

AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **COUNCIL MEETING** at Audley Pensioners Hall, Church Street, Audley on 30th January 2014

Present: Councillors: Mr T Sproston, Mrs K Davison, Mr B Proctor, Mrs C D Cornes, Mr D Cornes, Mr P Breuer, Mr C Cooper, Mr N Blackwood, Mr A Wemyss, Mrs V Pearson, Mrs B Kinnersley

Acting: Clerk Mrs C Dillow

Guests: None

10 members of the public

No.	Item	Action
1.	<p>To receive apologies: Apologies were received from: Mrs A Beech</p>	
2.	<p>To consider approving and signing minutes of the Full Parish Council meeting on 19th December 2013 The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record.</p>	
3.	<p>Declaration of Disclosable Pecuniary interest in any item on the agenda <i>(Note member should notify Monitoring officer within 28 days if not already)</i></p> <p>None Declared.</p>	
4.	<p>Public Participation: Members of the public are invited to address the Council on any issue over which it has a power for up to 5 minutes each, with the item lasting up to a maximum of 15 minutes.</p> <p>Open Committee 7.05pm</p> <p>Members of the public in attendance wished to raise concerns in regards to planning application number 13/00956/FUL for the Erection of 6no. bungalows Land Rear Of 24 To 36 Heathcote Road Miles Green Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8LH. The Chairman read out a letter received from residents opposing to the application and it was noted they are concerned the entrance is not wide enough and will cause real problems with access. Mr Weymss commented that the application has already been called in.</p> <p>Closed Committee 7.15pm</p>	
5.	<p>Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of single storey side store. 7 Wood View Wood Lane Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8QU Ref. No: 13/00950/FUL / Green Belt / Del <p>Resolved to raise no objection to the application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Change of Use from 2no. holiday lets to form a single dwelling with two rooms for bed and breakfast. Pool Side Farm Red Hall Lane Halmerend Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8AX Ref. No: 13/00938/FUL / Green Belt / Del <p>Resolved to raise no objection to the building but the landowner needs to be clarified</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Two storey side extension 24 Boon Hill Bignall End Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8LA Ref. No: 14/00012/FUL / Green Belt / Del <p>Resolved to raise no objection to the application</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erection of 6no. bungalows Land Rear Of 24 To 36 Heathcote Road Miles Green Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire ST7 8LH Ref. No: 13/00956/FUL / Vill Env / Del 	

	<p>Resolved to object the application for the following reasons –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drainage will be a problem • There is more traffic now than in past years and often the speed limit is ignored, this is also a school route • The entrance is not wide enough and will cause access problems • Undesirable back infill • There are still enough brown field sites that can be built on before green belt sites are used 	
6.	<p>Flowers – Parish Business Competition This was discussed and it was agreed it would be a good idea to encourage a competition of this sort. Resolved to write to local businesses to invite them to join the competition and invite the Mayor or Deputy Mayor to Judge the competition around the end of July with Prizes of £30.00, £20.00 and £10.00 for first, second and third.</p>	DC Clerk
7.	<p>Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas inc:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for January 2014 and approval of any action required or taken <p>This was noted, a request has already been made by the Clerk to rectify the outstanding issues as per last months inspection. The clerk also tabled an estimate from Mr Hough to remove the moss on affected play areas and the repair of several small areas of wet pour that could be a trip hazard on Alsager Road / Albert Street and Alsagers Bank for a total of £300.00. Resolved Clerk to instruct Mr Hough under delegated authority to remove the moss and repair the wet pour on the affected play areas.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog Fouling – Scot Hay <p>The clerk reported on an email received regarding observations of a dog fouling on the playing fields, the clerk will follow this up.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Suggestions for 2014/15 maintenance contract <p>This was discussed in detail and it was agreed to add / remove several items on the contract. Members agreed they felt it was a lot of time & work involved in the tendering process last year. Resolved clerk to make the requested changes to the maintenance contract and suspend standing order 30 (c) to allow the clerk to obtain 3 quotations from contractors for consideration at the next meeting.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk
8.	<p>Approach from Poachin Builders – Mr Proctor Mr Proctor reported a request received from Poachin Building company to ask if the Parish Council will consider the company giving a presentation on a possible planning proposal to build on land within the Parish. Resolved to write to the company to confirm that the Parish Council do not wish to engage in discussion of any planning proposals until such time that official planning papers are received.</p>	Clerk
9.	<p>Treatment of an Audley Family by Staffordshire County Council – Mr Proctor The matter was concerning a family in the area with a disabled child and the closure of two centres, this has now been rectified and the family have been offered an alternative placement, nothing further to report.</p>	
10.	<p>Threatened closure / down grading of Audley Post Office – Mr proctor Mr Proctor reported on a reduced service at the post office in the Parish and how this will have a serious impact on the village. Mr Proctor proposed the Parish Council write to the post office to express concerns and object to reduced postal services in the Parish. Resolved Cllrs to contact Mr Proctor with any points they feel should be included and Mr Proctor will devise letter for submission through the clerk.</p>	BP Clerk
11.	<p>To receive update from Audley LAP – Mr Proctor Mr Proctor reported there is a safety awareness event for the elderly being</p>	

