

Minutes of an extraordinary meeting of Ludgershall Parish Council called by the Chairman, Cllr. Paul Thomas under Standing Order 17a at Ludgershall Memorial Hall on Monday 26th November 2012 at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr. P. Thomas – in the Chair
Cllr. J. Cartwright
Cllr. Ms. H. Cox
Cllr. R. Jones
Cllr. R. Simpson

Also present: Deborah O'Brien, Parish Clerk
3 members of the public

Questions before the meeting:

- Cllr. J. Cartwright posed a question in his capacity as a member of the public, asking whether or not the Chairman was fully aware of the facts regarding the New Homes Bonus and allocation of funds. He gave a detailed explanation, including various facts such as the fact that average Council Tax of £131 does not cover the actual cost of public services of £300. The difference is made up by a government grant. He also asked if the Chairman was aware that AVDC is the only council in the area that is planning to make any funds available under the NHB to local Parish Councils. This money will go into a pool which can then be drawn down from by Parish Councils upon application. The deciding body is made up of cross-party representation plus Parish Council representatives. Cllr. Thomas thanked Cllr. Cartwright for his comments.
- Mr. I. Costar thanked the Parish Council for agreeing to plant the Jubilee Oak Tree on the Green adjacent to his house.
- Mr. A. Harris asked when the drain clearance was to be conducted around the village. Cllr. Thomas responded that Transport crews had been seen in the village carrying out this work in the past week, and that the problem outside Holly Cottage appears to have been resolved. Mr. Parker on Duck Lane has also conducted some drain cleaning.

94.0 Fire Safety Announcement

Cllr. Paul Thomas commenced the meeting with a fire safety announcement.

95.0 Apologies

Members noted that apologies had been received from Cllr. T. Chettle (Paternity leave) and Cllr. S. Lawson (On business overseas).

96.0 Declarations of Interest

RESOLVED to receive personal declaration of interest from Cllr. Cartwright who has a prejudicial interest as a member of the AVDC cabinet regarding item 4 on the agenda. Cllr. Cartwright exited the meeting room for item 4.

97.0 New Homes Bonus Funding Distribution

Members considered an e-mail petition together with a proposal letter to be sent to our District Councillor, from Aylesbury Vale Association of Local Councils (AVALC) regarding the distribution of funds from the New Home Bonus. It was considered that the majority of the funding had already been distributed in relation to the new Recycling Centre and as the fund was not made up from 'new money' this would result in an increase in Council Tax.

RESOLVED that Ludgershall Parish Council does not agree with AVALC's proposal and **FURTHER RESOLVED** that we would not be party to AVALC's petition.

98.0 Planning - Land adj. to Pear Tree Cottage 12/01073/APP

Members noted that a petition has been received on behalf of Mrs. C. Burnell, Ms. S. Burnell and Mrs. J. Godfrey to request that vehicular, pedestrian and utility access be granted across the Village Green to the land for which they have now received an offer to purchase for development into a five bedroomed home.

A discussion ensued regarding formalising the procedure for granting this. The Parish has an obligation to satisfy the needs of the Auditors by maximising the value of access across the Village Green. The Parish Clerk has obtained 5 valuation quotes from FRICS qualified Surveyors.

RESOLVED that the Parish Clerk send a letter to the landowners specifying the following:

- A letter signed by all three of the property owners is required, confirming that they wish for the Parish to proceed with a valuation of the access rights and that the costs involved would be borne by the landowners.
- The Parish Council will instruct DVS (the property arm of The Valuation Office Agency) to conduct the valuation. DVS charges on a time cost basis of £95 per hour, and they have stated that this usually costs a maximum of approx. £400 + VAT.
- Upon receipt of the valuation and acceptance of same in writing by all three applicants, the Parish Council will instruct a qualified Solicitor to draw up the Deed of Easement and register it with the Land Registry. This cost is also to be borne by the landowners.

99.0 Date of next meetings

99.1 Ludgershall Parish Council:

- Monday 3rd December 2012
- Monday 7th January 2013
- Monday 4th February 2013
- Monday 4th March 2013
- Monday 8th April 2013
- Monday 22nd April 2013 (Annual Parish Meeting)
- Monday 13th May 2013

Public Questions:

- Mr. A. Harris enquired as to the difference between this case and the Meldale case. It was explained by Cllr. Thomas that the former Parish Council was not mindful to grant an access easement in the Meldale case, whereas the present Parish Council is agreeable in this case.

Signed Chairman Date