

# Worminghall Parish Council

## Minutes of Meeting

Held on **Thursday September 11th, 2014**

**Present:** Cllrs: Dr Weaver (Chairman), Showell (Vice Chairman), Tasker & Grierson, Dst Cllr: Hawkett, and 4 members of the public.

Apologies accepted from: Cllr Rowe & Cllr Edmonds

**2/ Declaration of Interests:** None declared.

**3/ Minutes** from meeting August 7th 2014: were agreed and signed by the Chair.

**4/Community Led Plan:** People are away, so no up-date. Super fast broadband is on their list.

**5/ Village Amenities:** A sign saying 'Buckinghamshire' for the Waterperry Road is to be requested again. This will cost £400.

Two residents have made planters for the Oakley Road sign and Waterperry Road sign a resident is kindly watering this one. Owner of Wornal Park will put bulbs under their sign. Looking for a volunteer for the Ickford Road sign.

**A nomination form for a "Right to Bid" to preserve The Clifden Arms for the village,** The form was returned as it requires a map of the property.

**Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign:** Local Area Forum Sept 24<sup>th</sup> in Worminghall Village Hall. Find out about replacement batteries.

**Parish grass cutting,** Mr Gregory has been asked to cut the paths as per his original quotation of £50 until the devolvement is finalized. We are clustering with Oakley.

**Ditches and hedges:** Letters to riparian owners /landowners (residents with ditches) went out with a covering letter from the Parish Council.

**6/ Local Area Forum & Neighbourhood Action Group:** Councillors agreed that wi fi installation would benefit the Village Hall and its users. There are funds available, Clerk to apply. Village Hall Committee meeting is to be held on 23<sup>rd</sup> September.

**7/ Neighbourhood Watch:** 4 x Signs put on new signs.

**8/ Planning New:** Ashlea 31 Clifden Road, erection of single storey front extension and installation of flue on south elevation. **No objections.**

**9/ 14/02074/COUAR Change of Use –**Determination as to whether prior approval is required in respect of transport and highway impact, noise, contamination risk, flooding and location considerations for the conversion of an agricultural building into one dwelling and in relation to design and or external appearance of the building.

No objections from Parish Council but access is a concern and outside appearance to be in keeping with surrounding area. Decision: This application requires full planning permission as the land was subject to enforcement action in 2006.

14/00572/AOP 10 dwellings on land off Clifden Road. Majority of Councillors supported the application, providing that the safety of the pedestrian access is addressed to the satisfaction of AVDC and the Parish Council.

Decision: Refused.

14/00519/APP Use of land off Oakley Road for stationing of 3 gypsy caravans plus 3 hardstanding utility day rooms and stable block for horses. Councillors had previously unanimously objected to this application in an open forum meeting held on April 10<sup>th</sup> this year. Bucks CC Highways had previously strongly objected and recommended refusal to the application on the grounds of highways access. This application was due to be heard at the AVDC Development Control Meeting on September 11th. This hearing was cancelled at short notice and considerable inconvenience and cost to several people, not least our Chairwoman who is extremely angry that due process seems not to have been followed. The hearing was cancelled because Bucks CC Highways unexpectedly and without warning or prior notification withdrew their objections regarding access. These access objections were reversed after the agenda for the AVDC hearing was issued on Friday 5th. It was

noted that this was an extremely unusual development and behaviour for a local government office. The Bucks CC Highways Officer in question has not been available to explain his decision and has unhelpfully gone on annual leave. Councillors and residents who objected had registered their intention to speak at the AVDC hearing. Neither Councillors nor residents were notified that the AVDC meeting was cancelled. Our legal representative was 'astounded' at the removal of the item from the agenda and the turn of events generally. In particular it was deeply disappointing not to receive any details as to why the previously strong access objections made by Bucks CC had been reversed. This is believed to be very unusual practice. Dr Weaver, our chairwoman, invited David Marsh (the Bucks CC Highways Officer) to attend this meeting to explain the turn of events. Mr Marsh did not attend the meeting and did not respond to the invitation. Parish Council and Planning Officer awaiting explanation as to what evidence was submitted to the Highways Officer to make him reverse his decision.

### **10/ Planning Up-dates:**

Hill Coppice – Certificate of Lawfulness applied for 13/ 02904/ACL. Refused. Appealing.

Lake View, Oakley Road. **14/00793/ACL** - Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for an Existing use - change of land and continued use of residential mobile home. Unanimous objection. Refused. Decision: Enforcement notice issued.

### **11/ Finance & Expenditure:**

The Parish Council have received advice from a planning Consultant - Joe Cunnane from funds attributed to Section 137 for £300. All Councillors agreed to pay another £1,000 under Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 which enables Parish Councils to spend a set amount per head of electorate for the benefit of people in the area on activities or projects not specifically authorized by other powers. This was felt appropriate as the majority of the electorate objected to the particular planning application. The Parish Council believe that this item is going to be a long running saga and will have to be budgeted for next year. Clerk to enquire as to whether funding is available for this.

Opening Balance £3417.37

Clerk's salary 16 hrs @9.59 £153.44

Closing balance: £3263.93

Further discussion on the spending and raising of the Parish precept to be encouraged at the next meeting with residents. A comment received stated that the residents were not aware of the cost of the legal services. Note to go in BN to encourage residents to have their say at the meeting in November.

**12/ Correspondence:** Vale of Aylesbury Local Plan, an invitation to Councillors to attend and make comments will be held on Thurs 16<sup>th</sup> Oct 6.30 in the Diamond Room, Gateway, Gatehouse Rd.

Transport for Bucks are having a 'Think community' conference on 9<sup>th</sup> Oct at The Oculus. The Bulletin planning magazine has gone online.

**13/ Any Other Business:** The Village Fete was held at the Village Hall this year and made a profit of £1,400 approx. A very successful and well attended event well done to the organisers.

**14/** The next meeting will be November 6<sup>th</sup> at 8pm in The Village Hall.  
Meeting closed 8.59pm.

The website address is:

<http://www.bucksvoice.net/worminghall-parish-council/>

### **Acronyms:**

**MVAS:** Mobile Vehicle Activated Sign

**NHW:** Neighbourhood Watch

LAF & NAG: Local Area Forum & Neighbourhood Action Group  
PCSO: Police Community Support Officer  
LAT: Local Area Technician  
AVDC: Aylesbury Vale District Council  
BCC: Buckinghamshire County Council  
CLP Community Led Plan.  
TfB Transport for Bucks  
BALC Buckinghamshire Association of Local Councils  
BN Bernwode News