge

- Salters Lane – there was a number of kerb setts missing or loose. These would be reset. He would send the Community Gang within six weeks weather permitting
- The outside edge of the Village Green on the Bicester Road is a mess – lorries churn the corner up on a regular basis. Dave volunteered to do this work out of his budget rather than apply for funding
- They had stopped on the Piddington Road to take photographs of the breakup of the surface. It was officially classed as a failed road and would therefore be high priority. This would be forwarded in the list of high priority local roads and a fight for funding
- It was the intention long term to resurface the whole length of the high Street however it would be possible to patch it only at the moment
- The missing signs at the top of Long Lane on the road between Ludgershall and Brill would be replaced

Cllr. Ms Cox asked about the big lump in the levels in Church Lane and whether this could be reduced. The Parish Clerk would contact Dave Smith and add this to his list of works in the parish.

The Parish Council expressed their sincere gratitude to Dave Smith for meeting with them the morning of the meeting and hoped it could be a three monthly occurrence.

- Bucks CC Service Information Day

Transport for Buckinghamshire's Service Information Centre is holding an open day on the 12th January 10am – 4pm at the Judges Lodgings, Aylesbury and 19th January 11.30am - 4pm at the Wycombe Area Office, High Wycombe.

- Speed Campaign

A campaign highlighting the dangers of excessive speed is running throughout January to encourage Buckinghamshire motorists to slow down on the roads.

- Circulated in between meetings
- BALC Data Protection and Freedom Of Information Course 24.02.2012
- Came and Company Newsletter
- LAF December news
- LAF Funding Community Speed Watch
- LAF Better Healthcare in Bucks report
- LAF – Information to LAF's
- Community Impact Bucks - Bucks CC Budget Consultation
- Journal of Local Planning – The Journalism Act
- AVDC News for the Parishes
- Sustainable Government 06.12.11
- Domestic Violence Awareness
- Scrutiny Bucks – Helping to improve the quality of life for Bucks residents
- Posters and information for the 2011 Drink Driving Campaign
- Publication details for the 2012/2013 Register of Electors
- AVDC 2012 Community Events Update
- Bucks. Matters and Issues.1.doc; ExamDraftprogrammev2.doc

- Urgent Information on Dangerous Vodka Sales
- Update on Police Officer Posts working Waddesdon Neighbourhood Area
- Neighbourhood Policing News Jan 2012
- Community Impact Bucks news
- Public Service Information – Performance of Fixed Speed Cameras in Bucks
- AVALC Update 8th January 2012
- Road Closure in Bishopstone on Sunday 3rd June 2012 between 12 noon and 6 p.m.

89.0 Footpaths

Cllr. Paul Thomas had asked for this item to be placed on the agenda but at the time of the meeting had no update. It was suggested that the item be placed on the February meeting agenda.

90.0 Planning

90.1 Planning Applications

- 11/02756/APP St Marys Church, Brill Road, Ludgershall
Change in the roof coverings from lead to natural slate to the nave, north and south aisles and the south porch

Cllr. Simpson expressed concern about this application having been asked, but declined to, tender for the roof works. He had spoken to Mr Oxley at length. He was concerned that the actual application paperwork did not include enough information for the Parish Council to make an informed decision. He also felt that the Parish Council should have more time to make a decision.

Concern was expressed about at what level the Parish Council was expected to make a decision. Members asked whether they should make individual responses as a local resident as well as a corporate view as a Parish Council and it was agreed that if people felt strongly then they should submit their own responses too.

RESOLVED that the Parish Clerk would ring Diana Locke, the application planning officer, at AVDC and find out a bit more about the application before reporting back to Members by e mail to enable a consensus on the way forward to be agreed. It may be that the PCC be invited to address the Parish Council.

- 11/01755/APP Greenhill Farm, Bicester Road, Kingswood - Construction of Ménage

Members noted that this application had been approved.

90.2 Other Planning Matters

- At the meeting of the Parish Council held in December 2011 Cllr. Paul Thomas was asked to respond to planning application no. 11/02596/ATC Brook Cottage, Duck Lane to fell two ash trees.

The following comments were made on behalf of the Parish Council:

That the Parish Council opposes the application as the removal of the rear tree would remove the natural screen between the applicant's property and the rear view of Manor Farm. The Parish Council would allow both trees to be trimmed in accordance with the British Standard and with advice from the AVDC Tree Officer.

Since the last Parish Council meeting AVDC have made the decision that the authority considers that the work will not adversely affect the contribution the trees make to the amenity of this part of the Conservation Area. In these circumstances the applicants are at liberty to carry out the works in line with the British Standard 2998:2010 – Tree Works Recommendations.

