

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Monday 14 March 2022 at 7.30pm in Alrewas Village Hall

APC/21-22/11/M

CONFIRMED

PRESENT Cllrs Dave Whatton (Chair), Elizabeth Lawler, Donna Moss, Jessica Nicklin, Jane Reilly, Stuart Threlfall, Michael Wilcox

IN ATTENDANCE PCSO Tracy Horton for agenda item 2, Mrs Elizabeth Davis, Mr Tahir Ahmad, Community Engagement Manager BBV Phase 1, and Ms Ella Sanders Community Engagement Specialist for BBV Phase 1.

Cllr Janet Eagland, Ms Kathryn Powell, Clerk

The Chair welcomed all participants, including 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 Derick Cross (unwell), Cllr Janet Eagland (late arrival).

b Noted: that the meeting was quorate.

2 Police update and police Smart Alerts

a Welcomed: Local PCSO Tracy Horton who was thanked for her excellent work in the area. She noted the recent spate of vehicle break ins and the loss of work tools. This was part of a wider pattern of thefts in local villages and towns. The car believed to have been used by the perpetrators had been identified but had cloned number plates. She would hand out advice and stickers to local van drivers. APC would publicise theft prevention advice on its website when supplied by the PCSO.

ACTION: Clerk and PCSO

3 Statement on Ukraine

a Considered and endorsed strongly: the international statement on the humanitarian situation in Ukraine and the attack on democracy there.

RESOLVED: The Parish Council would sign the declaration. (APC/21-22/11/Extra paper). **ACTION: Clerk**

It was noted that the Parish Council was unable legally to make a donation on behalf of the community but the Parish Council was sure that residents would be generous in their support for refugees.

4 Meeting with HS2

a Welcomed: Mrs Elizabeth Davis, Phase 2 Stakeholder and Community Engagement Manager (Community Area 1 and Phase 1 Interface, HS2 Ltd), Mr Tahir Ahmad, (Community Engagement Manager BBV Phase 1) and Ms Ella Sanders (Community Engagement Specialist for BBV Phase 1). During the presentation and in discussion the following points were made:

Phase1:

- It was likely that Phase 1 would continue until 2024/5
- Considerable work was being undertaken and would continue on several site around Lichfield, including at Cappers Lane, Common Lane and Wood End Lane, Fradley.

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- The increase in traffic at Wood End Lane was noted, as was the destruction of the mature woodland. It was hoped that the saplings planted would be cared for to ensure that most survived
- A38: work would be undertaken through overnight closures for as long as possible to minimise the period of a total shutdown. Information on closures of the slip roads at Streethay would be publicised in advance.
- Environmental surveys were continuing at several locations for bats, badgers and for trees. Some relocation work was underway
- Drainage schemes were a priority with attenuation basins planned
- Materials from demolished properties were being reused on sites to minimise waste
- Noise, vibration and traffic movements were being monitored
- HS2 was aware that the Cemex quarry at Orgreave would impact on Alrewas and Orgreave. It was confirmed that Cemex would have to meet HS2 operating standards
- Monthly updates would be sent to the Parish Council as work on HS2 progresses in Phase 1 and Phase 2
- Drop in sessions with HS2 and BBV staff would be advertised as face to face and online events
- Updates on the HS2 haul road near Alrewas Hayes would be provided to the Parish Council
- A resident had reported that a property at the Streethay slip road purchased by HS2 seemed to be in a dangerous state. HS2 would investigate
- The Traffic Management team would look at the need for HS2 signage at Alrewas

Phase 2:

- Phase 2 was likely to be undertaken from 2024-2030
- Currently Phase 2 was in the planning and design stage

Community Engagement:

- Applications would be welcomed to the Community Engagement Fund
- HS2 contractors might be able to undertake projects in local communities

The representatives of HS2 and BBV were thanked for their attendance. The Parish Council looked forward to liaising with them as HS2 work continues.

ACTION: Clerk

5 Co-option of a new Cllr

- a **RESOLVED:** to co-opt Mr Mark Hupperdine, local resident, as a new Cllr.
- b **RESOLVED:** to accept Mr Hupperdine's Declaration. Cllr Hupperdine was welcomed to the Parish Council and to the meeting. The Clerk would notify LDC of his co-option. **ACTION: Clerk**

6 Resignation of a Cllr

- a **RESOLVED:** with regret, to accept the resignation of Cllr Janette Potter with immediate effect. Cllrs recorded their thanks to her for her work for the Parish Council, including as Chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Working Group and as the Parish Council's representative on the Tarmac Liaison Group. Agreed: at the request of the Chair of the Tarmac Liaison Group, CCllr Eagland, Mrs Potter would continue as a member of the Tarmac Liaison group as a village resident and Cllr Threlfall would become the Parish Council representative. Flowers and a letter of thanks would be sent to Mrs Potter and LDC would be informed.

