

AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** held Audley Pensioners Hall, Church Street on 15th January 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr B Proctor
Councillors:, Mrs V Pearson, Mr M Dolman, Mr P Breuer, Mrs B Kinnersley, Revd J Taylor, Cllr Wemyss, Mr M Joykson and Lewis Moore

Clerk – Mrs C. Withington
8 members of public were in attendance

No.	Item	Action
1.	To receive apologies - Mr T Sproston, Mrs C D Cornes, Mr D Cornes Mr C Cooper, Cllr A Beech, Mr E Durber	
2.	To consider approving and signing minutes of Parish Council meeting on 12 th December 2014 The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
3.	Declaration of interest in any item None	
4.	Public Participation: Several members attended from the Audley Parish Bowman Society to discuss the proposed closure to Leddys Field to allow for the tree work to be carried out. The Chair confirmed the programme is actually shorter than first envisaged from Sunday 25 th January to Friday 20 th February. It was agreed that there would be notification of any changes. Mr Billings attended from the Audley Parish Angling Club to confirm the situation with regards to the Dogs on Leads signs which had been erected in error by the Borough Council. As the signs were not applicable they have now been removed. However a polite notice has been put up to ask dog walkers to have consideration to other users. It was also confirmed that a number of cases of poisoning of dogs had been reported, the numbers were unproven but it was rumoured to be 3. It was however confirmed by Mr Billings wished it to be recorded in the minutes that this was not as a result of the anglers or the Borough Council putting down any form of poison or weedkiller. It was stated by the Chair that if there was any poisoning then the most common form is secondary poisoning caused from other animals and carrion eating birds consuming a poisoned rat for instance. If the issue continues then it will be treated as a police matter. Mr Billings also said if there were any other concerns then to raise them with the Anglers for further investigation. It was also noted that as from 1 st April 2015 the pool would be leased to the Club. Mr Billings was thanked by the Parish Council for their good work.	
5.	Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:- 1. <u>Proposed extension and new pitched roof to replace existing flat roof</u> Eardley Hall Kennels Eardley Hall Cottage Cross Lane Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8ND Ref. No: 14/00970/FUL Delegated/Green Belt RESOLVED that this be SUPPORTED . 2. <u>Retention of replacement kennels</u> Monkey Tree Cottage Heighley Lane Knowle Bank Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire CW3 9AZ Ref. No: 14/00842/FUL Delegated/Green Belt Although this was considered to be acceptable in terms of the design, there was concern about the fact that it was a retrospective application submitted. It was agreed that a letter should be sent to Paul Farrelly MP to ask that financial penalties are imposed by law for retrospective applications in order to encourage applicants to follow the correct procedure. With the income being reinvested in the Parish.	