	organised and the Health Centre have been asked to be involved. It was noted there have been a number of daytime burglaries that the police have reported to LAP.	
12.	To receive update from Police / Parish Liaison Committee – Mr Proctor Nothing further to report.	
13.	Community Awards nomination process – Mr N Blackwood The nomination process was discussed and it was resolved that the new award will be a young persons award up to the age of 18 for their contribution to the Community, Mr Blackwood will supervise the process and the award will be in the form of a cup in memory of long standing Parish Councillor Elsie Kelsall (as previously agreed). It was also agreed the award should be presented around September time.	NB
14.	Correspondence and circulars received for information only (see Appendix A) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To review any other items received for information and consider for next agenda - Community Council of Staffordshire – Diary of events 2014 - Holocaust Memorial Service – 26th January 2014 - Mayors Spring Ball – 28th March 2014 These were noted, Councillors to submit any events for the diary to the clerk for submission.	
15.	Clerks Update – See appendix B This was noted, no further action required.	
16.	Councillor Reports (for information only / further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda) Mr Breuer reported there is work being done on Old Rd / New Rd, there are diggers and several 100 tons of hardcore, the site is dangerous and its along a school run. Mrs Cornes confirmed the crumbling Wall on New Road belongs to the County Council and the school should be advised warning the pupils not to go by it. Mr Proctor and Mrs Pearson reported the Tree work at Leddys Field is a separate issue to the Wildlife and a tree survey needs to be carried out asap. Clerk to add this item to the next agenda.	NA
17.	Budget 14/15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget & Precept 2014/15 The clerk tabled the proposed budget for 2014/15 this was considered and approved with no amendments, it was resolved to decrease the precept by 10% to correct the increase to the Band D Tax rate during 2013/14.	
18.	Administration <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider alternative banking arrangements Alternative banking arrangements for the fixed rated deposit account were previously circulated by the clerk via email for consideration. The clerk is unable to obtain further information as she is not a signatory on the account. Resolved Cllrs Mrs Pearson and Mrs Cornes as signatories will make an appointment to obtain further information and report back to the Council. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To consider renewal of Parish Online Resolved to renew the Parish Council website subscription for 2014/15	VP DC
19.	To report any delegated authority action taken through the Clerk Nothing further to report.	
20.	Grant requests - Community Chest Applications To consider Community Chest Applications received (unspent balance £2720.00) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audley Parish Angling Club • NWS Community First Responders 	

	The grants were approved in principal at the last Parish Council meeting subject to satisfactory bank statements / accounts being received. The Clerk tabled a copy of the statements and accounts for both applicants and it was resolved to continue to support the grants of £750.00 to Audley parish Angling Club and £500.00 to NWS Community First Responders	
21.	<p>Accounts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To approve the Accounts for payment - Appendix C <p>These were noted as a true and accurate record and approved for payment.</p>	
	Local Government Act 1972 - Exclusion of Press and Public - to resolve that the Press and Public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business on the grounds that they are likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the appropriate paragraph(s) Section 1[2] Public Bodies/Admission to meetings Act 1960	
22.	<p>Staffing Issues –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To consider maternity arrangements and Childcare voucher scheme <p>The arrangements for maternity cover and childcare voucher scheme were considered and approved.</p>	

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.15pm