

ALSTONEFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

The Clerk to the Council- Liz Court, tel. no: 01538 702077

c/o The Village Hall, Alstonefield, Ashbourne, Derbyshire. DE6 2FR

Councillors: Nick Bonsall (310262). Dot Griffin (310249).
Frank Lipp (310302). Noel Peat (310000). Cathy Reavy (310125).
Kevin Stockton (310347) Rupert Hignett (310389)

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 16th April 2014 at Alstonefield Village Hall.

Present: Cllr D Griffin (Chair), Cllr N Peat, Cllr C Reavy, Cllr R Hignett, Cllr F Lipp and Liz Court (Clerk)

2 Members of the public were also present.

Apologies: Cllr N Bonsall and Cllr K Stockton – received and accepted

82 Public Forum – A member of the Parish spoke regarding the 2014 Best Kept Village Competition. She also spoke about a project to plant wild flowers around the Parish for which she has received a grant and it was suggested that the sites for the planting be discussed directly with the lengthsman. The trees in the Parish were also discussed. It was noted that some younger trees need to be planted and a plan be made for the work needing to be done to the older trees in place. The trees by the entrance to the playing field have suffered due to road salt and need to be felled. Due to the expertise of the member of the public it was suggested that she would put together a tree survey which could be presented to the finance planning meeting which usually takes place in November. This would allow plans for replanting and ongoing costs around maintenance to be incorporated into budgeting.

83 Minutes of Previous Meeting – agreed and signed.

84 Declarations of Interest – Councillor Griffin declared an interest in the planning application on her property and withdrew from the meeting for that section.

85 Planning Matters

Lower Hurst Farm - an application for the construction of a covered area over an existing compost midden. **No objections**

Milldale Road, Hopedale – an application for the creation of a gateway in agricultural field to allow for occasional access of livestock. **No objections**

Wesleyan House – proposed agricultural building to store fodder. **No objections**

NP/SM/0114/0081, Agricultural shed to house and feed cattle, Grange Farm, Stanshope – **granted**

NP/SM/1213/1146, Proposed installation of a 30kwh 96 panels of ground mounted solar PV panels, Upper Hurst, Hulme End – **granted – both permissions were noted.**

86 Financial Matters –

Outcomes from interim audit – policies to be ratified during May or July meeting

Asset register to be updated reflecting new mower – at purchase price – **Clerk to action**

Clerk to complete paperwork for Audit on 19th May 2014

Lengthsmans' grants from SMDC and SCC – applications made for 2013-2014 - **Noted**

86.1 Payments –

Newgen invoice total was clarified – corrected invoice now received

SPCA Subscriptions for 2014 £118.00

Virtual Names Sales £40.00 plus £8.00 VAT – total £48.00

Expenses for Councillor Reavy as detailed – total £60.49

Estate Machinery Ltd - £449.00 plus £89. VAT totalling £538.80

Ian J Redfern – Work on footpath from Milldale to Alstonefield £150.00

Ian J Redfern - Work carried out on strimmer - £24.00

The Ford Partnership – payroll services for 2013-14 - £85.00 plus £17.00 VAT totalling £102.00

86.2 Monies Received

86.2.1 - Car Park Honesty Boxes

Playing Field Car Park - £32.14 Toilet Car Park- £26.70

86.2.2 Grant from SMDC towards resurfacing of play area

£250.00 to be banked

The Clerk was asked to contact Gill Heath to request confirmation of the offered grant.

Clerk to action

87 Playing Field Matters

a. Play Area Safety Check Confirmation – The rota is now to be restarted. Councillor Reavy offered to check whether it would follow a similar format with Siobhan Smith who has volunteered to take it on.

b. Play Area – The new surface is looking very good and several villagers have commented upon it. It was noted that the swings need to be raised in order to prevent the membrane being exposed. The work on the bench and slide was also noted and thanks were extended to Mike Griffin for all the work that had been done.

Council meetings are open to the public. Members of the public are also entitled to see the reports presented, if these are not subsequently published as part of the minutes and therefore automatically in the public record. Minutes and reports can be viewed by appointment with the Clerk and copies made, upon request, on payment of a charge.