- Verges outside Bury Court

AVDC have responded to a further letter from the Parish Council with regard to the Bury Court Planning Application. This application, approved on appeal, did not have a condition attached to it regarding the reinstatement or protection of the verges as the verges do not form part of the site. It is suggested that the Parish Council contact Bucks CC Highways to see if they can help as the verges could constitute Highway land.

David Smith, at the village walkabout on the day of the meeting had agreed to help the Parish Council and would when the local gang was next in the area they would tidy up the verges. He would also contact the builder and remind him of his responsibilities with regard to re-instatement and drainage ditches.

- The Vale of Aylesbury Plan – Ludgershall Draft Fact Pack

There is a public consultation available with a consultation period of the 1st December 2011 until 26th January 2012. An acknowledgement of the response submitted by the Parish Council was received on the 5th January 2012.

- Jane Law – Planning Enforcement Officer

Members considered a letter outlining the responses to our recent letters with regard to:

- i) Alleged unauthorised continued use as greyhound training kennels and construction of vehicular access on to site at Kings Farm, Piddington Road

AVDC have confirmed that planning permission is required for this development and an application is due to be submitted for both the unauthorised use and the new access.

RESOLVED that the Parish Council watch for the planning application due to be submitted and if it is not received then they would contact AVDC further.

- ii) Advertising Boards

No response has been received to the letter sent after the December meeting as at the time of writing the agenda although it was acknowledged that the area where the advertising boards are located has been tidied up.

- Update on the relevant permissions required to cut back the trees around the pond

No response has been received to the letter sent after the December meeting as at the time of writing the agenda.

RESOLVED that the Parish Clerk write to AVDC under the Freedom of Information Act and in line with the Code of Conduct in relation to length of time responses to letters should be actioned by AVDC Officers.

- CPRE Supporting Communities and Neighbourhoods in Planning

A booklet is now available on Planning explained.

91.0 Highways

There is nothing to report.

92.0 Village Green

- BALC Play Survey

This has been sent to the Ludgershall Play Area Committee for response although there was some uncertainty as to whether the Committee still existed.

- ROSPA Play Equipment Inspection

RESOLVED that Members confirm the Annual Play Equipment Inspection and associated Risk Assessments should be carried out in 2012 at a cost of £120 + VAT.

- Wayleave

Members noted that the Parish Clerk was actively taking steps to get the outstanding Wayleaves for the Village Green paid to the Parish Council

93.0 Other Business

- Open Spaces Society - New threats to green spaces

Members noted the paperwork.

- Buckinghamshire Community Funding Fair 2012

Members noted that this fair will take place on Thursday 16th February 2012 at the Clare Foundation in Saunderton between 1p.m. and 6 p.m.

- Big Lunch for the Queen's Diamond Jubilee

Members noted that the Big Lunch is an incentive initiative to encourage communities to get together and organise street parties and a community lunch on Sunday 3rd June 2012.

Members noted this proposal and that information could be found on the Big Lunch website.

Members suggested that the option of giving each child in the parish a celebratory coin at a cost of approximately £5. Cllr. Cartwright would bring the information to the next meeting for consideration.

Cllr. Ms Cox would liaise with Julie Tiley over events in the parish for the Diamond jubilee and the Olympics as Julie had expressed an interest in being part of any organising committee.

- Garden Party nomination form

Members did not wish to nominate a Councillor to attend a Buckingham Palace Garden Party.

- Clerks and Councillors Direct

The January 2012 edition is available for members to read.

94.0 Date of next meetings

94.1 Ludgershall Parish Council:

- Monday 6th February 2012
- Monday 12th March 2012
- Monday 2nd April 2012
- Monday 23rd April 2012 (Annual Parish Meeting)
- Monday 14th May 2012

94.2 Waddesdon Local Area Forum

- The date for the next meeting of the Waddesdon Local Area Forum is 7th March 2012 at 7 p.m.
- LAF Funding Community Speedwatch – information e mailed to Councillors
- Local Areas Priorities Budget Allocation – information e mailed to Councillors

94.3 NAG Meeting – Councillors had been circulated with the NAG updates.

95.0 COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE SESSION

Exclusion of Public and Press

In accordance with Schedule 12A, Local Government Act 1972, the following items will be likely to disclose exempt information relating to establishment and contractual matters. It is therefore **RESOLVED** pursuant to the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960, that the public and press be excluded.

Questions from Parishioners:

- It was noted that Julie Tiley, Emily Downes and Pat Crisp were the Play Area Committee

- Anne stated that the Parish Council needed to forget that the application for the church was for a church and look at the application in the normal manner
- Concern was expressed about the accidents on the A41 before Christmas and the fact that the village was used as a diversionary route. There was concern about the new 40mph limit on the A41. It was also suggested that the Police were asked to monitor Long Lane if there was to be a diversion through the village due to the traffic queues and the size of vehicles being diverted

Signed **Date**

Chairman

