

## **ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 20 July 2015 in Alrewas Methodist Church**

**PRESENT** Cllrs Jan Altham, June Attwood, David Butcher, Tony Coates, Donna Moss, Chris Niblock, John Pegg, Jane Reilly and Margaret Stanhope.

**IN ATTENDANCE** County Cllr Janet England, District Cllrs Mike Wilcox and Ben Rayner and Jean Burton (Clerk).  
Various members of the public mainly for Item 5a

1 **Apologies for absence**

None

2 **Declaration of Acceptance of Office**

Cllr Chris Niblock made his declaration of acceptance of office.  
The declaration from Cllr Tony Coates was accepted at the end of the meeting.

3 **Declarations of interest**

a Cllr Attwood in relation to Items 5a and 7c.

4 **Minutes**

a To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 08 June 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 08 June 2015 were a true record and could be signed by the Chair of the meeting.

b To receive and approve the Confidential Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 08 June 2015

It was **RESOLVED** that the Confidential Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 08 June 2015 were a true record and could be signed by the Chair of the meeting.

5 **Public Participation**

a The New Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire (2015-2030)

Mat Griffin from SCC gave a presentation on the latest consultation document and how representations should be made. Members of the public expressed the deep dissatisfaction felt following the assurances received in 2011 from Dr Catherine Raines, Deputy Chief Executive and Director of Place for SCC, that sites west of the A38 would not be included.

Reasons to exclude this area of search:

Cumulative effects of multiple impacts blighting the area for six villages/hamlets – existing quarrying, abandoned quarries, water-based infill, HS2, coal bed methane bore holes.

Increased traffic on already compromised road network.

Loss of good agricultural land and lack of landfill to re-instate.

Destruction of mature and ancient landscapes including hedgerows, tree lines and field layouts.

Reduction in biodiversity.

Loss of existing land-based amenities.

Security of the Alrewas Gas Compressor station one of the largest national grid distribution stations with 8 high pressure pipelines running through the proposed area of search.

Negative effect on tourism and loss of revenue.

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#### **Alrewas Methodist Church**

b Essington Green appeal Item 6

Cllr Pegg reported that the Inspector had been very fair and offered the Parish Council proper opportunity to make representations.

The appeal will not be determined until the result of the challenge to the Lichfield Local Plan being considered in the High Court is known.

The inquiry is due to re-commence on 7 September 2015 to determine the next steps.

The Neighbourhood Plan should have a material effect the extent of which will depend on progress with the Independent Examination.

Mrs Hall, a resident in the village since 1961, presented a letter from both her and her husband thanking all who had been involved in preparing both the Neighbourhood Plan and the case against this development, recognising the considerable time and effort and attention to detail required.

c Neighbourhood Plan update Item 9 – Cllr Pegg

The Neighbourhood Plan has been sent for Independent Examination to the Examiner preferred by the Steering Group. He is currently considering if a public examination will be necessary.

At a very late stage we were made aware that LDC had made negative comments about the Plan including repeating comments from the first consultation which the Steering Group had addressed in the final draft. These comments were not posted on the LDC website at the same time as other consultee responses nor were we advised directly of these comments. LDC have been asked to provide an explanation for their extremely unhelpful attitude in preparing the Neighbourhood Plan and apparent wilful disregard of its contents in assessing planning applications.

We are aware that there are 2 major areas of disagreement with LDC – the need for an SEA and housing numbers, but similar Neighbourhood Plans have been made without an SEA and it is clear from the consultations in the village that the higher housing numbers would not get passed by the community at the final referendum.

It is for the Examiner to determine the soundness or otherwise of the Plan not LDC or other parties like developers who may be affected by its proposals.

d Benches outside the Co-op Item 19a

Mr John Ball a resident consulted about the possibility of a bench being installed outside the shops spoke against the proposal. His comments were supported by Mr Ralph Seville.

## **6 Essington Green applications**

To be advised on the progress of the appeal now relating to 15/00120/FULM only:

a Representations made on behalf of the Parish Council  
See Item 5b.

b Progress on fund raising to assist with costs of professional advice in relation to the appeal  
Nothing to report.

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#### **7 Planning matters for decision – to consider any planning applications**

##### **a Planning applications**

These are shown, together with recommendations made, on the schedules entitled 'Planning Applications – for Parish Council decision 20 July 2015'

##### **b Implementation of Article 4 restriction for Conservation Area** Cllr Moss updated the report provided to say LDC had indicated resources would not be available till next year to assist with the proposed map.

