

IDRIDGEHAY, ALTON & ASHLEYHAY PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of the MEETING of IDRIDGEHAY & ALTON AND ASHLEYHAY PARISH COUNCIL held in the Village Corn Store, Wirksworth Road, Idridgehay on Wednesday, 11 March 2015

Present: Cllrs: R Tatler, D Ibbett, E Matkin, J Matthews, J Smith, M Westbrooke, F White and R Hallam (Clerk).

In attendance: Cllr D Taylor as elected representative for both AVBC and DCC, Mr Neil Ferguson-Lee from EVR and 1 member of the public.

86/14 Apologies for absence were received from PSCO Paula Bennett.

87/14 Variation of Order of Business - none

88/14 Declaration of Members' Disclosable Pecuniary Interests - none

89/14 **Public Speaking**

- 1 John Wiltshire reported that as Chair of the VIA Steering Group he had written to AVBC to complain about the delay in appointing an examiner for the Neighbourhood Plan and requesting of any consultation responses received. AVBC's response had only been that an examiner would be organised shortly. He is requesting that all correspondence between VIA and AVBC be sent to the Examiner as evidence of the struggle obtaining support from AVBC during the preparation of the Neighbourhood Plan. He also asked Cllr Taylor to find out how the £30,000 grant from central government to finance the neighbourhood plan had been spent. Mr Wiltshire also informed the council that the Planning Inspectorate had confirmed that Pratt Hall Lane would be reclassified as a Restricted By Way.
- 2 The council welcomed Mr Neil Ferguson-Lee from Ecclesbourne Valley Railway who explained that Wyvern Rail had applied under the Transport and Works Act 1992 to become the statutory operator of the railway. He said that EVR had proved good custodians of the railway which had brought a modest degree of prosperity to the valley and as such he asked for the council's support in the application. There would be a phased transfer of responsibility for the maintenance of the track and bridges from the DCC Highways department and Network Rail. When Cllr Smith raised concerns about increased HGV traffic over bridges, Mr Ferguson-Lee said that all were adequate at present but compensation would be sought for any damage to parapets and he would check the situation on the two bridges on the Pig Farm development. Cllr Matkin asked who was responsible for the maintenance of hedges and ditches alongside the railway and was told that EVR were in contact with the farmer's union on this matter. Mr Wiltshire expressed concerns over the culverts especially under Barnsley Lane but was told a recent Network Rail survey had shown none in a perilous condition. Mr Wiltshire also asked about the possibility of a footpath and cycleway alongside the railway. Mr Ferguson-Lee said that the wandering track made this difficult but not impossible as the railway wanted to encourage walkers, the new path from Shottle to Idridgehay proved this. Cllr Ibbett enquired as to the possibility of using the rail track for fibre optic broadband but this right of use remains with Network Rail. Mr Ferguson-Lee said that any comments or complaints about railway maintenance should be addressed to EVR who will happily investigate. Mr Ferguson-Lee thanked the council for inviting him to speak at the meeting and left.
- 3 Cllr Taylor as DCC elected representative reported that he was now a member of the Licensing and Appeals Committees; DCC had increased its council tax by 1.9% and the D2 Combined Authority project was going ahead. As AVBC elected representative he reported that the council had voted to retain election by thirds; the council had not increased its council tax and he would investigate where the £30,000 grant for the Neighbourhood Plan had been spent. Asked whether an illuminated speed sign or materials for the church car park would be eligible for a grant under the DCC Leadership Scheme, Cllr Taylor said that projects must benefit the community and any requests submitted will be considered.
PSCO Paula Bennett although unable to attend the meeting had sent the timetable for the Police Mobile Surgery which will be posted on the PC notice boards and website.

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- 4 No member wished to declare a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest, make representations or give evidence under the Code of Conduct relating to the Agenda items.

[The member of the public left the meeting at this point.]

