

**AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL**

MINUTES OF THE **COUNCIL MEETING** held in Audley Pensioners Hall on 13 November 2012 at 7.15pm

Present: Chairman: Mr H Proctor.  
Councillors: Mrs V Pearson, Mr P Breuer, Mr M Dolman, Mr N Blackwood, Mrs A Beech, Mrs K Davison, Mr T Sproston  
Clerk –Mrs C. Withington  
1 member of public present

No.	Item	Action
1.	<p><b>To receive apologies</b> Apologies were received from Mr D Cornes, Mrs C D Cornes, Mr C Cooper, Mr A Wemyss, Mr E Durber and Mrs B Kinnersley. Mr Proctor welcomed Mr Blackwood to the Parish Council.</p>	
2.	<p><b>To consider approving and signing minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012</b> The minutes on 24<sup>th</sup> September 2012 were approved and signed as a true and accurate record. The minutes on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were amended to read Wereton Road not Millennium Green, and then approved and signed as a true and accurate record.</p>	<b>CW</b>
3.	<p><b>Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item</b> Mrs Beech declared an interest in item 8 (Recycling facilities) due to being a portfolio holder at the Borough Council.</p>	
4.	<p><b>Public Participation:</b> No issues raised.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:-</b></p> <p>09/00543/EXTN <a href="#">Extension to the time limit to implement planning permission 09/00543/FUL for new detached dwelling</a> Land Adjacent To 10 Boon Hill Bignall End Staffordshire ST7 8LA - Delegated/Village env adj to Green Belt (Previously supported by the Parish Council) – <b>RESOLVED</b> that this be supported.</p> <p><a href="#">Ref. No: 12/00649/TCA</a> – Work to Trees in Conservation area - The Hollies 24 Nantwich Road Audley Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8DH – Delegated/Village Env/Conservation Area – FOR INFORMATION ONLY – Noted.</p> <p><a href="#">12/00177/FUL</a> - 16 Wood View Wood Lane Staffordshire ST7 8QU - Two storey rear and side corner extension – Delegated/Village Env – <b>RESOLVED</b> that this be supported.</p> <p><a href="#">12/00584/FUL</a> Retention of vehicular access and hardstanding - 119 High Street Alsagers Bank Newcastle Under Lyme Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8BQ – Delegated/Village Env – <b>RESOLVED</b> that this be supported.</p> <p><a href="#">12/00660/COU</a> - Change of use from dwelling house (Class C3 ) to residential institution (Class C2 )   Woodlands Hall Bignall End Road Bignall End Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8LY – A late application was received following the agenda being issued. In view of the timescale and the inability to extend the deadline for comments, the Clerk was given authority to use delegated authority to make the comments on behalf of the Parish Council. The principle of a residential institution was supported in light of past uses; however it appears to be proposed to be run on a more intensive one to one basis. It was agreed that the Clerk would seek clarification as to the type of institution proposed, to enable the Parish Councillors to consult with the local residents if necessary, prior to seeking comments from the Parish Council for submission to the Planning</p>	<b>CW</b>

