

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the parish council meeting held on Monday 14 November 2016 in Alrewas Village Hall

PRESENT Cllrs Jan Altham, David Butcher, Chris Niblock, John Pegg, Jane Reilly, Margaret Stanhope and Dave Whatton.

IN ATTENDANCE County Cllr J Eagland (from Item 4) District Cllr M Wilcox (from Item 5) and Jean Burton (Clerk).

1 **Apologies for absence**

Cllr D Moss.

2 **Declarations of interest**

None.

3 **Minutes**

a To receive and approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 October 2016

It was **RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 10 October 2016 were a true record and could be signed by the Chair of the meeting.

4 **Casual vacancy**

The resignation of Cllr June Attwood was noted.

In the event that an election is not called and the vacancy is filled by co-option it was **RESOLVED** that all applicants would be invited to attend an interview held in the confidential session of a Parish Council meeting. Each applicant will be seen individually and at the end of the interviews Cllrs will discuss the merits of the candidates before voting on the appointment.

The Clerk will draft a series of questions for the interviews, follow up questions will be allowed.

Clerk

5 **Public Participation**

a Police incidents report Item 6 – no report from Mr Seville.

b Neighbourhood Plan update Item 10

Mr Dave Crump explained that having accepted the target of 180 houses the basis on which these can be accommodated varies significantly depending on the outcome of the appeal to develop the land north of Dark Lane. In consequence 2 versions of the plan will be drafted, with and without the major development north of Dark Lane.

The Steering Group is seeking an early meeting with LDC to clarify their attitude to the proposed extension of the development boundary of the village.

6 **Police**

No report made.

7 **Essington Green applications**

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

a Timescale and outstanding issues

Nothing to report.

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

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8 **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 14 November 2016'.

9 **Planning matters for information – to take notice of:**

a The decisions from LDC for October 2016 were noted.

10 **Neighbourhood Plan**

The update from Mr Crump was noted.

a Revised timetable – the Clerk to arrange a meeting with LDC re proposed boundary changes.

Clerk

b Funding

The second tranche of funding has been received – on-going. The grant funding period end date is 17 January 2017.

c Meeting with the Conservation Officer

A very useful meeting with the Conservation Officer and members of the Development Group and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group took place on 17 October 2016. Clarification of matters taken into account on planning applications in the village was given and pre-planning meetings with developers are actively encouraged by LDC.

11 **Financial Statements**

a To receive and approve the financial statement for the month of October 2016.

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.

c Initial review of the budget 2017/18

The Clerk will circulate some dates for a meeting in the next two weeks.

Clerk

12 **Grant application**

The application from Alrewas Cricket Club for an award towards the cost of upgrading the CCTV system at Walkfield was considered.

County Cllr England advised that she had agreed to an award from the Staffordshire Local Community Fund of £650 towards a camera covering the play area.

The application is for £1000 (submitted prior to receiving confirmation from County Cllr England); the grant budget remaining unspent for 2016/17 is £125. Expenditure overall this year is currently forecast to be less than budget.

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

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Cllr Stanhope noted that while being fully supportive of the Cricket Club assistance should only be given if the budget for the year would be met – no withdrawal from reserves.

Cllr Butcher was supportive of a grant to a facility for the Cricket and Tennis Clubs – the Parish Council had received strong advice that it should not have any involvement with the operation of the system.

It was **RESOLVED** that on the basis the grant is to facilitate a system operated by the Cricket Club and Tennis Club and that the Parish Council will not have any involvement in managing the system, and that funds can be identified without exceeding total budget costs for the year 2016/17 the award of £350 be approved.

The Clerk will provide further information at the budget review meeting.

Clerk

13 **Highways and footpaths**

SCC are looking to introduce a one-off licence fee which will cover all benches in a parish – Items a and b are marked forward until this is available.

Clerk

- a Re-positioning the bench at the junction of Fox Lane and the A513

Enquiries are in hand to ascertain the owner of the site, now believed to be Highways – on-going.

- b Proposal for staging benches throughout the village
The proposal to install benches on Fox Lane at the junction with Walkfield Road, Burway Meadow near the junction with Wellfield Road and on the triangle on Micklehome Drive to be costed and brought back to the Parish Council when fully detailed.

- c Land adjacent to 78 Micklehome Drive
County Cllr Eagland agreed to follow up with SCC to see if the impasse re the planning application sight lines could be resolved.

Clerk

14 **Waterways**

- a Cllr Niblock will recruit one more resident to join the flood task group whose initial aim is to prepare a draft community flood plan.

Cllr Niblock

15 **Walkfield**

- a Works are progressing well on the refurbishment of the play area. The contractor needs to remove the roof from one piece of equipment once the base is fully set to comply with the agreement reached with residents.

- b Time and format of official opening of play area
Deferred to December meeting.

- c Damaged wood at the MUGA
The proposals for replacing the damaged wood at the MUGA were considered but no conclusion reached. The working group is to determine the best way forward for decision at the next meeting.

**Cllrs
Butcher,
Moss, Pegg**

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

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and Reilly

- d Annual Risk Assessment report
The annual risk assessment report has for the first time identified the play area as potential high risk: "Play area adjacent to cricket pitch with potential for balls to enter site". The Inspector has explained his aim was to ensure the Parish Council has considered this possibility and assessed whether or not any action should be taken.
Cllrs noted comments made by residents and the Cricket Club regarding the trajectory of cricket balls over the last 20 years plus and concluded the likelihood of being struck by a cricket ball was remote.
The Cricket Club have confirmed that Public Liability Insurance is in place.
No action required.
- e Civic Society request for additional planting and hedging
Nothing to report.
- Cllrs
Butcher,
Moss, Pegg,
Reilly,
Altham and
Whatton;
Civic Society**
- 16 **War Memorial**
- a Base
The consultant has identified four contractors capable of rendering the base as required by the War Memorial Trust and each has been asked to quote for the work.
- Cllrs Butcher
and Moss**
- 17 **Parish Forum**
The next meeting is on 10 January 2017 – all are encouraged to attend.
- 18 **Residents Complaints/Requests**
- a Bench outside the Co-op
The meeting with the Co-op and residents to discuss all options is outstanding.
- Clerk**
- b Creation of path from Alrewas to NMA
Cllrs noted that the creation of a new walkway with a safe crossing over the A38 is very expensive and would fall to SCC to oversee. Walkers use routes to access the NMA via river paths and a gully under the A38.
This suggestion falls outside the remit of the Parish Council but we would certainly support any proposal coming forward from SCC.
- c Removal of telephone box
Not worth keeping. Clerk to request surface made good when removed.
- Clerk**

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19 **Brief items**

a Liaison with the Civic Society – nothing to report.

Cllr Niblock

b Bromford letter

Cllrs raised no objections to the proposed letter from Bromford to residents of Oakfield Road regarding parking.

20 **Parish Council Diary – (All)**

a Past dates

Armistice Day Service NMA 11 November 2016 – Cllr Niblock.
Remembrance Day Parade Alrewas 13 November 2016 – Cllr Niblock.

b Future Dates

21 **Date of Next Council Meeting**

Monday 12 December 2016 Parish Council meeting at Alrewas Village Hall starting at 7.30pm.

Last date for notification of agenda items – Thursday 01 December 2016.

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Chair/Vice Chair

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Date