	<p>3. <u>Replacement of 17.3m monopole with a 20m dual user monopole which accommodates 4 antennas with 2 ancillary Remote Radio Units (RRU's) on the head frame at the top of the structure, 1 new 300mm dish and airwaves existing antennas fixed to the tower and associated ancillary works</u> Land Adjacent Former Railway Embankment Bignall End Road Bignall End Stoke On Trent Staffordshire Ref. No: 14/00888/FUL Committee/Green Belt It was RESOLVED that this application be SUPPORTED and also noted that the Parish Council were pleased this type is automatically heard by the Planning Committee.</p> <p>4. <u>Proposed internal and elevational alterations, new conservatory at front</u> 28B Boon Hill Bignall End Staffordshire ST7 8LA Ref. No: 14/00944/FUL Green Belt/Delegated RESOLVED that this be SUPPORTED.</p> <p>5. <u>Two storey side extension to provide link to existing detached garage and first floor extension to detached garage</u> 40 Hougher Wall Road Audley Staffordshire ST7 8JA Ref. No: 14/00715/FUL Green Belt/Village Env/ Delegated There was concern about the visual impact on the Green Belt. It was RESOLVED that this be SUPPORTED provided that it does not increase the original footprint outside of the allowable limits, and also that existing off road parking is retained within the existing garage, due to Highway concerns.</p> <p>6. <u>Installation of External Wall Insulation with a cream painted, rendered finish</u> 116 High Street Alsagers Bank Newcastle Under Lyme Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8BQ Ref. No: 14/00880/FUL Village Env/Delegated – This was RESOLVED to be SUPPORTED.</p> <p>7. <u>Detached dwelling with new vehicle access</u> 108 Hougher Wall Road Audley Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8JA Ref. No: 14/00876/FUL Green Belt/Committee. Noted that this has been called in already, however it is opposite an entrance to a very busy builders merchant, which receives a high volume of traffic particularly HGVs delivering loads, there is also a lot of cars parking on a difficult bend – which forces cars onto the pavement. It is new build in Green Belt and it is considered that there are no special circumstances to warrant this new build in the green belt or a piecemeal change of Green belt considered outside of the emerging Joint Local Plan. RESOLVED that this is NOT SUPPORTED.</p> <p>8. <u>14/00972/FUL, Mr & Mrs S & A Frankish, Chapel Barn Shraleay Brook Road Halmer End, Retention of a conservatory, Delegated/Green Belt:</u> This was a late application and the Clerk had not heard if an extension for comments would be granted, therefore it was considered for comments under Delegated Authority. It was felt that retrospective planning applications should be penalised financially, Clerk to write to local MP for a change in law. RESOLVED that this be SUPPORTED as it was not considered to be harmful to the Green Belt.</p> <p>FOR INFORMATION ONLY:</p> <p>9. <u>Application for a certificate of lawfulness of existing use as a dwelling without compliance with condition 01 of planning permission 98/00712/FUL (restricting occupation to persons employed at dog rescue centre)</u> The Old Barn Moat Lane Audley Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8HS Ref. No: 14/00959/ELD Delegated/Green Belt - NOTED</p>	
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	<p>10. <u>Application for a lawful development certificate for proposed porch/sunroom extension to side</u> 63 High Street Wood Lane Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8PB Ref. No: 14/00940/PLD Village Env/Delegated - NOTED</p>	
6.	<p>Update on Audley Library review by Staffordshire County Council (Standing item) The Chair provided an update which was circulated earlier that day, which stated as a result of the consultation a new model was being looked at. This included an option for some community libraries to receive assistance from a floating qualified librarian (over a set number of hours per week) who would provide assistance to help get the library off the ground. A final decision about this model, how each community will be supported and how they will move forward with each library will be made by the County Council's Cabinet on the 18 February, which Cllr Proctor will be attending.</p>	
7.	<p>To consider the final budget for 15/16 and precept request following the outcome of the NBC funding – see Appendix A</p> <p>Dispensation was approved to allow Mr Joynson and Revd Taylor to discuss and vote on the budget. The budget was approved and it was RESOLVED that the precept requested for next year would be £42,879 which will be an increase of 2% to Band D council tax bills (at £17.50 per year).</p>	Clerk
8.	<p>Grants – Community Chest (uncommitted balance £177.72)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scouts Group for £243.75 towards books <p>RESOLVED that this be supported for the remaining balance of £177.72.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consideration of continuing to administrate the Community Chest scheme in 15/16 <p>RESOLVED that this be continued and the Code of Conduct agreement accepted.</p>	
9.	<p>Assets - Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Allotments/Bowling greens inc:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <i>To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for January 2015</i> RESOLVED that the Clerk request that Mr Hough repairs the swings at Miles Green. Richard Heler to be requested to cut hedge along the boundary of Leddys which runs parallel with Boyles Hall Road. Mr Hough to be asked to cut back the trees encroaching on the court at Rileys Field. Stone top up of paths at Leddys Field to be discussed on the April agenda 2. <i>To note the annual inspection reports and DDA assessment – and approve any necessary work considered low risk</i> This was considered at the meeting, however in view of the potential improvements and the risks being low or very low, it was agreed that these actions be monitored over the new few months. 3. <i>Approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority – Audley Bowling Club relaying paving slabs</i> RESOLVED that this be approved as it is a health and safety issue, Mr Hough be instructed to complete the work. 4. <i>To note the progress with the final phase of the Audley allotment fencing – Cllr Proctor</i> Cllr Proctor reported that the Audley Allotment Association had raised a significant amount of funding over the last year or so in order to implement the suggested improvements by the Police to tighten up on the security arrangements. The majority of the site had now received the new security fencing however part was still outstanding which runs along the old allotment site as you enter the site. Although the majority of cost will be covered by the Association, Cllr Proctor suggested that the Parish Council provides match funding of £1000 to allow the final phase of the fencing to be completed at the end of March. RESOLVED that this be approved and a grant of £1000 be awarded to the Association for the final security fencing. 	<p>Clerk Clerk</p> <p>Clerk April Agenda</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	Clerk to send the VAST conference details to the Association for future reference.	Clerk
10.	<p>To note the progress with Leddys Field and agree the programme (poss Saturday/Sunday working), plus consider a request from the Bowman regarding use of the part of the site outside work programme</p> <p>This item had already been discussed earlier on the agenda and the proposal by the Bowman Society had been withdrawn. It was agreed that the programme of works could take place over the weekend, as long as there was minimal disruption to the residents.</p> <p>It was RESOLVED that with regards to the future management of Leddys Field this should remain with the Parish Council, in view of the value of the land to the community and overall cost to the Parish therefore the management would not be outsourced to any other body. Additionally in view of the detailed programme of works now provided following the tree survey, any future work would need to be managed and carried out in accordance with that using an appropriate contractor.</p>	
11.	<p>To consider the following:</p> <p><i>Condition of carriageway, High Street, Halmer End/Alsagers Bank - Cllr Wemyss</i></p> <p>Cllr Wemyss reported that the condition of the road from Scot Hay down to Red Hall Lane required resurfacing due to the neglect over the years. Cllr Beech was asked to follow this up. Additionally the Parish Council would also write a letter to request action.</p> <p><i>Condition of Footway, Heathcote Road, Miles Green - Cllr Wemyss</i></p> <p>Cllr Wemyss reported that the footway condition between the Oatcake shop and the Royal Oak is in an appalling condition – with no paving slabs. Clerk requested to ask for a site visit to review both sites with Mr Greatbach of SCC Highways. Clerk also asked to chase up the progress of Alsagers Bank sign on Black Bank, which has graffiti on it.</p> <p><i>Progress with White Rails repair at Bignall Hill/Megacre – Cllr Wemyss</i></p> <p>Clerk asked to request that the white rails are reinstated with metal, not plastic.</p>	<p>AB Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p>Publicity photos of before and after work – Mrs C D Cornes</p> <p>This was approved – contractors to be asked to provide before and after shots. Mr Joynson where possible to also provide photos of sites. Mr Joynson to consider producing an article for Audley Community News.</p>	Clerk MJ
13.	<p>To consider funding artwork for a “Miner and his Lad” to be sited at the Minnie Pit memorial gardens Halmer End - Mike Joynson</p> <p>Mr Joynson has been in contact with Realise Funding who are interested in contributing to the cost. A quote is awaited in order to submit a funding application.</p>	
14.	<p>To receive an update from Audley LAP and Police / Parish Liaison Committee – Cllr Proctor</p> <p>The High School will be providing a monthly bingo and buffet event for the older residents. The LAP are working to help set up a Dementia Buddy programme with other agencies such as the WI. The LAP is setting up a group of volunteers to supplement the Borough Council’s minimal maintenance of the closed Cemetery at Audley St James.</p> <p>The Police were not present at the last liaison meeting. Next one is planned for 18th February.</p> <p>The Police Traffic Operation day was a success in the village with 7 penalty fines issued for speeding.</p>	

