



ALDERLEY EDGE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 9th February 2015

Present: Cllr MJ Connor (Chairman), DG Herald, F Keegan, S Joseph, MD Lloyd
MW Maczkowiak and N Schofield

In attendance: 10 members of the public
1 member of the press
Hall Manager
Clerk: A. Ross

Meeting

Commenced: 7.36pm

1. Apologies for Absence.

Cllrs JD Bergin and MH Williamson

2. Declarations of interest and requests for dispensation to discuss, or discuss and vote on a matter in which a Member or co-opted Member has a Disclosable Pecuniary interest (DPI).

Cllr Keegan declared a DPI (personal and not prejudicial) for item 10 and reported that he would speak on it but not vote. He asked to be allowed to stay in the room for the vote as the entrance lobby of the church was very cold and he was already feeling unwell.

3. Minutes of the meeting held on 12th January 2015.

Approval proposed by Councillor S Joseph, seconded by Councillor W Maczkowiak and carried

4. To agree spend of approximately £500 to enable video recording of meetings.

The Parish Council would like to keep a record of meetings so therefore need to spend money buying the appropriate equipment. There was a discussion about audio versus video recordings but all were agreed that money should be made available for recording the meetings in some form.

Approval proposed by Councillor S Joseph, seconded by Councillor DG Herald and carried.

5. Update on Allotments.

Cllr Keegan gave an update on Heyes Lane allotment site. There will be a Cheshire East cabinet meeting on 11th February to determine if they will amend the lease to allow for a car park. The officer's report recommends that CEC will not enforce the clause that it must always be maintained as an allotment site. Once this has been agreed the Parish Council can move forward with dealing with the covenant issue. The Parish Council are not closing the allotment but moving it to Lydiat Lane. AESG has now reached agreement with Cheshire East regarding the land at Wilmslow Road and are offering the Parish Council a lease for Lydiat Lane mirroring the one they have with CEC. The Parish Council can then start work on the site.

There was a discussion about the parking problems in the village, CEC has withdrawn from the management agreement of the Parade car park. Cllr Keegan gave a summary of what he thought the consequences of this will be and believes there is a risk there will be no short term parking in the village. CEC have agreed to change South Street car park to short term but will let existing permit holders stay on part of it for now.

Cllr Connor added that she has spoken to retailers in the village who are worried about car parking in the future. Cllr Lloyd asked about the access road from Heyes Lane to the medical centre, Cllr Keegan replied that that would be part of the planning application.

6. To discuss Incredible Edible and planters in the village.

Cllr Joseph spoke about plans to upgrade the tubs and planters in the village. In the past the Parish Council have done hanging baskets and given them to traders and asked them to look after them and they haven't done so, so the idea this year is to ask for a nominal fee of £15 in the hope that those that have been paid for will be taken more care of.

It was suggested that there is an ongoing programme to replace a few tubs with planters each year with the cost of each planter being approximately £375 and there is a meeting arranged with the Allotment Society as they would like to be involved.

There was a discussion about maintenance and the problem of people using the tubs for putting out cigarette ends.

7. To discuss plans for the Memorial Garden.

Cllr Connor suggested the idea of re-instating the £5000 put in a previous budget to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee and putting it towards the memorial garden. Various options are being looked at and she will present these at a future Parish Council meeting for approval. There has also been discussions about regenerating the house but these are ongoing.

8. Update from the 'Projects sub-committee'.

Cllr Keegan reported that the side entrance has been given planning permission and the Vodafone mast has gone. The issue of the Arqiva mast is still ongoing and could hold up the development if not resolved. Cllr Keegan has asked the local MP for help with this.

9. To discuss the responses to the Parish Pledge.

Cllr Connor reported on the responses. There were 101 responses to the Parish Pledge, these were divided into 3 sections: Medical Centre, Festival Hall and Heyes Lane allotment site. The breakdown was:

Medical Centre: 48 were positive about the plans, 51 were neutral and 2 were negative

Festival Hall: 38 were positive about the plans, 61 were neutral and 2 were negative

Heyes Lane: 44 were positive about the plans, 1 was neutral and 56 were negative. In addition to these figures an additional 18 copies of a pre typed letter were signed opposing the council's plans to turn Heyes Lane allotment into a car park.

There was a brief discussion about the poor number of responses.

10. To agree signing of building contract with Jones for Medical Centre and side entrance.

Cllr Keegan reported that he had spoken to CEC contracts about this and asked if it needed to be put out to tender again. CEC are happy that Arcus are on board and take the view that it would not be productive to involve other parties at this time. There was a discussion about the building contract and all were agreed that the contract could be signed as soon as the specification is finalised.

11. Reports from Councillors.

Cllr Maczkowiak gave notice that she would like to put an item on the March agenda discussing complaints she has received alleging mismanagement of the allotments by Alderley Edge Allotment and Gardening Society. She also asked permission to bring a professional/officer to the meeting to speak on the subject. All were agreed.

Cllr Herald reported on complaints he has received regarding Costa obstructing the pavement. He was told they pay CEC £500 per annum to use the pavement. The Clerk confirmed she has emailed Highways asking for their advice. Cllr Connor suggested getting the traffic police to comment on any obstruction of sight lines and Cllr Keegan suggested talking to the manager of Costa.

Cllr Herald also reported he has received complaints of there being rats on the alleyway running from Davey Lane to the Railway Station car park. He has asked Environmental Health to investigate.

Cllr Schofield asked if Tesco had responded to the letter sent to them about breaching their agreement regarding delivery times. The Clerk confirmed that no response had been received. Cllr Joseph agreed to ask the PCSO to look into it.

Cllr Joseph gave an update on the PCSO. She has been training a new PCSO who will take over the Colshaw beat and there will be an arrangement whereby they cover each other's rest days. The Parish Council are not happy with this arrangement and asked Cllr Joseph to arrange a meeting to discuss this with the PCSO and Inspector. Cllr Joseph was also asked to get the PCSO to log the hours she is in Alderley Edge

Meeting Closed: 8.51pm

ACTION SUMMARY

Undertaken By	Detail	When For
Cllr Joseph	Ask PCSO to look into problems being caused by Tesco deliveries	As soon as practical
Cllr Joseph	Speak with PCSO and Inspector about new arrangements	As soon as practical

Councillor MJ Connor
CHAIRMAN