

AUDLEY RURAL PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE **FULL COUNCIL MEETING** held Audley Pensioners Hall, Church Street on 19th February 2015 at 7.00pm

Present: Chairman: Cllr B Proctor

Councillors:, Mrs V Pearson, Mr M Dolman, Mr C Cooper, Cllr A Beech Mr P Breuer, Mrs B Kinnersley, Revd J Taylor, , Mr M Joynson Mrs C D Cornes and

Clerk – Mrs C. Withington

1 members of public were in attendance

Mrs Julia Cleary attended for item

No.	Item	Action
1.	To receive a presentation from Julia Cleary regarding the arrangements for the Elections 2015 This item was postponed until later on the agenda due to Mrs Cleary being held up.	
2.	To receive apologies - Mr T Sproston, Mr D Cornes, Cllr Wemyss and Lewis Moore	
3.	To consider approving and signing minutes of Parish Council meeting on 15 th January 2015 RESOLVED that the minutes be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.	
4.	Declaration of interest in any item None	
5.	Public Participation: No issues.	
6.	<p>Planning - To consider any planning applications received, including:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> http://planning.cheshireeast.gov.uk/applicationdetails 14/5671N Proposed housing development (approximately 900 new dwellings), together with associated new employment development, a new primary school, indoor and outdoor recreation facilities, supporting retail development and the layout of significant areas of new landscaped open space to complement both the new development and the existing Gorstyhill Country Park.(comments by 25th February) (<i>designated as housing commitment land on the Crewe and Nantwich Local Plan</i>) <p>Councillor Proctor had attended a Strategic Planning meeting at the Borough when this item was discussed. A number of comments are being put together to object to this development.</p> <p>It was discussed that this would put an enormous strain on what is already a heavily used road by HGVs and other traffic along Nantwich Road and the surrounding infrastructure of the road network. It was considered to be catastrophic to the parish along with Weston and Betley. Clerk was instructed to raise the most serious of objections in relation to highways, and negative impact on the Parish. It was also thought that there are black fir trees on the site and a listed building adjacent, which may be impacted upon by the development. It was considered that they had not sufficiently looked at the sustainable transport links to and from Crewe and the Parish, as there were no bus runs to Crewe.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the Clerk should write a strong letter of complaint to the Planning Policy team at Cheshire East regarding the lack of consultation notification, as has happened in the past.</p> <p>RESOLVED that the application would be objected to as above.</p> <p>RESOLVED clerk to ask Highways to pursue the outstanding work to the mini-roundabout at Alsager Road.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Proposed two storey detached dwelling with integral garage and new access</u> The Old Coal Yard Rye Hills Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8LP Ref. No: 15/00020/FUL Planning Committee/Green belt <p>RESOLVED that this is NOT SUPPORTED on the grounds that the proposed new development would not be in proportion to the other houses in that area and would have a negative impact on the green belt, in terms of visual amenity from the street level. The Parish council agreed that they would be in support of a residential use on the site but more sympathetic to the green belt in terms of size of dwelling and height.</p> <p>Mrs Cornes abstained from the vote.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Principle of residential development for two Bungalows (3 Bed) or three houses (2 bed)</u> Land South Of Co-Operative Lane Halmerend Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8BL Ref. No: 14/00929/OUT – Village Envelope/Planning Committee (<i>Note Letter from Mr Hardy High Street Halmer End</i>) <p>RESOLVED that this would NOT BE SUPPORTED on the grounds of a narrow single lane access strip which would compete with other land users such as caravan storage. It was considered to be back development, which no safe access and would potentially overlook neighbouring properties. The road is unmade and suffers from neglect with large potholes. It was felt that the coal mine detail was missing, as there is several in the nearby area. Mr Hardy's objections submitted to the Borough Council were also noted and supported.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Replace flat roof on existing garage with a pitched roof</u> 18 Birch Road Wood Lane Newcastle Staffordshire ST7 8LB Ref. No: 15/00086/FUL – Village Envelope/Delegated <p>RESOLVED that this be supported as it was considered to be an enhancement to the area.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <u>Agricultural general purpose building for implement storage</u> Waste Farm High Street Alsagers Bank Newcastle Under Lyme Staffordshire ST7 8BP Ref. No: 15/00072/FUL – Green Belt/Delegated <p>RESOLVED that this would be supported for agricultural use only.</p>	
	<p>To receive a presentation from Julia Cleary regarding the arrangements for the Elections 2015</p> <p>At this point Julia arrived, therefore it was agreed to receive the presentation. Julia stated she was contactable on 017872 742227 during office hours to answer any questions. On 20th March, the notice of election will be issued. From 23rd March onwards, nomination forms for candidates wishing to stand in the elections (Local, Parliamentary or Borough) can be handed in <u>in person</u> to the Elections Office for an informal check. The deadline is 9th April at 4pm. Each candidate can have a copy of the electoral role (electronically ideally) for canvassing provided that they sign for it and return it if they do not stand or are not elected. If you are standing on behalf of a political party then you must ensure the name of the party matches that on the Electoral commission list on their website. Any incorrect words must be struck through on the application form.</p> <p>Electors on the electoral roll as at 1st March, can propose or second the equivalent number of candidates as vacancies per parish ward. The local council count is expected to take place at 9am on Friday 8th May 2015 at the Keele University.</p>	
7.	<p>Update following withdrawal of Planning Application - Great Oak surface coal mine proposals, Bignall End, Newcastle under Lyme - N.14/03/2013 M – Cllr B Proctor</p> <p>It was agreed that the recent news about the withdrawal was tremendous news</p>	