	<p>authority.</p> <p><b>To receive feedback from the Parish Plan meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2012</b></p> <p>Mrs Davison noted that the meeting had been held and was well attended. Further clarification was required as to what a Parish Plan consisted of. Costs will need to be considered also and accounted for in the budget. The next meeting will take place with a Village Agent present and some individuals who have been through the process before from a similar sized parish.</p>	
6.	<p><b>To consider issues with the notice board at Alsagers Bank</b></p> <p>It was agreed to monitor the use of the noticeboard in terms of Parish Council information. In the event that it is not being maintained appropriately then Mr Sproston would be willing to include the notices etc.</p>	<b>CW</b>
	<p><b>SPECIAL MOTION BY 10 MEMBERS - To consider rescinding the previous resolution made on 20<sup>th</sup> September 2012, in relation to the opening hours of the Comrade Shelter “RESOLVED to open up the shelter 9am to 9pm 7 days a week...” and to agree new hours of opening</b></p> <p>The following 10 members had agreed to the motion to rescind the previous resolution: Mr Proctor, Mrs C D Cornes, Mr Cornes, Mr Wemyss, Mr Cooper, Mrs Davison, Mr Sproston, Mr Dolman, Mrs Pearson and Mr Breuer.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the previous resolution on 20<sup>th</sup> September be rescinded. It was proposed that consideration be given to opening up the shelter from 9am to dusk. This was <b>RESOLVED</b>.</p> <p>Mr Proctor to put a letter together and send via the Clerk in response to Mr Ball's letter of concern.</p>	<b>BP/ CW</b>
8.	<p><b>To consider a suitable relocation of the recycling facilities at Audley Community Centre</b></p> <p>Consideration was given to other sites in the Parish; however it was felt that the facilities were best located at the Audley Community Centre as it was in the village centre and is easily accessible by cars and users without cars. Anywhere else would be too remote. A suggestion was made for improved CCTV to be installed at the Community Centre which would monitor the bins.</p>	
9.	<p><b>To approve Community Chest applications received (balance inc trees - £1650):</b></p> <p><i>To consider an application from Beat the Cold (£1000) for energy advice</i></p> <p>This was considered however it was felt that in light of previous applications being refused by the Borough, it would not be possible to consider this as it would be funding staffing costs which were not thought to be allowed in the policy. It was also felt by one councillor that they had sufficient funds in their account to cover costs of staff.</p>	
10.	<p><b>Playing Fields/Areas inc:</b></p> <p><i>To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for November and approval of any action required or taken</i></p> <p>The play inspection report was noted. Mr Hough to be asked to look at the pooling of water at Riley's Field on the basketball court.</p> <p><i>To note urgent removal of tree at Queen Street (Cara)</i></p> <p>Delegated powers were used to remove a dangerous willow tree at the above site for a cost of £200. This was accepted.</p>	<b>CW</b>

11.	<p><b>Correspondence and circulars received for information only (see Appendix A)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Street lighting Initiative (response required) It was felt that as no residents had come forward to request this, the Parish Council were not able to take any action at this time. Clerk to respond on that basis.</li> <li>- Bateswood Consultation outcome – this was noted. Mrs Beech declared an interest as a Borough Councillor on the cabinet. Mr Proctor stated that as a consequence of the outcome, the Halmer End Wildlife Trust had disbanded due to concern over the future of the wildlife area. Mr Proctor and the Parish Council agreed that it was a great pity that the Group had disbanded and were very appreciative of the good work of the group led by Mr Ike Williams for many years. Clerk to send a letter of thanks.</li> <li>- Future dates of the Borough Council (CEO and Leader) partnership meeting with Parish Councils were noted as 9<sup>th</sup> January, 21<sup>st</sup> May and 19<sup>th</sup> September. These meetings are usually attended by Chair and Clerks – although a representative can attend in their place.</li> <li>- To review other items as listed for information and consider for next agenda – noted.</li> </ul>	<p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p>
12.	<p><b>Clerks Update</b> This was noted.</p>	
13.	<p><b>Councillor Reports</b> (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda)</p> <p>Mr Breuer asked when the grit bins would be put in Halmer End as previously acquired. The Clerk clarified that she had been in touch with Jeff Green who was to give her a date for when the contractors would be filling them with salt.</p> <p>Mr Sproston requested that the Purchase of a Grit Bin by Alsager Bank Church was on the next agenda. Mr Sproston also requested that the Clerk enquire with the Borough Council regarding a replacement bin on the lamppost by the seat opposite the church hall at Alsagers Bank.</p> <p>Mr Breuer reported an incident involving a large group of youths on a week night at around 7pm, which had been reported to the Police. Clerk to find out what a Section 30 dispersal notice involves and consists of with Cllr Kearon (Portfolio Holder) and report back to Mr Breuer.</p> <p>Mr Breuer reported that the bus stop which was damaged at Wereton Road, has been put in the road on several occasions. Clerk to report the situation again to Highways/SCC.</p> <p>Mr Proctor reported that he and a small number of Parish Councillors had met with Graham Williams, Sgt Young and PC Dolman to discuss issues surrounding the dangerous parking in the village. The outcome is that there is little that can be done. Most dangerous parking around the shops is under 5 mins, therefore cannot be issued with a ticket. The parking wardens only visit Audley for approx. 17 mins a month. Footpaths are a police matter, however they counted 80 incidents on the way to the meeting and were not in a position to be issuing tickets to all. They also felt that many roads would become unusable if cars parked on the road. Some cases involve the parking on private land, which is not a matter for either. There are four legitimate dropped kerbs in front of the shops. Any offences involving parking on zig zags could be ticketed by the Police immediately. Overall it was felt that nothing more could be done.</p> <p>Mr Proctor reported that they are looking into a solution for the drainage issues for the Methodist Church car park in Audley. However it depended on cost and</p>	<p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>Next agenda</b> <b>CW</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p>