90/14 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 14 January 2015

It was **AGREED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council held on 14 January 2015 as previously circulated and published be **APPROVED** as a correct record of the meeting and were signed by the Chair

91/14 Planning Matters

The following decisions were NOTED:

- 1 AVA/2014/1047 – Land off Wirksworth Road, Idridgehay – **Proposed erection of livestock building. Registered 23 December. Decision expected on 19 January under Delegated Powers. Application withdrawn.**
- 2 AVA/2014/1027 - Alton Nether Farm, Tinkerley Lane, Kirk Ireton - **Proposed erection of New Dwelling and car port, and Replacement Agricultural Building (Resubmission) Registered 10 December. APPROVED 29 January.**
- 3 AVA/2015/0079 - The Byre, Ecclesbourne Lane, Idridgehay – **Non- material amendment to AVA/2014/0304 - PERMITTED 24 February**

The applications awaiting decision were NOTED:

- 4 AVA/2014/1024 and AVA/2014/1025 – Whitehouse Farm, New Road, Ireton Wood – **Proposed renovation of & extension to Whitehouse Farm. Registered 10 December. Decision expected on 30 January under Delegated Powers.**

Cllr Smith reported that the problem opening certain documents on the planning website had been resolved as AVBC IT department now provides an 'alternative link' column .

92/14 Assets of Community Value

It was **NOTED** that CRE/2014/0010 the Appeal against the registration of the Black Swan Inn as an Asset of Community Value was **DISMISSED** by the President of the Tribunal Judge Peter Lane on 30 January 2015 After discussion, it was **AGREED** to register an interest to buy should the pub be put up for sale. It was also **AGREED** to write to AVBC to ask for confirmation that no further appeal will take place.

93/14 Financial Matters

- 1 It was **AGREED** to approve **the Statement of Accounts ending 4 March 2015.**
- 2 It was **AGREED** to approve the following accounts for payment:

Cheque nos	Payee	Amount	Description
000622	SLCC	77.00	Subscription
000623	Information Commissioner	35.00	Data Protection Insurance
000624*	Village Stores	25.00	Room Hire for March PC meeting
000625*	R Hallam	1,625.78	Clerk's ½ year salary 1346.28 + £100 office + £179.50 expenses
Total	* remains to be issued	1,050.28	

- 94/14 The receipt of the final instalments of both DCLG grants for VIA was **NOTED.**

- 95/14 The council considered DALC's choice of subscription rates – one with some training included and the other without and it was **AGREED** to pay the basic DALC subscription for 2015/16 and to pay for individual training courses as and when necessary.

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- 96/14 It was **AGREED** to send a letter to AVBC expressing concerns about the lack of progress of the Neighbourhood Plan reiterating Mr Wiltshire's request for any comments received during the consultation period.
- 97/14 It was **AGREED** to send Cllr Taylor a detailed list of potholes, blocked drains and collapsed ditches for investigation. It was also **AGREED** to report the hedge on the right-hand side of Barnsley Lane from Norman Hill Farm eastwards was not cut sufficiently to avoid damage by this season's growth.
- 98/14 The council discussed the arrangements for the forthcoming PC elections on 7 May and **AGREED** to display a poster on the notice boards and website giving contact details for anyone wishing to stand for election.
- 99/14 After discussion it was **AGREED** to continue with the production of separate PC/ PCC newsletters. It was **NOTED** that in view of government legislation on transparency the council website would need to display more council policies and information.
- 100/14 It was **AGREED** to approve the council's Complaints Procedure.
- 101/14 The council considered the lack of provision of a Post Office in Wirksworth as this will not now be part of the new COOP store and it was **AGREED** to write to the Post Office expressing regret that the town is left without any local provision.

The meeting closed at 9.05pm

These Minutes are subject to approval at the next Parish Council Meeting.

This will be held after the Annual Parish Meeting which starts at 6.30pm on Wednesday 13 May at St James' Church Idridgehay. Members of the public are welcome to attend.