

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 9 September 2019 in Alrewas Village Hall at 7.30pm

CONFIRMED

PRESENT Clls Dave Whatton (Chair) Jan Altham, David Butcher, John Pegg, Janette Potter, Jane Reilly (Vice Chair), Margaret Stanhope, Denise Tolson.

District Cllrs Derek Cross, Michael Wilcox, Sonia Wilcox.

IN ATTENDANCE Ms Kathryn Powell, Clerk.

Members of the public were welcomed to the meeting and thanked for their attendance.

1 Apologies

- a Noted and accepted: Cllr Janet Eagland (holiday).

2 New Declarations of Interest

- a Noted: that there were no new declarations of interest.

3 Minutes

- a **RESOLVED:** to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 8 July 2019 as a true record, without amendment. **(APC/19-20/3/M)**.
- c Considered: the updated action sheet **(APC/19-20/4/1)**

4 Public Participation

- a Village residents:
Alrewas Residents Group (ARG): an update on actions including:
The creation of a document on actions and approaches to enable which it was hoped that the Council could support.
Agreed: a meeting would be held to consider the document in detail.
RESOLVED: The Chair of the working group and other cllrs participating would have exceptional executive power to confirm the document on behalf of the full Council due to the urgency of addressing issues with developers.

The member of the public was thanked for his contribution.
- b Report from District Councillors
Noted: that LDC was considering the future of the Friary Grange Leisure Centre. The four-year Strategic Plan was being developed and the Local Plan was being reviewed. Strong concern was expressed that no further housing allocation should be put on Alrewas as it had exceeded its current allocation. The Clerk was asked to write to LDC concerning this, and the land where an unsuccessful planning application for 20 homes had been made. **ACTION: Clerk**

A complaint from a resident had been received by District Cllr Cross that weight limit signs had been removed from Wellfield Road. The Clerk was asked to investigate. **ACTION: Clerk**
- c Report from County Councillors
Noted: that there was no report from the County Cllr but e mail updates from Cllr Eagland had been circulated to Cllrs in between meetings by the Clerk.

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5 Planning matters

- a Noted: that there were no new planning applications for consideration. **(APC/19-20/4/2)**.

6 Financial statements

- a Annual Return 2018-19: This had been audited successfully and had been published. The Accounts Officer, Mrs Burton, was thanked for all her hard work in preparing the Return.

- b The Clerk reported that some of the reserves would be allocated to projects in the future budget. Noted: the grant from the Civic Society for the purchase of benches. **RESOLVED:** to approve the financial statement for July and August 2019 **(APC/19-20/4/3)**.

- c **RESOLVED:** to approve the Cheques for Payment list **(APC/19-20/4/4)**.

7 Parish Council policies

- a Internet, e mail and Social Media Policy

RESOLVED: To approve the Internet, e mail and Social Media Policy for immediate implementation **(APC/19-20/4/5)**. **ACTION: Clerk**

- b Website Accessibility Statement

Noted: the Statement would become a legal requirement in 2020 **(APC/19-20/4/6)**. Currently not all of the Parish Council Website met requirements and updates would be presented to the Council as work was undertaken.

RESOLVED: to approve a payment of £250 to the Council's IT consultant to undertake the required work on the website to make it compliant. **ACTION: Clerk**

RESOLVED: to approve the Statement with immediate effect.

8 Antisocial behaviour on Walkfield

- a The PCSO had been asked to provide a report on antisocial behaviour on Walkfield over the summer following a complaint from a local resident. It was noted that drug use had occurred, and concern was expressed about safeguarding issues for young people in addition to the nuisance caused for residents. Residents were encouraged to report all activities that caused concern to give the Police as full a picture as possible. Residents were reminded that the Police do not monitor the Alrewas Telegraph social media and that concerns should be reported using the 101-telephone system. BT had been asked to close the gates of their property to stop antisocial behaviour there. The Council did not wish to apply for any behaviour orders as they were aware that this could impact on a community's reputation and house prices. However, the Council fully supported the Police in actions taken to address antisocial behaviour and crime in Alrewas and recorded thanks to the Police for the large amount of staff resource which they give to Alrewas.

In order to keep the issues closely monitored the PSCO would be asked to produce a monthly report on crime and antisocial behaviour in Alrewas. **ACTION: Clerk**

9 Operational procedures for working groups

- a The paper **(APC/19-20/4/6)** was withdrawn for further development. **ACTION: Chair and working group leaders**

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10 Reports from working groups

Possible grant applications to external funding bodies

Considered: the report **(APC/19-20/4/10)** and the list of suggested projects for support. Agreed: to investigate the feasibility of the following projects:

- A cycle path over the A38
- Nature reserve
- Hydro electric scheme on the River Trent
- Youth facilities
- Village Hall heating upgrade

