

AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** held Audley Pensioners Hall, Church Street on 16th October 2014 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr H Proctor
Councillors: Mr T Sproston, Mrs V Pearson, Mrs C D Cornes, Mr D Cornes, Mr P Breuer, Mr E Durber, Mr C Cooper, Cllr A Wemyss, Mrs B Kinnersley, Mr P Morgan, Mr M Dolman, Mr M Joynson, Revd J Taylor and Lewis Moore (STBH rep)

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

No.	Item	Action
1.	To receive apologies Apologies were received from Cllr A Beech	
2.	To consider approving and signing minutes of Parish Council meeting on 18th September 2014 These were signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.	
3.	Declaration of interest in any item None received.	
4.	Public Participation At this stage there were no members of public present.	
5.	Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:- Cllr Proctor left the chair and Mrs C D Cornes took over. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erection of Roller Shutter on Shop Frontage Londis Supermarket 21 Ravens Lane Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8PS Ref. No: 14/00751/FUL Vill Env/Del Auth <p>Discussion took place on whether or not the application was considered to be retrospective, bearing in mind it was confirmed that there were some roller shutters recently installed already in place – which currently did not meet the Police Architectural Liaison officer's advice. A vote was taken and it was RESOLVED that the permission should be refused, as the application appears to be retrospective, and should be reinstalled conforming to the Police Architectural Liaison officer's advice on best practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior notification of a single storey rear extension (conservatory) measuring 4.8m in depth, 3.7m maximum height and 3m to the eaves 126 Apedale Road Wood Lane Stoke On Trent Staffordshire ST7 8PH Ref. No: 14/00750/LEXNOT – INFO ONLY <p>This was noted.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conversion of 2 barns to form 4 no. dwellings Hillside Farm Knowlbank Road Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8DT Ref. No: 14/00714/FUL - greenbelt/delegated <p>RESOLVED that although the access remains the same as the previous application for 3 dwellings, the application should be SUPPORTED.</p> <p>Application for variation of condition 2 of 13/00542/FUL to increase the floor area of the units due to changes to the HCA Space standard (level 1) Garages Adjacent 59 Vernon Avenue Audley Stoke-On-Trent Staffordshire Ref. No: 14/00703/FUL Delegated/Village Env</p> <p>As this will provide larger living area, it was RESOLVED that this should be supported. Cllr Proctor returned to the position of Chair.</p>	
6.	Update on Audley Library review by Staffordshire County Council	

	<p>(Standing item) Mr and Mrs Hough (an experienced librarian) attended the 18th September meeting with SCC and provided feedback to Cllr Proctor. There remain a lot of questions unanswered, a list of which has been given to SCC, which are hoped to be addressed now the consultation has ended.</p> <p>It was however confirmed that qualified librarians would not be retained. Cllr Proctor stated that MP Ed Vaizey is challenging Sheffield City Council who has put their libraries out to volunteers.</p> <p>Further feedback to be given at the next meeting.</p>	
7.	<p>To consider requesting action from the relevant agencies regarding Highways/traffic issues :</p> <p>1) <i>Actions from public meeting held with Cllr Proctor regarding traffic issues in Audley Parish/issues for Neighbourhood Highways Team visit</i></p> <p>A meeting was held with the Borough Councillors Beech and Proctor, Staffordshire Police Insp Barlow, PC Henshall and PCSO Blythe.</p> <p>Up to 80 people attended. The majority of issues fall under the remit of SCC Highways, and Cllr Beech has already forwarded these to Mr Greatbach. Other issues such as speeding and obstructive parking will be looked at by the Police. In particular Cllr Proctor has requested that Boon Hill Road is reviewed by Highways due to the blind bridge, bends and narrow roads. A priority passing system will be considered.</p> <p>Noted that school parking is generally as a result of parents not parking considerately or safely.</p> <p>Cllr Proctor acknowledged that lots of roads would be closed off if all cars parked in the street rather than two wheels on the pavement. However there are pushchairs and mobility vehicles/wheelchairs, that cannot get passed and something needs to happen. In response a joint leaflet will be produced by the Parish and the Police – to advise people of the obstruction they are causing. Police Crime Commissioner is looking at allowing PCSOs powers to ticket cars on double yellow lines. The parking warden service will be provided by Stoke on Trent City Council from April 2015.</p> <p>2) <i>Request for landowners to cut overgrown hedges adjacent to Highways</i> All to send maps of problem hedges and the owners details to the Clerk, so that letters can be sent. A letter had been received regarding a problem hedge on Alsagers Bank. Clerk to respond to the letter to request that they take urgent action to deal with the most pressing issue to avoid any serious accidents which they may be found liable for as a result. Copy to be sent to the letting agent, if the property is fully managed.</p> <p>3) <i>Signage issues on Boon Hill Road by Bignall End Cricket Ground</i> As already discussed earlier on the agenda. Revd Taylor thanked the chair for his professionalism when presiding over the traffic issues meeting on 8th October.</p>	<p>ALL Clerk</p>
8.	<p>To consider further action with regards to impact of Junction 16 M6 roadworks – Mr Morgan</p> <p>Mr Morgan noted that there has been an improvement on the notification of the junction closure. However it would agreed that the volume of traffic has steadily increase along Nantwich Road. Clerk to ask Inspector Barlow to complete</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

