

**Minutes of a meeting of Ludgershall Parish Council held at Ludgershall Memorial Hall  
on Monday 5th March 2012 at 7.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Cllr. J. Cartwright – Chairman

Cllr. T. Chettle

Cllr. Ms H. Cox

Cllr. R. Jones

Cllr. R. Simpson

Cllr. P. Thomas

**Also present:** Anne Wilson – Parish Clerk

4 residents

**Questions from residents:**

- Richard Taylor asked if it would be possible or the Parish Council to arrange a litter pick around the village following the success of the event held in 2011. He had the litter pickers obtained and would be willing to take part but not organise it. Concern was expressed by Councillors about the standard of grass cutting in relation to litter picking on the verges on the roads leading to the village although Archie Harris reported that the highways department had litter picked the verges the week before the meeting. It was agreed that the litter pick proposed should be inside the parish boundary only
- Richard Taylor asked if were possible for the speed limit signs to be moved to the edge of the parish and reported on a recent serious accident in the parish where a telecommunication column had been knocked over. Further correspondence would be entered into on this matter with Bucks CC but it was pointed out that a village walkabout would take place with the Highways Officer at the end of March. The Parish Clerk would contact Simon Dudley and copy in Pat Frances
- Richard Taylor asked about the possibility of cutting back the Willow Trees on the Village Green outside Wayside. Cllr. Cartwright said he would look into it as the Parish Council would need Conservation Area Consent to carry out the work
- Concern was expressed about the amount of dog litter on the verges and on the Village Green. It was felt that the cost of emptying dog bins was expensive and it was a case of training owners to be more responsible
- The hedge along Piddington Road needs cutting back. The Parish Clerk was given the contact details of the owner and was asked to write to them
- Cllr. Thomas would liaise with Archie Harris over the footpaths map after the meeting

**109.0 Fire Safety Announcement**

The meeting commenced with a fire safety announcement.

**110.0 Apologies**

**RESOLVED** to receive apologies from Cllr. S. Lawson who had an alternative commitment.

## 111.0 Declarations of Interest

**RESOLVED** to receive declarations in accordance with the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001:

- Cllr. Paul Thomas - Personal or Prejudicial interest under agenda item 12 – Turning Head in Duck Lane
- Cllr. Ms H. Cox – Personal interest under agenda item 7 - Easement to the bungalow at the rear of the White Hart
- Cllr. R. Simpson – Personal interest under agenda item 7 – Easement to the bungalow at the rear of the White Hart

## 112.0 Minutes

**RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the meeting of the Parish Council held on Monday 6th February 2012 LPC/07/1112

## 113.0 Finance

### 113.1 Account Balances:

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

Community Account	£ 11,800	(as at 31st January 2012)
Deposit Account	£ 2,500	(as at 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2012)
Village Green Account	£ 12,500	(as at 5th January 2012)

### 113.2 Payments:

**RESOLVED** to agree the following payments:

HMRC - £57.38

A. Wilson – expenses – stamps total: £15.91

Bucks Playing Fields Associations subscription £20.00

### 113.3 Income

There is no income as at the time of writing the agenda.

### 113.4 Other Financial Matters

- Wayleave

The outstanding payment for 5253.52 has been received by the Parish Council. Members noted that the cheques for £2626.76 were previously sent in October 2010 and 2011 were never received by the current Parish Clerk.

- Internal Audit

**RESOLVED** to confirm the annual Internal Audit be carried out by Wallace Crook of Bridgnorth at a cost of £250 +VAT.

## 114.0 Police Matters

A local policeman/PCSO had been invited to attend the meeting to give an update but did not attend. It was noted that the new Police officer who covered Ludgershall had attended a coffee morning held in the village and had given a useful update.