The group would be chaired by Cllr Altham and would undertake research on the options and report to a future meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Altham**

b Development Working Group

Considered: the notes of the last meeting **(APC/19-20/4/11)** and a verbal update from Cllr Pegg. Concern was expressed at the low attendance at meetings by cllrs over the summer period. It was hoped that this would improve in the autumn. The group was considering the implications of the changes to surface drainage arrangements which had been agreed by LDC with no consultation with the Parish Council. The group was disappointed by the lack of consultation by LDC planners and Crest Nicholson on this issue, despite assurances that such consultations would be held. The group had asked for a meeting with the Local Lead Flood Authority (LLFA) and would contact District Cllr Upton at the suggestion of District Cllr Cross. **ACTION: Clerk**

The group remained concerned by the capacity of the sewage pumping station and the lack of any timescale for the facility to be improved by Severn Trent. The Clerk was asked to contact Severn Trent to obtain a timescale for the work. **ACTION: Clerk**

The Clerk was asked to contact Cllr England and ask for her support in dealing with these issues. **ACTION: Clerk**

Considered: the letters from Michael Fabricant MP and Highways England relating to the A38. The ongoing speed review was welcomed as was the intention to consult with the Parish Council when the review was completed. Cllr Whatton would respond on behalf of the Council. **ACTION: Cllr Whatton**

RESOLVED: To no longer peruse the possibility of making Micklehome Drive two way as the process would take too long to have an impact on construction traffic.

c Traffic Management Group

Considered: the notes of the meeting **(APC/19-20/4/13)**.

RESOLVED: not to take the Speedwatch initiative forward due to a lack of volunteers.

RESOLVED: not to take the slip road 30mph signage forward as signage was already in place at the start of the slip road.

RESOLVED: Not to take the proposal for a 20mph limit in the village forward as it was out of line with other local villages. Reminders to drivers to keep to the

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existing 30mph limit were under consideration, including stickers on wheelie bins.
Cllr Reilly would obtain costings. **ACTION: Cllr Reilly**

Pedestrian crossing: the demand for this would be considered at a future meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Tolson**

Pavement parking and parking at junctions: a leaflet drop advising residents on safe parking and a leaflet to put on incorrectly parked cars were under consideration. A member of the group questioned the need for the information leaflet and the wording of the car leaflet. It was explained that the leaflet for cars was intended to be friendly and informal in tone. The information leaflet would be more formal in tone.

It was agreed that Cllr Tolson would contact PCSO Horton to obtain the wording of a leaflet about parking used in Fradley. **ACTION: Cllr Tolson**

Bus shelter: members of the group would canvass opinion in the village to see if a bus shelter/s was widely supported, and to find a preferred location/s. One member of the group protested strongly at the need for a bus shelter and was concerned about the possible detrimental effect a shelter might have in terms of antisocial behaviour.

RESOLVED: Cllrs Reilly and Tolson were asked to canvas views of residents, including by social media, about the need for a bus shelter and possible locations, and report back on this scoping survey to the next meeting of the Parish Council.
ACTION: Clls Tolson and Reilly

The Clerk was asked to advertise the survey on the Parish Council website. **ACTION: Clerk**

An item on parking issues would be included in the forthcoming Parish Council newsletter. **Action: Cllr Reilly**

RESOLVED: to authorise Cllr Reilly to order 250 parking leaflets at a cost of £36.50, subject to minor changes to the wording and the use of the Police logo with the agreement of the Police. **Action: Cllr Reilly**

11 Residents' complaints/requests

Noted: the following issues raised and actions taken:

- a Report of a vandalised bin lid left in a resident's garden. LDC has been asked to check the condition of bins when they empty them and report any which need repair
- b Complaints re the hedge from the empty building on the corner of Fox Lane and Broomhills Croft overgrowing the pavement and affecting access, especially for disabled people. The Clerk has passed these further complaints to SCC to investigate ownership and the hedge has been pruned
- c Concern about the state of several footpaths in Alrewas – referred to SCC
- d Concern over vehicular use of the bailey bridge – referred to SCC Structures department
- e Flooding on Main Street reported to SCC Highways
- f Antisocial behaviour at the Walkfield play area [see agenda item above]
- g Request from Cricket Club for LDC to prune bushes around the Walkfield car park passed to LDC August 2019

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h Scouts Charity Bonfire: The Clerk was asked to obtain permission for the closure of the footpaths on Walkfield. A risk management plan would be requested from the organisers **ACTION: Clerk**

12 Police

a Noted: The Smart Alerts, already circulated.

13 Temporary Vacant Seat School Transport

a Noted: the new central government policy **(APC/19-20/4/14)**.

14 Civic Society report

a Noted: The Civic Society was considering planting more trees in the village.

15 Planning decisions since the last meeting

a Noted: the recommendations made by the Parish Council on applications considered by e mail **(APC/19-20/3/15)**.

b Noted: that LDC had approved some of the applications previously considered by the Council **(APC/19-20/3/16)**.

16 Parish Council vacancy

a Noted: the Clerk would notify LDC of the need for a new Cllr to fill the vacancy.

17 Date of next council meeting

a The next meeting will be held on Monday 14 October 2019 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall. The last date for notification of agenda items to the Clerk is **Thursday 3 October 2019**.

The meeting ended at 9.10pm.

Kathryn Powell,
Clerk,
17 September 2019

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

..... **Date**