	<p>and all noted that CAGOO had worked extremely hard to fight against the plans. All efforts will now be made by Cllr Beech to remove the site from the Minerals list at the County as there are concerns that an application could still be forthcoming if UK Coal were resurrected.</p> <p>Noted that there are no known licences for landfill or tipping in the Parish other than that at Bonnie Brae. A stop notice has been issued for that site, and a second application will be made to the High Court for an injunction to prevent further tipping. However it was noted that in the meantime there is up to 30 HGVs a day tipping offensive material.</p> <p>To formally note the contents of the letter from Ravens Park Residents Association regarding subsidence risk (to be noted in the event of future applications)</p> <p>The contents of this letter were noted for the future in the event of a further application for opencast regarding the risk of subsidence.</p>	AB
8.	<p>Update on Audley Library review by Staffordshire County Council (Standing item)</p> <p>Noted that a decision has now been made for the categories of the 24 libraries at risk. For the time being, as there are no community groups forthcoming, the Audley library will remain as it is now, i.e. with paid staff remaining in situ. However they will be inviting community groups again to come forward to take on the management of it, supported by a floating member of staff from Staffordshire County Council. Cllr Proctor stated that the report incorrectly stated that 6 of the libraries have volunteer groups as Silverdale have not expressed an interest formally.</p>	
9.	<p>To consider a Play Area Strategy for 2015 and approve a budget</p> <p>The Play Area sub group (consisting of Revd Taylor, Cllr Wemyss, Cllr Beech, Mrs Pearson and the Clerk) had previously circulated a strategy for consideration. It was clarified that the reserves will be ringfenced as a total sum of £49k for the priority play areas, rather than £7k per play area which may not achieve a great deal.</p> <p>Clarification was given in respect of the strategy and the position with CARA for the future. Cllr Beech confirmed that CARA was still continuing as now, and would be working towards achieving funding for a BMX track and a half pipe. The Clerk confirmed that the only funding required from the Parish Council towards the CARA site at Queen Street was up to £10k in the next financial year to match fund a bid to the Lottery Awards for All fund, for skateboarding equipment, which the pupils of Sir Thomas Boughay High School had all requested on their list of projects in 2012.</p> <p>In accordance with the circulated strategy it was RESOLVED as per the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. That Queen Street would be the focus for youth facilities for the Parish, in accordance with the wishes from the earlier consultation carried out in 2012 with the High School. 2. A bid to be submitted for £10k to the Lottery Awards for All fund for Queen Street Half pipe skate park ramp asap by Cara – with match funding of up to £10k from the Parish Council. Cara also to submit a bid for the BMX track at the same time to LaFarge. Cara to progress planning permission with NBC asap. Youths in Audley to be involved where possible to ensure it is owned by them and residents in the surrounding area to be notified of plans. Once approved and deliverable, Parish Council to top up remaining funds required 	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>

	<p>for the half pipe (£10k approx.) from reserves for delivery in 2015. Tendering exercise to be carried out to achieve value for money.</p> <p>3. That Albert Street and Halmer End play areas (parish owned) would be the priority sites for the parish wards of Bignall End and Wood Lane, and Halmer End. Play equipment aged 8 and above will be installed on these sites to supplement the existing provision.</p> <p>4. Develop and submit a bid over the spring/summer of 2015 for Reaching Communities Building for Queen Street and Halmer End Play area for improvements to take place as soon as possible (likely to be 2016/17).</p> <p>5. To consider the next steps for raising the funding required pending the outcome of the above bid.</p> <p>Noted that at this stage, no additional budget had been agreed for anything other than the £10k match funding for CARA Awards for All lottery bid, in an effort to work in partnership with CARA.</p>	
10.	<p>Grants – Community Chest (uncommitted balance £0)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Audley Cricket Club (reserve project for any unspent funds in the Borough or early consideration for 15/16) for seating around the boundary £700 <p>It was RESOLVED that this would be a reserve project for any unspent funds for this year, or if not then it would be agreed in principle for next year's funding allocation. Noted that they provide a great deal of good work to get a large number of parish children off the street and into sports, plus also a social aspect for the community.</p>	Clerk
11.	<p>Assets - Playing Fields/Wildlife Areas/Allotments/Bowling greens inc:</p> <p>1. <i>To note Play Area Monthly Inspection for February 2015 and consideration of including Queen Street within the inspection regime at a cost to be agreed</i> The outstanding issues had been ordered regarding the repair to the damaged wetpour and removal of moles at Albert Street and the graffiti at Halmer End. It was agreed that Mr Hough would be asked to include the monitoring of dog fouling on the play areas inspections. It was also RESOLVED that at a cost of £12 per inspection, Queen Street would be included on the Parish Council inspection regime.</p> <p>2. <i>Approval of any action required or taken under Delegated Authority – Rileys Field Broken Glass removal</i> This was noted, along with the removal of offensive graffiti in Church Street. Noted that it had been removed within an hour of it being reported.</p> <p>3. To consider the purchase of a replacement piece of play equipment at Bignall End Road It was RESOLVED that in order to replace the missing play equipment that a more suitable and robust piece of equipment which is DDA compliant should be purchased at additional cost to top up the insurance settlement figure. Therefore the Clerk was authorised to order a basket swing for the play area.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
12.	<p>To note the progress with Leddys Field phase 1 Noted that children from Ravensmead School had carried out a litter pick and had attended the site to see the horses in action. In particular it was considered an excellent example of a green initiative for the Parish. The site had been opened earlier than agreed by the Contractor, prior to the council signing off the work. Mrs Pearson stated that she was hoping to attend a school assembly to present further information on the project. Mr Joynson was invited to be present to take pictures for the Audley Community News.</p>	VP/ MJ