15.	<p>To consider contributing towards costs of Public Liability insurance for Audley Football Club for use of the car park as parent overflow during school hours for Ravensmead Primary school</p> <p>The school were willing to open and close the car park between 8am and 4pm to allow parents to park there, reliving the road of the congestion.</p> <p>Discussion took place and it was confirmed that the advice given by the Parish Council's insurers was that ultimately the responsibility would fall to the owners of the site in the event of any claims due to poor maintenance.</p> <p>This was felt to be an issue which may not be possible to be resolved, despite a supplementary insurance policy being purchased. .</p>	
16.	<p>Correspondence and circulars</p> <p>To provide responses on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To approve the comments submitted using Delegated Authority regarding Licensing Application in Church Street, Newsagents - Comments submitted were approved. 2. Invite to Mayors Spring Ball 27th March 2015 – Noted. 3. Petition for saving ACRE/Community Council of Staffordshire http://epetitions.direct.gov.uk/petitions/73418 - Noted. 4. VAST funding conference February 5th 2015 – Mrs Pearson, Cllr Beech Revd Taylor and the Clerk would be attending this. 	
17.	<p>Clerks Update – (Appendix A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To agree a date for the Play areas Special Council meeting <p>A further meeting of the sub group was planned, and following this a special meeting would be arranged when they had formulated a proposal.</p>	Clerk
18.	<p>Councillor Reports (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda)</p> <p>Mr Breuer asked that the grit bins are refilled.</p> <p>Mr Breuer noted that when the Leycett site was closed there was a large amount of flytipping particularly around the Audley Community Centre, it was also seen on Alsager Road, Black Bank and the slip road of the A500. All reports to be phoned through to Streetscene on 01782 742500 (Guildhall). Mr Joynson to write an article on Village Pride for Audley Community News.</p> <p>A monthly litter pick is carried out by the LAP on the first Friday of every month – all welcomed to attend to help for an hour or so.</p> <p>Clerk to ask if Severn Trent Water will be reinstating the verges now that the work is complete along Nantwich Road. Clerk also to ask about the footpath along Stephens Way which has been left in a poor state.</p> <p>Mr Joynson reported that there were no working street lights to the football field or litter bins at the Institute. Following a conversation with Ruth Edwards, the Clerk confirmed that there was no waste collection service therefore the users would need to make their own arrangements for the disposal of the litter.</p> <p>Clerk to write to property in Chester Road regarding the overgrown hedge. Clerk to obtain details from Mrs Cornes.</p> <p>Parking obstruction notices are available from Cllr Proctor.</p> <p>All to inform Cllr Proctor of any dog fouling hotspots ready for the meeting with David Beardmore on 27th January.</p> <p>Clerk to purchase bespoke Dog Control order notices for the play areas at the cost agreed from Evans Signs.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>MJ</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>Clerk Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	Noted that as the Baker buses had gone out of business the D&G buses would be picking up the services and would include evening buses.	
19.	<p>Accounts To approve the Accounts (Appendix B) and note current budget position The accounts as at Appendix B were approved for payment.</p>	
20.	RESOLVED that the following items on the agenda 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).	
21.	<p>Contractual/Staffing issues 1. To approve the revised price for the Annual Maintenance Contract for 15/16, 16/17 and 17/18 – consideration of prices and suspend Financial regulations It was RESOLVED to appoint Mr Hough for the 3 year programme, and in doing so suspend the Financial Regulations following confirmation of the prices remaining the same. Noted that a 2 month notice period would be given in the event of Mr Hough terminating his contract. 2. Approval of quote for fencing at Halmer End Allotments RESOLVED that Richard Heler be appointed to supply the fence, to include barbed wire and notices, at Halmer End Allotments.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