## 115.0 Parish Council Business

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

The Parish Council has reached agreement with regard to the easement as reported at the last Parish Council meeting. This decision has been challenged by a local parishioner and therefore having consulted with Horwood and James, the Parish Councillor Solicitors Members had been asked to consider obtaining Counsels opinion to confirm that the Parish Council are taking the correct steps and that the procedure is being correctly adopted. The cost of this opinion will be confirmed at the meeting.

The Parish Clerk further advised that upon contact Neil Freeman after the meeting and informing him of the Parish Council's decision in that Counsels opinion would not be sought he is uncomfortable with that decision as he feels that the Council long term could incur more expense if any resident challenges the decision legally.

Members noted the advice and following discussion the Parish Council agreed that they had paid for a sound legal opinion that had been forthcoming and therefore should act on that advice. There had never been a reference made to the fact that the Parish Council should check that advice. If Neil Freeman was unsure Members felt that he should check his advice at his own cost and not that of the parish.

**RESOLVED** that Neil Freeman of Horwood and James be instructed that the Easement be granted upon the terms that he himself had given best advice on.

It was suggested that if the parishioners that had complained had concerns then the Annual Parish meeting was the best place for them to share their concerns in front of the village to enable everyone to hear their views.

- Horse Chestnut Tree on the Village Green

Minute no. 103.2 of the Parish Council meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2012 reads:

“At the last Parish Council meeting it was reported that AVDC had confirmed that this was not their tree and suggested that the Parish Council consider the work that is required. Councillors Cartwright and Jones reported suggested and it was agreed by Members that this item be deferred to the next meeting. Cllr. Jones would speak to Jim Goss for advice on the disease that is hitting Horse Chestnut Trees as some trees are getting over it and recovering. Members felt that perhaps they should wait until the summer months to see if the tree recovers.” Matthew Partridge, Tree Officer at AVDC has confirmed that the tree is in a Conservation Area.

Cllr. Cartwright and Cllr. Jones updated the meeting by stating that it was felt best to wait until the new growth appeared before making a decision on any working required because some Horse Chestnuts were recovering and the sign of disease disappearing.

- Jubilee Celebrations

Members noted that a Road Closure has been applied for Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2012 between the hours of 11 a.m. and 11 p.m. in the High Street. This is been granted by Aylesbury Vale District Council.

The Working Party was made up of Cllr. Ms. Helena Cox, Julie Tiley, Cllr. Stephen Lawson, Abigail Argeant and Deborah O'Brien.

Only one meeting had been held so far so it was early days but it is suggested that the Big Jubilee picnic lunch be held on the village green and possibly a large TV screen be erected to enable the boats on the Thames to be watched.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Council purchase a Magnolia Tree at a cost of £35 + £10 delivery. However it was suggested that there may be some cheaper local options available that could be considered and Cllr. Thomas would enquire.

Cllr. Ms Cox would arrange an event over the Easter weekend for the local children to plant the Magnolia Tree. The Fishing Club may be able to donate the compost, stakes etc for the tree.

Suggestions had been made about the planting of a wildflower meadow however it was noted that when this had been suggested before in the parish concerns had been made about the mess the borders can look due to the strict cutting regimes associated with such an area.

**RESOLVED** that the Parish Clerk contact the Green Spaces Team at AVDC asking about planting wild flower meadows.

The option of obtaining mugs for the children of the parish was still being considered.

- Ludgershall Village Green Bank Repairs

There was no update on this matter and the Parish Clerk stated that she would contact Thames Water to find out when the work was scheduled for.

#### *115.1 Aylesbury Vale District Council*

- Touring Arts and Holiday Activities

This programme is available in the school holidays when AVDC arrange arts and holiday activities to take place in the parish.

**RESOLVED** to note that the following dates have been confirmed by AVDC:

AM Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> April

AM Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> July

PM Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> August

- St. Georges Day Charity Dinner – Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012

**RESOLVED** to note that the Chairman of AVDC, Councillor Derek Isham had invited all Parish Councillor to his charity dinner at a cost of £45 per ticket on Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2012.