	<p>Noted that unfortunately a chain saw had been stolen from the site during the work, which was extremely disappointing.</p> <p>Cllr Proctor had visited the site to look at the hedge (which ran parallel with Boyles Hall Road) with Richard Heler. On inspection it was found to contain numerous birds nest such as marsh land birds and tree sparrows. It was also not a traditional hedge, being in excess of 15 foot high. As it does not overhang any property or highways, it was agreed that it should be left as it is especially as it is a wildlife area. RESOLVED to leave the hedge uncut following the site visit.</p>	
13.	<p>Request for Grit bin at Watlands Road (SCC Ice busters) - Cllr Beech It was agreed to purchase a grit bin and install one at Watlands Road.</p>	Clerk
14.	<p>To consider the rent request for the Allotments for 2015/16 for Halmer End and Audley and set the date for the Allotment Committee It was RESOLVED to request £9 per allotment plot for the Audley site and the Halmer End site. It was agreed that the Allotment committee meeting would be at the start of the next meeting in March.</p>	Clerk Clerk
15.	<p>To consider funding artwork for a “Miner and his Lad” to be sited at the Minnie Pit memorial gardens Halmer End - Mike Joynson Mr Joynson reported that he was waiting for Ben Morris to respond with the grant details. Mr Joynson to notify the Clerk when it was ready to be included on the next agenda.</p>	MJ
16.	<p>To receive an update from Audley LAP and Police / Parish Liaison Committee – Cllr Proctor Cllr Proctor stated that 8 people had attended to carry out the litter pick in February. Unfortunately there were 9 bin bags collected from Margaret's Garden and Tesco's car park.</p>	
17.	<p>Correspondence and circulars The Mayors Charity Auction of Hats was noted for 17th March – anyone interested in attending to let the Clerk know by 10th March. Mayors Charity Concert on 7th March at 7.30pm was noted – tickets are £5 available from Peter Whalan at the Borough Council Clerk to reply to Audley Theatre to thank them for their consideration of the parking situation and that their co-operation is always valued. To review items for information and consider for next agenda None</p>	ALL Clerk
18.	<p>Clerks Update 1. To note Purdah starts on 20th March 2015 RESOLVED that this be noted in relation to parish activities and decisions which are <u>not</u> considered to be business as usual. 2. To approve the reimbursement of DSE glasses and eye test in accordance with the Health and Safety (Display Screen Equipment) Regulations 1992 RESOLVED that this be approved. 3. To consider the replacement purchase of a new PC/laptop, keyboard and monitor and to agree the disposal of the current laptop (purchased in 2011) RESOLVED that a budget of £1000 is agreed, and the Clerk will bring some options to the next meeting.</p>	Clerk
19.	<p>Councillor Reports (for information only/further actions and decisions must be included on next agenda)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mrs Pearson stated that she was very impressed with the professionalism of the contractors who completed the work at Leddys Field. Mr Breuer reported gangs of 20 plus youths hanging around the Chinese in Audley and around 10 at the bus shelter in Audley. There had been reported of ASB plus issues had occurred at Ravens Park and Miles Green 	

	<p>Road.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Joynton reported that there had been reports of speeding vehicles along High Lane and an incident involving a member of the community speedwatch. The Police are looking into this. Cllr Proctor thanked the sub group for their work on the Play strategy and Revd Taylor thanked the clerk for her input. It was agreed that this would be the best result for the youth of Audley Parish. Cllr Proctor noted the incident that had occurred on the A500 over the previous weekend. It was agreed that this footpath should be included on the next agenda to consider appropriate warning signs. 	Next agenda
20.	<p>Accounts</p> <p>1. To approve the Accounts and note current budget position RESOLVED that the accounts be approved as per the attached schedule and the budget noted.</p> <p>2. To consider withdrawing the reserves held at Natwest bank and putting back into the Deposit Account at Lloyds Bank, and authorising the signatories to do the same RESOLVED that this be approved.</p>	<p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk</p>
	To consider 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</p> <p><i>To approve annual leave for the Clerk during March 2015</i></p> <p>This was approved and noted.</p>	