- c. Playing Field on-going maintenance folder - to be checked
- d. Car Park – honesty box – report on any monies collected prior to April meeting
Playing Field Car Park - £22.85 Toilet Car Park- £46.81

88. General Parish Matters

88.1 Signpost for Watts Russell pub on NT Land – The Parish Council have been informed that the NT have agreed to have a wooden sign for the pub on their land - **this was noted**

88.2 Policies for review – reviewed policies to be ratified as below:

Formal Complaints Policy Approved April 2009

Freedom of Information Policy Approved April 2009

Risk Assessment appendix i Approved October 2008 NB/NP

Risk Assessment – appendix-ii Approved October 2008 NB/NP

Risk Assessment-appendix-iii Approved October 2008 NB/NP

Risk Assessment – appendix-iv Approved October 2008 NB/NP

Risk assessment – Overview Approved October 2008 NB/NP

Financial Regulations Approved May 2009

Standing Orders – Approved May 2009

See minute ref 86

88.3 Tenancy agreement for Homestead gardens issued to new tenant. This and the first years' payment have been received.
Clerk to action

88.4 Parish Council Meetings dates with regard to Friendship Group meetings – no other clashes discovered.

88.5 May newsletter items – thank you re spring clean and notification of the APM and AGM as well as a request for any reports from village organisations.
Clerk to action

88.6 PC representative for the Village Hall Committee to be reconfirmed for 2014-2015. Cllr Lipp kindly agreed to remain in this role.
Clerk to action

88.7 National Trust Wood – Lode Lane – overhanging branches cut back 2nd April – **noted.**

88.8 CPI scheme work – Pen Close (start of the footpath from by the old red phone box in Milldale) cutting back completed. The next step is to look to add foothold steps in the bank and this will be looked at in due course.

88.9 Public telephone Box - Milldale. The Clerk was asked to contact BT regarding the maintenance of this. It was noted that due to the lack of mobile phone signal in this area, this is a working phone box to ensure that emergency calls can be made from a tourist spot which receives 1 million visitors a year up Dovedale and therefore it is vital that this phone is available. Currently the box has broken glass and is looking very shabby.
Clerk to action

88.10 Refuse removal – commercial bins at Milldale Councillor Peat and the Clerk gave updates regarding this site. The large bins are now locked and therefore a note will need to be sent out to all residents asking them not to leave rubbish by the bins as this will be classed as fly tipping. The Clerk was asked to write an appropriate note for distribution to the Milldale residents.
Clerk to action

88.11 Pothole repair noted past Paddock Farm

88.12 The Clerk was asked to report a large hole in the pull-in past Dale Bottom going towards Hope which needs repair.
Clerk to action

89 Correspondence in – all noted. The Clerk was asked to write to the Post Office to clarify when the two day a week service would re-commence. The independent suppliers guide will be held by the Clerk and the Clerk was asked to request quotes from both AON and Zurich Insurance for the next policy.

Clerk to action

90 Any Other Business

Cllr Griffin formally passed on the thanks from Mike Griffin for the gift purchased to thank him for all the work and assistance he has given towards the play area surface and equipment repairs.

Cllr Reavy gave out a copy of the piece that she will submit to the next Newsletter with regard to administration of the village website and noted that a training session would take place at the Village Hall.

Cllr Peat gave information regarding another large vehicle trying to access Millway Lane. This has damaged the verges and also whilst trying to clear the corner at the bottom, reversed into a group of tourists outside Polly's Cottage. Details of the driver and the company as well as photos were taken. The Chair offered to get some signs designed by the company that has been used in the past. She offered to send round some options including wording and symbols to warn of the narrow lane and the unsuitability for large vehicles. There is a sign by the green which could be made more visible with some trimming of the foliage around it and this will also be done. The Clerk will also contact Angela Nutter again regarding signage and asked for the photos taken to be forwarded to her if possible to send on to SCC. Cllr Peat will try to get hold of these and forward them.
Clerk to action

91 Date of Next Meeting:

The Annual Parish Meeting, Annual General Meeting and Ordinary Parish Council meeting for May will take place on Wednesday 21st May 2014 at the Village Hall starting from 7.00pm.