- Diamond Jubilee Celebrations

The Parish Clerk will read a letter received from AVDC about a very small budget being set aside for celebrating the Jubilee and the options for ordering flags. Responses are required by 12th April.

Members noted that a flag was being obtained for the parish.

#### *115.2 Buckinghamshire County Council*

- Community Forum

Members were made aware that HS2 are trying to open local dialogue. Cllr. Cartwright reported that the stance of AVDC and Bucks CC is not to enter into any dialogue with them until HS2 have made it clear how much they are going to pay for this and promote HS2. Currently Ludgershall is too far away from the proposed route but if it was to come up the existing line then that would change the position.

- Invitation to HS2 Summit

Members noted the invitation to send a representative to the HS2 Summit on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012 at the Oculus (AVDC Offices), The Gateway, Aylesbury.

- Update on the Incinerator

Councillor John Cartwright reported that Bucks CC deferred the final decision on the Incinerator pending the outcome from the Inspectorate on the Waste and Minerals Strategy. It is possible, pending that decision, that in April the whole application will be heard again over a three day period commencing on the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

#### *115.3 Circulated in between meetings*

**RESOLVED** that Members noted that the following documents had been circulated in between meetings:

- Formation of the Bucks and MK Local Nature Partnership – Survey report of the First Stakeholder workshop
- TCPA Seminar Planning for Growth 19<sup>th</sup> March and Taking Stock of Planning Reform 4<sup>th</sup> April
- Sustainable Gov 10.02.2012
- AVDC Community Safety newsletter – March 2012
- Application for the Jubilee in Ludgershall
- Details on the clearance of the lay-by on the A41 by White House Farm
- Community Impact Bucks -13.03.2012 and March 2012
- Information pre-Bucks CC with regard to approval of incinerator and other e mails on the subject of the Incinerator
- HS2 update 13.02.2012 from Bucks CC via BALC
- Road resurfacing April – June 2012
- Open Spaces Society magazine
- Proposed road closures Transport for Buckinghamshire various routes – AVDC resurfacing
- Race for Life Road Closure, Waddesdon – 24th June 2012
- Quainton PC responses to the Incinerator proposals
- Bucks CC Local Area Bulletin – Waddesdon

- DevCon 6 March Agenda x 4
- E mail from Mark Grindall, Bucks CC – Action4Youth

## **116.0 Footpaths**

Cllr. Paul Thomas would liaise with Archie Harris after the meeting.

## **117.0 Planning**

### *117.1 Planning Applications*

There were none received to discuss.

### *117.2 Approvals*

RESOLVED to note the approved 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

- *Southfields, The Green, Ludgershall*  
*Crown Lift one Willow tree and thin/reduce by 10-15%*

*The works will not adversely affect the contribution the tree make to the amenity of this part of the Conservation Area and therefore the works can be carried out in accordance with British Standard 3998:2010 – Tree Works recommendations.*

### *117.2 Other Planning Matters*

- Neighbourhood Planning

Members noted the paperwork provide with the agenda and **RESOLVED** that an officer from AVDC be invited the Annual parish meeting to speak about Neighbourhood Planning.

- New Homes Bonus

Members noted that following the last meeting the Parish Clerk contacted John Byrne and others with regard to the New Homes Bonus. He has said the dialogue with Parish Councils on the strategy the District Council will adopt in the future towards the spending priorities for the money held in the new Homes Bonus is being led by Cllr. Neil Blake, the Cabinet Member for Resources, supported by Andrew Small, the Corporate Director. Both have been made aware that Ludgershall Parish Council wish to be involved in any discussion which they are sure would be welcomed.

## 118.0 Highways

- Village Walkabout

David Smith, the local Highway Technician has offered the Parish Council a walkabout on with the 28<sup>th</sup> or 30<sup>th</sup> March.

**RESOLVED** that Members were able to meet on the 30<sup>th</sup> March 2012. The Parish Clerk would give Members further details nearer the time.

