

**Minutes of a meeting of Ludgershall Parish Council held at Ludgershall Memorial Hall
on Monday 11th January 2016 at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr. P. Thomas - Chairman
Cllr. H. Cox
Cllr. R. Jones
Cllr. S. Lawson
Cllr. M. Themis
Cllr. T Chettle

Also present: Jenny Caprio, Incoming Parish Clerk, Deborah O'Brien, Outgoing Parish Clerk; District Councillor Cameron Branston and 4 members of the public. The floor was opened to the public with no comments at this point.

The Vice Chairman opened the meeting, noting that this is to be Mrs O'Brien's last meeting as Clerk to the Council. He thanked Deborah for her support to the Council and wished her well for the future.

102.0 **Apologies** - Members noted County Cllr Macpherson had sent her apologies.

103.0 **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest from the Councillors. The incoming Clerk formally declared to be an employee of Buckinghamshire County Council. Mrs Caprio confirmed that the County Council is aware of her dual employment status.

7.35pm The Chairman arrived and took control of the meeting

104.0 **Casual Vacancy** – members noted that there is still a Casual Vacancy. The position has been re advertised.

105.0 **Appointment of Clerk** – members **RESOLVED** to confirm the appointment of Mrs J Caprio who has accepted the appointment. **FURTHER RESOLVED** to add Mrs Caprio to the Banking Mandate as a non-signatory.

106.0 **Minutes** – Members **RESOLVED** to receive the minutes and confirm the recommendations therein of the meeting of the Parish Council held on: Monday 7th December 2015 LPC/07/1516

107.0 Finance

107.1 Account Balances:

RESOLVED to note that: The balances for the Lloyds Bank accounts are as follows:

Treasurers Account	£ 7,048.26	(as at 31 st December 2015)
Deposit Account	£ 2,506.04	(as at 31 st December 2015)
Village Green Account	£34,259.26	(as at 31 st December 2015)
Play Area Account	£ 3,481.78	(as at 31 st December 2015)

107.2 Payments:

RESOLVED to make the following payments from the Treasurers Account:

D. O'Brien – £357.66 - December Salary – standing order

AVDC - £305.10 (£277.99 + £27.11 VAT) dog waste bin collection – cheque 0049

RESOLVED to make the following payments from the Play Area Account:

January draw: 200 Club prizes – to be drawn later in meeting

1st place £50 cheque 055

2nd place £35 cheque 056
 3rd place £25 cheque 057
 4th place £20 cheque 058

107.3 Income - **RESOLVED** to note income:

Interest - £0.10 Savings a/c; £1.41 Village Green a/c

107.4 Income and Expenditure report

Members **RESOLVED** to approve the Income and Expenditure Report as at 31st December 2015. (Appendix A).

FURTHER RESOLVED to approve the detailed report (31st December 2015) which reconciles income and expenditure to bank statements (Appendix B).

107.5 Budget & Precept 2016/17

Members noted the Precept request is due 22nd January 2016 and considered the revised draft budget having regard to the issue of devolved services. It does not include a specific allowance for the tractor diesel which the Council had not previously been charged for. However it was noted that the grounds maintenance budget of £750 would cover this expenditure. Members accepted the recommendation for a £10,000 precept and **RESOLVED** to request a precept from AVDC of £10,000 plus £135 National Grant.

107.6 **RESOLVED** that Cllr Cartwright and Mrs O'Brien are to be removed from the Banking Mandate and that in addition to Mrs Caprio, Cllr Themis is to be added as a signatory.

