

Minutes of the Annual Parish meeting of Alderley Edge Parish held at 7.30pm on Monday 19th May 2014 in the Festival Hall.

Present

Chairman: Cllr MD Lloyd
14 Alderley Edge residents (signing in list with the Clerk)
Cllrs: M J Connor, F Keegan and MW Maczkowiak
Clerk: A. Ross

1. Welcome

Cllr Lloyd welcomed all present and opened the meeting at 7.34pm

2. To approve the minutes of the last Annual Parish meeting held on 13th May 2013.

Adoption of the minutes was proposed by Cllr MW Maczkowiak, seconded by Cllr M J Connor and carried.

3. To receive an Annual Report from the Chairman of the Parish Council 2013/14.

Councillor MD Lloyd delivered his Annual Report (copy attached).

4. To consider any questions relating to Parish Council matters.

Mr Tomlinson asked about the piece in the report regarding compensation for allotment holders. After discussion it was clarified that a sum had been put in the budget to cover this but no official offer has yet been made.

Mr Tomlinson then asked why in the Income and Expenditure report the line for 'Allotment Legal fees' had nothing recorded against it when clearly the Parish Council had incurred such fees. The Clerk tried to explain that this was a new line that was put in for the new financial year 2014/15 which is why the expenses incurred in the 2013/14 financial year were put in the line for 'Allotment Costs'. At this point the Clerk was accused by certain residents of trying to manipulate the figures and was asked to confirm the legal fees incurred, the Clerk thought this was approximately £2200, the actual figure is £2040 plus VAT.

Mr Sanderson was pleased with the new format of the meeting. He then spoke about how he thinks Cllr Lloyd has got it wrong regarding the additional benefits to the village as stated in his report that improved medical facilities and a new car park would bring. He doesn't believe businesses need additional parking and thinks the Parish Council should represent the residents and this Parish Council does not appreciate that the majority of residents do not want the Heyes Lane allotment site to become a car park. Cllr Lloyd responded that the medical centre would be more than just a GP facility and that additional parking would be needed to accommodate that and a revamped Festival Hall.

A question was asked about the refurbishment of the Festival Hall and the costs involved. Cllr Lloyd responded that plans are being worked on and will include a new entrance, toilets and a general update which will be partly funded by the dowry. There was further discussion about funding and parking. Mr Tomlinson then asked if the Parish Council opposed the planning application on the grounds of insufficient parking, it was confirmed that they did not. Cllr Maczkowiak gave the example of Weinholts losing £1000 in the last week due to customers being unable to park and challenged the allotment holders to accept that there is an issue with parking in the village that needs to be resolved. Nicky Moreton a resident and Alderley Edge trader spoke about how she has traded in the village for the last 8 years and has seen a massive deterioration of parking in the village. She thinks the Waitrose redevelopment could have been managed better to minimise disruption and asked about the availability of traffic wardens to enforce parking violations. In the last 2 weeks her figures have been considerably down and she asked about compensation for loss and also for the Clifton Street residents parking scheme to be reviewed. Cllr Connor raised the possibility of using Chorley Hall Lane as a temporary solution and there was further discussion. The Parish Council was asked if they had ever undertaken a

survey of resident's views as one of the residents had done his own survey and 87% of people asked did not want Heyes Lane allotment site to become a car park. Mr Simpson asked Cllr Keegan when the need for a compound was established. Cllr Keegan responded that there were also issues regarding access to consider which Heyes Lane could help alleviate by taking all construction traffic off the side roads. There was further discussion about possible alternative parking solutions. A resident asked about a resolution on this issue and asked if the Parish Council would allow the residents to vote on it. Cllr Lloyd responded that he could not commit the Parish Council to that at this meeting. Mr Tomlinson asked to move a motion as follows. At this point Cllr Maczkowiak left the meeting.

'This meeting has no confidence in the Parish Council's stewardship of public assets'
He then read out his motion in full.
A vote was taken, 13 FOR and 4 AGAINST

Cllr Keegan asked to move a motion as follows:

'This meeting has no confidence in AEAGS's stewardship of public assets, namely the 3 allotment sites in Alderley Edge'
The reason given was that when the allotments were handed over from CEC, there was a long waiting list and instead of allocating the waiting list some people had 2,3 and even 4 allotment plots.
No vote was taken.

5. To invite any Alderley Edge groups present to report on their activities during the year.

None.

The Annual Parish Meeting concluded at 8.35pm

MINUTES SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT MEETING