	<p>agreement from the legal department of the Church.</p> <p>Mr Proctor reported that a meeting of partners was to be held on Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November at 1.30pm Sir Thomas Boughy School regarding consultation with the youths of Audley and potential solutions to assist with the ASB issues in the area. Norris Green was suggested as a good example of how to tackle issues.</p>	
14.	<p><b>Accounts</b>  <b>To approve the Accounts from 18<sup>th</sup> October and 13<sup>th</sup> November</b>  The accounts as listed below were approved and signed at the meeting. The 18<sup>th</sup> October accounts were signed at the previous meeting, however for clarity they were included in these minutes.</p>	
15.	<p><b>Budget 12/13 and 13/14</b>  <i>To note current position as circulated</i>  This was noted.</p> <p><i>To consider key aims and objectives for next year's budget</i>  Clerk to put together figures for next year based on inflation increase.</p>	
	<p>The following items on the agenda were considered to be of a private nature that should be discussed at the exclusion of the Public and Press, under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 1 (2). The member of public left the meeting.</p>	
16.	<p><b>Contractual issues</b>  <i>To consider appointment of Mr Hough following quote to carry out work to Audley Allotments entrance gate and install temporary fencing by hedge</i>  <b>Resolved</b> that Mr Hough be appointed. Mr Blackwood noted his concerns regarding the fence not being very aesthetic in a rural surround.</p> <p><i>To consider appointment of Mr Hough to trim 5 seats (A Wemyss)</i>  <b>Resolved</b> that Mr Hough be appointed and a further seat at Wereton Road (by Wynbank Farm) also be included and carried out as a matter of urgency.</p> <p><i>To consider appointment of Mr Hough to remove trees at Miles Green Play area and Leddy's Field</i>  <b>Resolved</b> that Mr Hough be appointed to remove the trees at Miles Green and Leddy's Field due to their dangerous state.</p> <p>Next agenda – Ash Trees at Leddy's Field.</p> <p><i>To consider inclusion of cenotaphs cleaning (4 x fungicidal spray treatments in April, June, August and October and soft brush cleaning in November) in Annual Maintenance Contract for 13/14 on the same terms as 12/13</i>  <b>Resolved</b> that this be included in Mr Well's Contract for 13/14.</p>	<p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p> <p><b>Next Agenda</b></p> <p><b>CW</b></p>
17.	<p><b>Staffing Issues</b>  <i>To consider approval of advert for temporary maternity cover and other staffing issues</i>  Mr Proctor reported that he had held discussions with 2 experienced individuals. One of whom had an excellent track record being the previous CEO of SPCA. It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the post should be offered on a temporary basis to Mrs Evans on the same terms and conditions as the current clerk. Mr Proctor to liaise with Mrs Evans and report back.</p>	<b>BP</b>
18.	<p><b>Remembrance Day parade feedback</b>  Mr Proctor reported that whilst he as carrying out duties as the Chair of Audley Rural Parish Council he was appalled to hear the continue shots from a shoot at a nearby farm throughout the service. Mr Proctor to investigate and a letter of disappointment to be sent to the person leading the shoot.</p>	<b>BP/ CW</b>

The Chairman then declared the meeting closed at 21.15pm