

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 11 January 2021 by Zoom

APC/20-21/8/M

CONFIRMED

- PRESENT** Cllrs Dave Whatton (Chair), Jan Altham, David Butcher, Donna Moss, John Pegg, Janette Potter, Jane Reilly, Denise Tolson, Michael Wilcox
- IN ATTENDANCE** Cllr Janet Eagland, Mr Stuart Threlfall (Chair of the Quarry Working Group), Ms Kathryn Powell, Clerk

The Chair welcomed all participants, including observers and members of the public, and thanked everyone for their interest in the work of the Parish Council.

1 Apologies

- a Received and accepted: District Cllr Cross due to a prior meeting with LDC.

2 Minutes

- a **RESOLVED:** to approve the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council meeting held on 12 December 2020 without amendment, as a true record. **(APC/20-21/7/M)**. The Chair would sign the Minutes outside of the meeting due to social distancing requirements.

- b Considered: the updated Action Sheet **(APC/20-21/8/1)**.

3 New Declarations of Interest

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

4 Public Participation

- a Village residents:

It was agreed that the contribution would be made under agenda item 5b.

- b Report from District Cllrs:

LDC was very busy addressing Covid 19 related issues. Fradley and Alrewas had been designated as Covid 19 hotspots because of the percentage increase in cases. It was expected that central government would toughen restrictions if the virus continued to increase. Funding was being allocated to local businesses to support them through the latest lockdown. Leisure centres would be receiving support until March 2021. The Local Government Association is working with central government to try and avoid major cuts in funding once the pandemic is over to address the growing national debt.

Consideration is being given to how the elections due in May 2021 can be administered safely.

- c Report from County Councillor:

Regular updates from the Cllr had been circulated to Cllrs by the Clerk. It was confirmed that she would continue to send e mails to the Clerk for circulation to Cllrs. She announced that vaccines were expected to be delivered in Lichfield shortly. LDC and SCC are working together to address pandemic issues.

5 Planning Applications for consideration and ratification

- a Recommendations made on planning applications **(APC/20-21/8/2)**:

RESOLVED:

20/01753/FUH and 20/01754/LBC 19 Manor Fields Recommend refuse
20/01768/FUH 14 Micklehome Drive Recommend approve

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20/01703/FUH 22 Kings Bromley Road

Recommend approve

ACTION: Clerk

- b Planning application L.20/03/867M – proposed quarry and cement factory at Orgreave
Considered: a verbal update on developments from the Chair of the Quarry Working Group, Mr Threlfall. The planned working group meeting to be held on 6 January had been cancelled due to lack of business and so notes were not available **(APC/20-21/8/3)**. The SCC Planning Officer had confirmed that over 700 objections to the proposal had been received. A date for the Planning Committee to consider the application had not been confirmed but it might take place in April 2021. It was not clear whether this could be a face to face meeting as requested. This would depend on the Covid restrictions in place at the time. Clarification was being sought as to whether representatives of Kings Bromley and Fradley & Streethay Parish Councils would be allowed to speak in addition to a representative of Alrewas Parish Council. LDC was not entitled to speak but had submitted written objections. Cllr Eagland would seek clarification from the SCC Planning Officer. **ACTION: Cllr Eagland**

Noted: that a Quarry working group meeting would be held on Thursday 28 January 2021 at 6.30, by Zoom. **ACTION: Chair and Chair of working group**

The Clerk was asked to contact the local residents involved in the objections and thank them for their work. **ACTION: Clerk**

6 Development group

a Green Acres at Alrewas

Cllr Pegg noted that recent rain had caused drainage issues and the drainage consultant would be asked to commence his survey once Alrewas Covid rates had declined. **ACTION: Cllr Pegg**

LDC had failed to take enforcement action on the site despite recommendations from the Flood Officer and SCC Highways and requests from the Parish Council. It was also not clear if the Enforcement Officer had visited the site during construction work. Cllr Michael Wilcox would contact the new Enforcement Officer and ask for urgent action. **ACTION: Cllr Wilcox**

If necessary, a FOI request would be made to LDC concerning this matter.

b Proposed Whitemoor Garden Village development

Considered: a verbal update from Cllr Wilcox. This proposal had not been included in the Lichfield District Local Plan. The extra housing numbers were not required in LDC's allocation as more housing would be built within the Birmingham area on brownfield sites. A response had been received from the developer which had been circulated to Cllrs, in which the developer had stated that the Parish Council was reluctant to engage with them. A response would be sent by the Clerk explaining that the Parish Council were not reluctant to engage but, as the proposal was not included in the Lichfield Local Plan, it was not felt necessary to consider this matter at this time. **ACTION: Clerk**

c Bagnalls Lock

Noted: That the Clerk had contacted the C&RT again to ask them about imposing a width restriction for the bridge without getting a response. As the C&RT had confirmed that the width was 7' this matter would be closed unless further issues arose.