- Signage on Duck Lane

At the last meeting the Parish Clerk was asked to contact David Smith about signage for pedestrians in the road and Road narrowing in Duck Lane.

David has asked that the Parish Council explain the concerns regarding Duck Lane. As it is not much different from the rest of the village with no footpaths and parking. Duck lane is a no through road and therefore only residents drive along that length of road.

He has said that Bucks CC would not like to sign this length of road due to placing signs on the Village Green, the guidance for signs from the Traffic Manual states "Warning signs should be used where they would create best effect". His feelings are that this road would not be.

It is thought that there was some confusion about the name of the road – Dark Lane not Duck Lane - and its location and therefore the Parish Clerk would go back to David Smith.

## 119.0 Village Green

There is nothing to report.

## 120.0 Other matters

- Turning Head in Duck Lane

Members considered and noted the correspondence and paperwork with regard to the installation of a turning head in Duck Lane, discussed the issues raised and agreed the way forward.

Following lengthy discussion and explanation, including understanding that some of the Parish Council had visited the site, it was **RESOLVED** that the Parish Council noted the letter and attachments and it is understood that the matter is to be further followed up by Bucks CC.

- AVALC Information and discussion Meeting

**RESOLVED** that Cllr. Robin Simpson and Cllr. Ms H. Cox would both attend the "Understanding the new Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils" evening on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March 2012. Joanna Swift, Head of Legal and Estates at AVDC us the guest speaker.

- ESF Community Grant Workshops

RESOLVED that Members noted that the next workshop meeting for Community Grants is on 1<sup>st</sup> May 2012 at the Clare Foundation, Wycombe. The main focus of the event is the European Social Fund.

- Freedom to Pray

Members noted the attachments with regard to Freedom to Pray. Whilst not an issue at Ludgershall Parish Council at this moment the latest update on the issue of prayers at Council meetings following the national publicity on the matter was attached to the agenda.

- Engaging with your Council -how to be an effective leader

RESOLVED to note that workshops are being held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012 at the Aylesbury Multicultural Centre on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2012 between 6.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. and the Swan Centre in Buckingham between 2 p.m. and 4.30 p.m.

- Switching Off Street Lights to Save Energy – Supplementary Consultation remaining Sites – 20<sup>th</sup> February – 15<sup>th</sup> April 2012

Members noted that although there are no street lights in Ludgershall the consultation is for Bucks as a whole but had no comments to make.

- Neighbourhood Planning

Members noted that a Neighbourhood Planning Event is being run by AVALC will take place on 28th June 2012.

- BALC Training

Members noted that there are still spaces on the following Courses: Councillor Induction - 7th and 14th March, Accounts and Finance 23rd March and Village Greens - 27th March

- Best Kept Village Competition

Members noted that the application details have been received for the 1012 Best Kept Village Competition.

- Clerks and Councillors Direct

Members noted that this publication was available to read.

## **121.0 Date of next meetings**

### 121.1 Ludgershall Parish Council:

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

121.2 *Waddesdon Local Area Forum*

- The next meeting of the Waddesdon Local Area Forum is at Westcott Cricket Club on 7th March 2012 at 7 p.m. Cllr. Tom Chettle would attend on behalf of the Parish Council.

12.3 *NAG Meeting*

- There was no update

*Questions from residents:*

- Archie Harris expressed concern about the damage that low loaders are doing to the verges as they come out of the yard on the Bicester Road. Dave Smith would be spoken to on the walkabout at the end of March about this matter and also the installation of kerbing in some places on the village green
- Cllr. Robin Simpson asked whether the Parish Council needed a new mower. Cllr. Cartwright stated that the Village Green account monies was ring fenced to spend on items of equipment such as that and it was suggested that a wider mower be looked into where the drains etc that sit higher than the ground can be mowed over. The current mower was serviced at the beginning of every season and the person who serviced it would be asked for an approximately value

Signed ..... Date .....

Chairman

Before and after the Parish Council Meeting there will be a period of public questions