Appendix A – Approved Budget 2015/16

HEADING	Total Expected at end of March 15	Approved Budget 14-15	Approved Budget 15_16
ADMIN Staff Costs / Chair	£ 18,151.35	£ 18,000.00	£ 18,000.00
ADMIN Office/other/Adverts	£ 8,907.24	£ 9,556.00	£ 9,500.00
Playing Fields	£ 28,577.77	£ 16,000.00	£ 16,000.00
Bus shelters and Seats	£ 2,051.27	£ 5,150.00	£ 1,000.00
Footpaths	£ -	£ 100.00	£ 100.00
Bowling Greens	£ 2,246.04	£ 1,500.00	£ 2,000.00
Wildlife Area (Leddys/Marg Garden)	£ 14,440.41	£ 2,250.00	£ 5,000.00
Misc.	£ 3,023.68	£ 2,100.00	£ 2,100.00
Allotments	£ 2,315.00	£ 1,060.00	£ 1,500.00
Donations	£ 3,515.00	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
Comm activities	£ 433.63	£ 1,000.00	£ 1,000.00
CAPITAL	£ -	£ -	
VAT	£ 3,179.68	£ 2,500.00	£ -
TOTAL	£ 86,841.06	£ 60,216.00	£ 57,200.00

<i>Based on reduced S136 Income and CTSG to meet budget</i>		RINGFENCED RESERVES C/Fwd from 14/15	
			£61,000.00
Precept 2% increase per Band D - £17.50	£ 42,879.00	CAPITAL SCHEMES -Play area (7 x £7k)	£ 49,000.00
Section 136 Funding 25% reduction	£ 7,350.00	BY-ELECTION	£ 2,000.00
Council tax support grant (CSTG)	£4,397	Shortfall from 15/16	£ 2,000.00
Misc Income		LEDDYS FIELD	£ 8,000.00
Allotment rent	£ 500.00	Contingency	£0
Total Income	£ 55,126.00	Total	£61,000.00
Shortfall to be found	£ 2,074.00		

Appendix B – Approved Payment Schedule 15th January 2015

CHQ NO	TO WHOM PAID	DETAILS	TOTAL INVOICE INC VAT
bacs 119	Mrs C Withington	Salary Jan total 928.47	799.67
bacs 119a	Mrs C Withington	Expenses Jan home office allowance	128.80
bacs 120	Staffordshire Pension scheme	Pension Jan	292.22
bacs 121	H M Revenues and Customs	Tax and NI Jan	61.90
bacs 122	Computershare	Jan child care voucher (243 sacrifice)	282.07
bacs 123	euoffice	Stationery (1/3rd)	8.59
bacs 124	The National Allotment Society	Membership Renewal	66.00
bacs 125	Buzzy Bee Garden	Removal of xmas tree and delivery	20.00
937	Mr S Hough	A/M - Leddys Field Topping 250 and Play inspections 100 (TOTAL £750)	350.00
937	Mr S Hough	ON 91 - Mgarden soil weeds and rubble	170.00
937	Mr S Hough	ON 5 - Repairs to Leddys Field rails	60.00
937	Mr S Hough	ON 6 - Fence post Bignall End Play area	35.00
937	Mr S Hough	ON 6 - Bolts to Gates Albert Street	15.00
937	Mr S Hough	ON 7 - Plot 19 Halmer End rubbish fence carpet	120.00
938	Wood Lane Community Assoc	Room Hire Sept and Nov	60.00
939	Audley Pensioners Hall	Room Hire Jan to April	100.00
		Total spend	2569.25