It was agreed that the working group would continue to investigate options to protect the areas causing concern and report to the next meeting.

**Cllr Moss**

##### **c Consultation response to the New Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire (2015-2030)**

County Cllr England will be taking the presentation previously given to Dr Raines to the new Chief Executive of SCC and meeting with Lafarge to seek assurances that quarrying will not take place west of the A38.

**County Cllr England**

The Parish Council will make representations against the proposal to identify an area of search west of the A38.

**Clerk**

##### **d Consultation responses for LDC:**

1 Trees, Landscaping & Development SPD

2 Biodiversity & Development SPD

3 Sustainable Design SPD

4 Historic Development SPD

5 Rural Development SPD

It was agreed that an informal meeting would be held to consider the responses to be submitted.

**All**

#### **8a Planning matters for information – to take notice of:**

The decisions from LDC for June 2015 were noted.

##### **b Meetings with developers**

Meetings have been held re:

Changes to 35 Park Road;

Re-designed proposals for the doctors land at Bagnall Lock which are much improved.

#### **9 Neighbourhood Plan**

##### **a To note progress - see Item 5c.**

#### **10 Financial Statements**

##### **a To receive and approve the financial statement for the month of June 2015.**

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 is approved and passed for payment.

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11 **Staffing** – *in confidence*

12 **Police report**

The report received was noted.

13 **County Cllrs report**

Cllr Eagland confirmed that the road markings on the Kings Bromley Road entrance to the village will be installed shortly and that she is seeking a meeting with Mark Winnington at SCC to follow up the questions about the attitude of highways officers to traffic issues in the village.

14 **Highways**

a Preservation of alleys

It has been agreed in principle to preserve the names of Christians Alley and Dragon's Alley. Clerk to ascertain process with Highways and Rights of Way officers – ongoing.

**Clerk**

b Condition of wall at junction of Fox Lane/Main Street

The Highways Neighbourhood team are investigating and will advise on any action to be taken.

**Clerk**

c Installation of a barrier at Walkfield Road end of footpath to Fox Lane

It was **RESOLVED** to ask SCC to install a barrier.

**Clerk**

d Winter Maintenance Policy review

It was agreed to submit the response prepared by Cllr Niblock.

**Clerk**

e Road naming

It was **RESOLVED** that the proposed name for the development site 59 Park Road would be "Bannister's Place".

15 **Alrewas Village Hall**

The renovation project is continuing according to plan with a target for re-opening in August.

16 **Walkfield**

The working group has started to review the condition of all the equipment to prepare a long term plan for consideration at the September meeting.

**Cllrs  
Butcher,  
Moss and  
Reilly; and  
J Lewis**

a Installation of pendulum seating  
Completed.

b Pest control proposals for rabbit population

The survey has indicated that culling on the adjacent paddock is the best way to see a quick reduction in the population. It was agreed to liaise with all parties to proceed asap.

**Clerk**

c PDSA event on 6 August 2015 in the carpark – noted

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- d Reports of anti-social behaviour by the Tennis Club – noted
- e A request to hold yoga sessions on the field during the summer was approved.

**17 War Memorial**

- a Replacement benches  
 Plaque details were approved – cost £20 each **Cllr Butcher**

Cllr Coates will advise the resident that it is not possible to put memorial plaques on the benches. **Cllr Coates**

- b Base  
 Nothing further to report.

**18 Parish Forum**  
 No report from the meeting held on 16 July 2015.

**19 Residents Complaints/Requests**

- a Bench outside the Co-op  
 As a result of representations made by residents it was **RESOLVED** not to support the proposal to install a bench outside the Co-op.

- b Noticeboard  
 The supplier has fitted a replacement cover.

**20 Brief items**

- a Lichfield Rail Promotion group – it was agreed that Cllr Niblock would represent the Parish Council on this forum. **Cllr Niblock**

**21 Parish Council Diary – (All)**

- a Past Dates  
 John Taylor High School Presentation Evening 9 July 2015 – Cllr Moss

- b Future Dates  
 Dedication of the new Royal British Legion Standard all Saints Church 01 August 2015 at 3pm.

**22 Date of Next Council Meeting**

Monday 14 September 2015 Parish Council meeting at Alrewas Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Last date for notification of agenda items – Thursday 03 September 2015.

..... **Chair/Vice Chair**

..... **Date**