108.0 **Police Matters** - Nothing to Report

109.0 **Parish Council Business**

- Bike Night Insurance – Members **RESOLVED to** approve expenditure of a contribution of £110 to the previous Bike Night. Cllr Chettle to obtain an invoice which will be required to facilitate payment.
- Rural Broadband – Members noted the Wayleaves agreement has been returned by Gigaclear. Cllr Thomas advised that work in Piddington resumed 30th November and is now complete but not yet live. Gigaclear have had issues to resolve with Bucks CC to enable the laying of cable in the highways. Members also noted the PCC have been asked if there is interest in making broadband available at St Mary's. PCC will discuss at their next meeting. The church has sought confirmation that this will be provided without charge. Cllr Thomas will ask Gigaclear if their offer of a free community hub is still available.
- Members decided to delay consideration of the purchase of a new Play Area mower until the Spring.
- Bramble/Hedge clearance adj 5 Bells and ditch in front of Ramblers. It was noted that there is a tree to be removed which has damaged a drain and some additional scrub clearance. Members **RESOLVED** to confirm approval of £350 for clearance of the (parish responsibility) ditch in front of The Ramblers.
- MVAS – Members noted the order has been placed and the LAF has been invoiced for £1850. A risk assessment will be undertaken by Paul Thomas prior to installation of the 3 ground screws which will support it.
- Swims at Fishing Pond –Members noted that Stillwater Management will commence works during 2nd week of February. A £1000 contribution towards the cost is to be made by the fishing club.
- Refurbishment of the Village Hall noticeboard – Councillor Themis has sourced materials required to refurbish the notice board and to waterproof that part of the wall upon which it is mounted. Members **RESOLVED** to confirm the acceptance of expenditure of up to £321 and noted that the works will be undertaken as soon as the wall is sufficiently dry to facilitate this. Councillor Themis asked whether it would be an improvement to the board to have "Ludgershall Parish Council"

engraved into the Notice board but it was not considered necessary. A Plaque commemorating Cllr John Cartwright for his years of service to the Parish Council will be incorporated.

- Replacement Oak tree for Village Green – Members noted a tree has been ordered from Landscape Matters for delivery to Cllr Cox. A member noted that a resident of the village was concerned that the old tree was being removed as it is not yet 'dead'. It was agreed that the Resident could have the tree to replant in his garden.
- Play Around the Parishes 2016, it was noted that this event was to be coordinated with Brill PC who are proposing to run a similar event – members RESOLVED the date for this event as a Tuesday Morning at the beginning of August. Clerk to request a date from the PAP administrators.
- Bicester Bus Route 30 – members noted that further discussions are being held on transportation via LAF. A meeting will be held at Waddesdon C of E School on 19th January at 7pm. Paul Thomas is proposing to attend and invited other Members to attend also.

110.1 Aylesbury Vale District Council (AVDC)

Members noted the result of election in the Grendon Underwood and Brill District Ward By-election and congratulated Councillor Cameron Branston on his election. Cllr Branston was welcomed to the meeting.

110.2 Buckinghamshire County Council

- Devolution Tranche 2 – A likely allowance of £1184. An expression of interest in the scheme was given to BCC in December. A member asked if there were examples of how other PCs were dealing with this. The County Council's plan is that there will be clusters of Councils who work together. There was a discussion about the extent of verge to be mown over that which is already being mown. It is a matter for the Council how often they want the grass to be cut. There is a need to ensure we comply with Health and Safety issues. Members noted that there are additional responsibilities over and above grass cutting. May be opportunities to cluster with other local Parish Councils so that there could be a sharing of equipment or opportunity to seek volunteers or contract with residents. It was noted that additional resources may be needed to assist with the mowing. RESOLVED to join Tranche 2 and deferred consideration as to how this will be implemented until the next meeting. The Clerk will prepare requests for quotation to contractors.

111.0 Circulated in between meetings

Members noted that the following were circulated since the meeting in December:

- Declaration of results for the Grendon Underwood and Brill District Ward by-election
- Correspondence from Kyle Banks, Community Links Officer (Aylesbury Vale South), Prevention Matters regarding Bicester Bus
- Community Safety Officer, Aylesbury Vale District Council - News Letter for Q3
- Correspondence regarding 2016/2017 Budget Calculations
- Queen's Birthday Celebrations
- Invitation to Engagement Session and Workshop in support of the BCC review of Council-supported transport
- Appointment of External Auditors – 2017
- Local Transport solutions
- Interactive Community Rights Usage map
- Transport for Buckinghamshire - infographic - how do we manage our asset?
- Crime & Disorder (countywide) priorities - request for feedback please
- Allotments Advert - Brill
- Community Safety Partnership annual survey
- Pharmacy application in Waddesdon - request for comments
- MyBucks e-newsletter December 2015
- Have your say on Buckinghamshire's transport plan for the future
- The Youth Voice Community Virtual Launch

- Planning System Support - Consultee Access workshops
- Consultation to Charities and Community Groups - Buckinghamshire County Council Budget 2016/17
- AVALC - Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 23rd October, 2015
- Play Around the Parishes 2016

112.0 Footpaths

- Members noted receipt of Dr Turner-Smith's survey/report in detail and Cllr Themis agreed to consider the report in detail and to report back with recommendations.

