

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 14 September 2009 in Alrewas Village Hall

PRESENT Cllrs David Butcher, Tony Coates, Patrick Curran, Donna Moss, John Pegg, Tim Powell, Jane Reilly, Roger Sanders and Margaret Stanhope.

IN ATTENDANCE County Cllr Janet Eagland, District Cllr Mike Wilcox and Jean Burton (Clerk)

1 **Apologies for absence**
None

2 **Acceptance of office**
Cllr T Powell made his declaration of acceptance of office and was welcomed to the Parish Council.

3 **Declarations of interest**
None

4 **Minutes**

a To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 August 2009
It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 August 2009 were a true record and could be signed by the Chair of the meeting. Carried unanimously.

5 **Planning matters for decision – to consider any planning applications**

a Planning applications
These are shown, together with recommendations made on the attached schedules entitled 'Planning Applications – for Parish Council decision 14 September 2009'

b Condition and deterioration of Essington Farm House and barn
The reply received from Ros Robb, Principal Planning Officer at LDC was considered and it was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should continue to chase the Planning Department and the Conservation Officer at LDC for urgent intervention by LDC to prevent further deterioration of Essington Farm house and cottage. If the response to the next letter is not substantive the Clerk was also asked to arrange a meeting between Parish Councillors and LDC officers to discuss this matter.

Clerk

c Gravel extraction
It was noted that a standard letter had been received from the West Midlands Regional Assembly in reply to our letter regarding gravel extraction in Staffordshire and which included our concerns about the effectiveness of the WMRA's consultation process. It was **RESOLVED** that a further letter should be sent to WMRA, copied to David Smith and Staffordshire County Council, advising that a standard letter did not address the points raised in our initial correspondence and was an inappropriate and inadequate response.

Clerk

County Cllr Eagland gave a brief update on the response being prepared by SCC for submission in January 2010 and confirmed that all objections have been noted.

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6 Planning matters for information – to take notice of:

- a The summary of LDC decisions for August 2009 was noted.

7 Financial Statements

- a To receive and approve the financial statement for the month of August 2009.

The income and expenditure account and balance sheet with notes were presented by the Clerk. It was **RESOLVED** that the financial statement for the month be approved.

- b To approve the payments on the cheques for payment list
It was **RESOLVED** that the cheques for payment list as attached is approved and passed for payment.

8 Police report

The police sent apologies for being unable to attend the meeting but advised that crime numbers had been low recently and arrests have been made in relation to the break-ins to sheds.

9 Football pitches rental agreements

It was **RESOLVED** that the Clerk should advise all teams wishing to use the football pitches at Walkfield that 50% of the rental must be paid before permission will be granted to use the pitches. Any team not complying will be reported to the FA. Payment in full to be received by 31 December 2009.

Clerk

10 Alrewas Arts Festival

- a It was **RESOLVED** to approve the request from the committee to use Walkfield for the finale event on 4 September 2010 subject to confirmation that the Health and Safety issues had been properly addressed.

Clerk

- b The Clerk was asked to send a grant application form to the committee for completion and return.

Clerk

11 Parish publicity

- a Website update – Cllr Reilly and the Clerk will be working with Eric Roy on his return from holiday at the end of September with a view to having the website operational asap.

**Cllr Reilly
and
Clerk**

- b After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the Steering Group should continue to develop a colour version of a newsletter, cost c£230 for 1200 copies plus delivery. Cllrs will arrange to distribute.

**Cllrs Moss
and Reilly**

12 Grants

It was **RESOLVED** that a grant of £650 should be made to LDC for provision of the summer and holiday play provision in the village.

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13 Footpaths

- a Misuse of Dark Lane
An acknowledgement has been received to the letter sent to the owner of the field at the end of Dark Lane to ask for the gates to be closed to vehicles. Clerk to follow up for a substantive reply. **Clerk**
- b Bridge over Mill Stream
The reply received from SCC relating to the condition of these bridges and the hedges on the approach was considered to be wholly inadequate. County Cllr Eagland advised that she is to meet representatives from SCC on site and Parish Cllrs will be invited to attend that meeting. **County Cllr Eagland and Cllrs**
- c Maintenance
The quote to concrete or tarmac the grass area under the litter bin located along the footpath from Walkfield to Fox Lane is outstanding. **Clerk**
- d Damage
The footpath from Walkfield to Fox Lane is being damaged by the roots from the neighbouring hedge and has been reported to SCC footpaths officer.
- e Footpath 6 – overgrown hedge
Cllr Coates advised that the hedge was a severe problem along this footpath and had been reported to Richard Collins at SCC.

14 Highways

- a Micklehome Drive drain cover at A38 exit
Amey have requested the site agent to assess and report back. Clerk to follow up. **Clerk**
- b Removal of "High Street" sign
Amey have requested the site agent to assess and report back. Clerk to follow up. **Clerk**
- c Pedestrians crossing A38
After discussion it was agreed to take no action on this matter.

15 Projects – to receive updates on:-

- LDC have advised that S106 monies in connection with the development of land off Fox Lane Alrewas has been received. Sum available £26,485. After discussion it was **RESOLVED** that all of this money should be allocated towards the improvement of the Village Hall. Clerk to advise LDC. **Clerk**
- a Area outside shops
District Cllr Wilcox advised that this project was being included in the capital programme for 2009/10 by LDC and he was hopeful that we would get early confirmation it had been approved. Cllrs recorded their thanks to District Cllr Wilcox.

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- b Improvements to drainage on football pitches
The quotation is outstanding pending a meeting with LDC. **Clerk**

16 Allotments

- a It was **RESOLVED** that, in principle, the provision of allotments was a project to be undertaken and
- b The Chair and Clerk were authorised to investigate whether it was possible to provide allotments at a reasonable cost. **Cllr Butcher and Clerk**

17 Shared assets

It was **RESOLVED** that in consideration of the office equipment being allocated to Alrewas Parish Council the Chain of Office would be passed to Fradley and Streethay Parish Council. Clerk to confirm with Cllrs of Fradley and Streethay Parish Council. **Clerk**

18 Residents Complaints/Requests

- a Tennis on Walkfield
The Tennis Club Committee has asked the Parish Council to ascertain if planning permission will be required to install tennis courts at Walkfield. The Clerk was authorised to write to LDC enclosing details supplied by the Tennis Club Committee and to request advice on the planning procedures. **Clerk**
- b Lighting footpath from Fox Lane to Walkfield
The Clerk was asked to write to Walton Homes to ascertain if they would be prepared to install lighting along the footpath behind the new development. **Clerk**
- c Brown signs to village from A38
After discussion it was decided that the expense was not justified until improvements to the roads and infrastructure have taken place.
- d Maestrom site
There is vandalism at this site which has been reported to the police. The Clerk was asked to write to the owners asking them to secure the site. **Clerk**

19 Parish Surgery

No member of the public attended the Parish Surgery held on Saturday 12 September 2009 in the Crown Inn.

20 Brief items – the following were noted:

- a Nominations invited for Executive Committee of the SPCA – advise Clerk before 15 October 2009.
- b Community Council of Staffordshire AGM 24 September 2009 – details with Clerk if you would like to attend.

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21 Parish Council Diary – (All)

a Past Dates

Battle of Britain Service held at St Stephen’s Church, Fradley on 13 September 2009.

b Future Dates

22 Date of Next Council Meetings

Monday 12 October 2009, Parish Council meeting at Alrewas Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Last date for notification of agenda items – Friday 2 October 2009.

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Chair/Vice Chair

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Date