	regular speed checks. Clerk to ask that SCC redirect traffic to access Newcastle via the new Keele by-pass rather than through Audley.	Clerk
	Clerk to ask Highways to carry out a traffic study if they have not done so recently along Nantwich Road.	Clerk
9.	To consider a request to repaint the “white rails” – Cllr Wemyss RESOLVED that the Clerk would chase up the repair by SCC and once complete would request the Community Warden to repaint the rails, and if not then Mr Hough. Also RESOLVED that the white paint can be purchased to enable this.	
10.	Grants – Community Chest (uncommitted balance £1676) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St James Church Hall request for £800 for hall refurbishment (use by non religious community groups) <p>The Parish Council discussed this application at some length, and the overall benefits to numerous community groups – who were not of any religious nature. Clerk to ask Mr Babb for a list of community groups who would benefit from the work. It was also felt that this request for new kitchen units was not considered to be improvements to the fabric or structure of the building.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Parish Council are minded to support this application for a grant support for the community activities however NBC will be asked to confirm that the eligibility of this application under the terms of the scheme.</p> <p>Clerk to request that the church hall remove any advertisement signs due to the impact on the conservation area.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk
11.	Assets - Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Allotments/Bowling greens inc: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for October <p>The play inspection report was noted. In particular the swing seats have been ordered for replacement. RESOLVED that the Clerk order a new bin for Albert Street within the play area to be emptied by Mr Hough.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Clerk to ask Audley Millennium Green Trust if we can mend the broken gate and fence, subject to their agreement, Clerk to instruct Mr Hough to carry out the repair. Clerk to ask what the delay is in registering the definitive footpath at the back of Alsagers Road play area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority – Leddys Field repair to fence (New Road), repair of bunting (Church Street), Alsager Bank new swing reseeding <p>The above were noted and approved.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hedge cutting at Queen Street – Cllr Beech <p>RESOLVED that this would be approved and funded, on the understanding that this is the first cut this year.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration of request from resident for further work to Miles Green footpath <p>A visit had been held by Mr Sproston and Cllr Proctor to review the work previously carried out by Mr Hough. It was agreed that Mr Hough had cut back our hedge as far as possible and had widened the pathway. It was also felt that the hedge causing the obstruction to the view along the road belonged to the neighbouring house. No further action required at this stage.</p>	Clerk Clerk Clerk Clerk AB

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Renewed sign over the Audley Bowling Club – Cllr Wemyss It was RESOLVED that the Clerk will instruct the repainting in black and gold. • Renewed sign over Halmer End Bowling Club and litter bin – Mr Joynson Noted that the Halmer End village sign also needed urgent attention, and it was RESOLVED that the Clerk would write to the landowner where the village sign had been erected asking if they would be painting it or if the Parish Council should. Mr Breuer to let the Clerk have the details of the property owner. <p>It was RESOLVED that Mr Harrison would be asked if the Parish Council could repaint (if possible) or replace if it is beyond repair, the Bowling Club sign on the same basis as currently provided.</p> <p>With regards to Play area signs and dog control order notices – it was RESOLVED that the Clerk would order the signs for each play area to be erected by Mr Hough.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk PB</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p>Update from Staffs County Council regarding Halmer End Bowling Green – if available</p> <p>Noted that Mr Ball had approached Mrs C D Cornes regarding the council's position. It was RESOLVED that the position regarding the lease would be reconfirmed, with respects to the legal conditions that are required as per the meeting with Mr Ball for the bowling club, before any surrender can be considered. Mrs Cornes to inform Mr Ball to contact Staffordshire County Council.</p> <p>It was agreed that the Football Club would resolve their own issues due to their current position in the league.</p>	
13.	<p>To receive an update from Audley LAP and Police / Parish Liaison Committee – Cllr Proctor</p> <p>A litter pick will be arranged for Halmer End, in conjunction with Mr Joynson. Equipment has been provided by the LAP. The Friends of St James Churchyard will be assisting to maintain the churchyard, in addition to the Borough Council. Cllr Proctor to confirm that the volunteers have sufficient instruction/training regarding the use of litter pickers etc.</p> <p>Cllr Proctor reported that the meeting of the Police / Parish Liaison Committee has now moved to the 3rd Wednesday, to enable a wider coverage across the parish along with the other meetings. PC Claire Henshall will be covering PC Dolman's secondment, along with 2 PCSOs – although one is due for maternity leave.</p>	BP
14.	<p>Correspondence and circulars</p> <p>To review other items as listed for information and consider for next agenda inc:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - NBC Peer Planning Review further comments Clerk to inform Mr Benson that Parish Councillors have had difficulty accessing a Planning Officer by telephone and also Building Control who are now based in Stoke City Council. No other comments were noted. - NBC Call for Sites – deadline 31st October Clerk to submit the previous submission for the SHLAA as per September 2012. Clerk to ask if any other sites have been put forward in Audley Parish. - Thank you letter from Staffs Police re youth funding Noted. Cllr Proctor to ask the Borough Council to write to the neighbour of the 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>BP</p>