113.0 Planning <http://www.aylesburyvaledc.gov.uk/section/planning-and-building-control>

113.1 Applications received:

- 15/04296/ALB – The Hovel, Duck Lane – Structural Repairs due to subsidence
It was noted that the works are required to protect the structure of the property and RESOLVED not to object to the Application.

113.2 Decisions

- 15/01825/APP – The Warrens – Retrospective Change of Use. As at date of this meeting the application is recommended for approval by AVDC and as no member of the PC was able to attend the Committee meeting on 7th January 2016 is likely to be approved under delegated powers. It was noted that there is considerable parking occurring again on the Village Green, RESOLVED to write another letter to the owner.
- The Hovel – Duck Lane - Members are advised that there is no update at time of agenda regarding access over the Village Green.
- Planning Appeal Ref: 15/00045/ENFNOT – Kingswood Lane site – this was heard 24/11/15 – No Decision made as at 11th January 2016.

114.0 Play Area

- Members noted that the following 200 Club winners were drawn for January:

1 st	Number 41 – Mr Ken Tiffin
2 nd	Number 75 – Alan Harris
3 rd	Number 42- Bev Chilman
4 th	Number 105 – Paul Thomas
- Members considered/were reminded that suggestions are needed for replacement play area equipment. The climbing/monkey bars need to be removed and there was a discussion about what to replace it with. It was noted that the children of the village have requested a Zip Wire and a suggestion made that the Childminders in the village should be consulted for an opinion. To be considered again at the next meeting.

115.0 Highways

- There is no update from County Council. There is a blockage in the drain located between Amberwood and Highfield on Main Street which needs to be reported to Transport for Bucks.

116.0 Dates of next Parish Council meetings:

8th Feb 2016, 7th Mar 2016, 4th April 2016, 9th May 2016

Meeting closed at 8:45pm.

Questions from the Floor

- A member noted that some Parish Councils have a facility to email parishioners for the purpose of sharing information which might be a means of increasing awareness of local issues. It was noted there is a web site but that requires positive action on behalf of the residents. May be an opportunity to “Subscribe for updates” aspect to the web site.
- A member of the public noted the contract had been let for the installation of the fishing swims and asked why the particular contractor had been chosen. It was reported to the member of the public that the decision was made based on a number of factors including insurance and knowledge of Health and Safety requirements. References were sought and the contract has been let. The specification for the contract includes Health and Safety aspects and the need to comply with Disability Discrimination Act. A member of the public expressed concerns about the updated swims impacting on the visual amenity of the area. It was noted that the swims need to be made safe or closed down and there is a balance to be struck between meeting safety standards and being sympathetic to the aesthetics of the environment. The significant difference in the price of the quotes was largely due to the difference in 3 swims of 6.
- Cameron Branston reported that AVDC have adopted ‘Vale Commerce’ which is an attempt by AVDC to be more commercial. Mr Branston reported he will be setting up surgeries – he has a twitter account and his email address is open to public. He will join various village sites to keep up to date.
- A member of the Public raised concern about the apparent route alteration of a footpath in the vicinity of the property known as the Ramblers. It was noted that the Footpath Officer from Buckinghamshire County Council’s surveying authority has visited the site and expressed no concerns. The matter will be raised with the Footpaths Officer again. The member of the public was also concerned that a kissing gate was removed on Duck Lane. At this point the Chairman of the Council declared an interest and Cllr. Chettle took control of the meeting. This matter has been considered by the Council on more than one occasion and as the removal of the gate does not impede access to the footpath but in fact improves it – the matter is not for further discussion.

SignedChairman Date