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d Home Farm development

Noted: That work was ongoing.

e Manor Fields

Noted: the Clerk would check progress on the Appeal. **ACTION: Clerk**

7 Financial Statement

a **RESOLVED:** unanimously to approve the financial statement for December 2020 (**APC/20-21/8/4**).

b **RESOLVED:** to approve the cheques for payment list (**APC/20-21/8/5**), with the addition of the invoice for the drainage consultant approved at the meeting.

ACTION: Chair, Vice Chair and Accounts Officer

8 War memorial lighting

a Noted: that ways were being sought to enhance the lighting at the War Memorial, including arranging for the lights to shine into the branches of the trees to make a more distinct display, while retaining the lights on the war memorial itself. Cllrs Butcher, Moss, Pegg and Riley would investigate the options and bring a recommendation to the next meeting. **ACTION: Cllrs Butcher, Moss, Pegg and Riley**

9 Applications for external funding for projects

a Considered: a request from Cllr Tolson to apply for external funding for two projects: external funding for the Trim Trail and to improve scrubland near the Royals British Legion Club. This would be considered at the forthcoming meeting of the External Funding and Communications group and a recommendation brought to the next meeting. **ACTION: Communications and External Funding working group**

The Chair would arrange a briefing for working group chairs to show them how to access the Parish Council zoom account to help them hold meetings safely.

ACTION: Chair

10 Local Government Pension Scheme Employers Discretions Policy

a Noted: that the original Policy had been approved in 2014 and had been revised in line with changes to national requirements. **RESOLVED:** to re-approve the revised Policy for publication on the website and for submission to the Staffordshire CC Local Government Pension Scheme. **ACTION: Clerk**

11 Update on planning applications

a Noted: updated decisions by LDC on planning applications since the last meeting (**APC/20-21/8/7**). One application recommended by APC for approval had been rejected by LDC and Cllr Michael Wilcox would investigate the criteria used.

ACTION: Cllr Wilcox

12 Residents' comments/correspondence received since the last meeting

a Noted: that correspondence included:

- Regular updates from Highways England concerning work on the A38.
- Advance notice of road closures on A38 at Streethay and elsewhere for HS2 works in January 2021
- Advance notice of road closure near Alrewas Hayes
- Information from LDC and SCC on Covid 19 requirements, including lockdown requirements and support available, including for businesses

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- Information from LDC on funding opportunities (see agenda item 9 above)
- Invitation to Cllrs to attend a Transforming the Trent Valley webinar – Cllrs Pegg and Reilly would participate
- Response from Tarmac about complaints about mud on the road affecting a local business and steps taken to improve the situation and mitigate concerns – resident informed
- Notification that Alrewas PPG members have volunteered to help give vaccines at the Pirelli Stadium when required
- Consultation from the Staffordshire Commissioner for Police Fire and Rescue and Crime concerning levels of payment within the Precept for services
- Complaint from a resident about the state of Anson Road due to the building works – Bromford contacted about the issues

13 Police Smart Alerts (already circulated)

- a Noted. The increase in Covid related scam e mails were a concern. Agreed: that information on them would be communicated to residents via the Alrewas Telegraph but would not be uploaded to the Parish Council website.

14 Update from the Civic Society

- a Noted: that a meeting would be held at the end of January 2021 and a report made to the next Parish Council meeting.

15 Parish Council Diary

Noted:

- a Past dates
None

b Future Dates

Transforming the Trent Valley group meeting for local Parish Councils 19 January 2021 – Cllr Pegg to attend via Zoom

16 Date of the next virtual (Zoom) Parish Council Meeting

Noted: that the February 2021 meeting of the Parish Council will be held on **Monday 8 February 2021** via Zoom

b Noted: that the deadline for agenda items is **Thursday 28 January 2021**

The meeting closed at 20.56pm.

Kathryn Powell, Clerk,
Alrewas Parish Council, 12 January 2021
Confirmed