	<p>land at Red Hall Lane, to confirm the access rights for the Police.</p> <p>- Invite from STBH school to Awards evening 20th November</p> <p>Mr Joynson to attend, as unfortunately this clashed with the Parish Council meeting.</p> <p>Request for Two Saints Way Local Representative</p> <p>The Parish Council thanked Beverley Mayer for bringing this to their attention. Cllr Proctor to approach Brian Dodd as Senior Church Warden, to act as the Parish representative for the project.</p>	<p>MJ Clerk</p> <p>BP</p>
15.	<p>Clerks Update</p> <p>Clerk to ask Mr Adams as the landowner to ensure that the appropriate electric fence gate access is given for the stile. Mr Morgan to confirm with the Clerk if this is still a concern.</p>	
16.	<p>Councillor Reports (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda)</p> <p>Mrs Pearson to speak to Jean Stevenson regarding reducing the height of the plants on the junction of Hall Street by the Library.</p> <p>Clerk to ask where for an update on the drains unblocking programme is, as previously reported.</p> <p>Mrs C D Cornes reported that Pink Week would occur on Friday 24th October to 1st November with a range of activities planned. A meeting will be held in February 2015 to ask the parish for support for a further event later in 2015.</p> <p>Cllr Wemyss reported that the hedges along from the M6 bridge towards Wagon and Horse, Nantwich Road, were blocking the footpath and making it difficult to walk along. Clerk to report to landowners SCC Highways for urgent action.</p> <p>Revd Taylor reported he had attended the fantastic BMX/skate park visit to Central Forest Park with Madeley – funded through AWM, Lottery, Barclays and Sport England. A further one is planned for a smaller site in Market Drayton. He was very grateful to Madeley for organising the visit. Cllr Beech to be informed about the Market Drayton visit when it is arranged.</p> <p>Mr Joynson reported the streetlights are out in Wesley Place, this has already been reported to Highways and to SCC by the Clerk.</p> <p>Cllr Proctor and Mr Sproston attended a meeting regarding issues relating to the highway at Miles Green opposite the play area. These issues have been reported as a matter of urgency to the County.</p>	<p>VP</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
17.	<p>Report back from the Newcastle Borough Council meeting held on 14th October regarding the concurrent funding review</p> <p>The Clerk reported back from the meeting held regarding S136 funding – summarising the draft report circulated earlier. In essence the funding will continue, however the scrutiny panel will be recommending to the Cabinet that any underspend is clawed back on the future years, excessive reserves are reduced. However the Borough Council are aware that they receive excellent Value for Money in most cases.</p>	
18.	<p>Accounts</p> <p>To approve the Accounts and note current budget position</p>	

	<p>The accounts were approved for payment as at Schedule 1 attached and the budget position was noted.</p> <p>Ring fencing of Capital Reserves (estimated to be £65k at end of 14/15) It was noted that as we have a large number of play areas and each site needs to be upgraded we should identify and ringfence funding to each site on a case by case basis. In addition to this the Bowling Club, Allotments , Leddys Field and Bluebell wood should also be included in the exercise.</p> <p>Mrs C D Cornes suggested that the whole of Leddys Field should be looked at, not just the TPO area. Which should be planned capital spend.</p> <p>Also there is a need to reduce the height of the trees along New Road (every other one) so that Leddys Field can be seen from the road.</p> <p>Clerk to follow up issue of missing deeds lost by Rees Jones/Shacklocks during the intervention.</p> <p>Agreed that the Clerk would request a sample scheme to be drawn up for Alsagers Road, along with Mrs Pearson.</p> <p>To consider renewal of Staffordshire Play Fields (£15 pa) and Staffordshire Wildlife Trust (£42pa) RESOLVED that this be approved.</p>	
	<p>RESOLVED that the following items on the agenda 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).</p>	
19.	<p>Contractual issues To consider a quote for Leddys Field – thinning of sub compartment 1 Clerk to seek alternative quotes for the work, due to the complexities experience by the Borough Council.</p> <p>Consideration of quotes for Rileys Field fencing Mr Hough’s quote was approved. Clerk to confirm the materials to be used, and strengthen if possible.</p> <p>Quote to repair broken fence at Alsager Road play area/MGT Mr Hough’s quote was approved, Clerk to seek agreement from Millennium Green Trust.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk SH</p> <p>Clerk SH</p>