ACTION: Clerk

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7 New Declarations of Interest

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

8 Minutes

- a **RESOLVED:** to approve the Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 14 February 2022 without amendment, as a true record. **(APC/21-22/10/M)**.
- b Considered: the updated Action Sheet **(APC/21-22/11/1)**.

9 Public Participation

- a Standing Orders:
RESOLVED: to suspend Standing Orders.
- b Members of the public:
There was no contribution from members of the public.
- c Report from District Cllrs:
Noted: that the LDC draft revised Local Plan was being held back awaiting more information on housing numbers. It was hoped that it would be approved by the end of 2022. The Birmingham Road site would be redeveloped in phases during the next few years. The replacement leisure centre would be built on Curborough Road. The District Council, along with other public bodies in Staffordshire including SCC, had indicated that it would welcome Ukrainian refugees and was expecting money to support resettlement if selected by local government.
- d Report from County Councillor:
Noted: that covid booster inoculations will be available to selected groups shortly. It was expected that there would be a general vaccination drive in the Autumn for flu and Covid
- e Standing orders:
RESOLVED: to reinstate Standing Orders.

10 Planning Applications for consideration and ratification

- a Recommendations made on planning applications **(APC/21-22/11/2)**:
RESOLVED:
22/00189/FUH Recommend approve
22/00143/FUL Strong objection as the owner has not complied with earlier planning conditions and has used the property as a holiday let without permission. The Parish Council is concerned about the number of retrospective planning applications being allowed by LDC Planners.
22/00363/COU It is not clear who owns the land so the Parish Council does not believe that any decision can be made on this application until LDC determines ownership. Again, this is a retrospective planning application to cover work already undertaken and the Parish Council was concerned about the number of such retrospective applications being received. The Parish Council would object in any case as curtilage is being taken without the owner's permission. **ACTION: Clerk**

11 Financial Matters

- a **RESOLVED:** unanimously to approve the financial statement for February 2022 **(APC/21-22/11/3)**.
- b **RESOLVED:** to approve the cheques for payment list **(APC/21-22/11/4)**.
ACTION: Chair, Vice Chair, Clerk
- c Alley way by the George and Dragon – repairs to flower bed **(APC/21-22/11/5)**.

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The Clerk was asked to contact Marston's Brewery and ask if they will cover the whole cost or make a contribution before any decision is made. **ACTION: Clerk**

- d Proposal to improve Parish Council IT provision (**APC/21-22/11/6**).
Agreed: the risk to business continuity of having a faulty laptop was high.
RESOLVED: to have the existing laptop repaired as per the quotation of £126.38 as a spare machine and to purchase a new laptop at a cost of up to £600.

ACTION: Clerk

12 Proposed Training and Development Plan

- a Considered: a proposed Training and Development Plan for Cllrs, employees and volunteers, prepared by the Clerk (**APC/21-22/11/7**). Noted: the importance of training and development to the effectiveness of the Council. **RESOLVED:** To approve the Policy with immediate effect. **ACTION: Clerk**

13 LDC Community Governance Review

- a Considered: the ongoing Community Governance Review and the possible implications for the Parish Council (**APC/21-22/11/8**). Agreed: the following points to be included in the response to LDC:
- Currently Alrewas is a self-contained community with clear geographic boundaries and it should not be merged with any other parish council
 - The number of Cllrs (9) is appropriate for the size of the community and the work of the council.
 - The Council supports any exercise which enhances local democracy and allows residents to have a say in their area
- ACTION: Clerk**

14 Village Platinum Jubilee celebrations

- a Considered: a verbal update from Cllr Reilly. Noted: that a range of activities are being planned. The cost of road closures was a concern and Cllr Wilcox was holding discussions with LDC on alternative arrangements. **ACTION: Cllr Wilcox**

15 Parish Assembly 2022

- a Considered: a verbal update from the Clerk. The date would be 7 May 2022 in the Village Hall from 2-4pm. Local groups and organisations were being invited. **ACTION: Clerk**

16 Working Groups

- a Communications
Noted: that no meeting had been held.
- b ES&CWG
Agreed: this group would be renamed the Environment and Development Group. **ACTION: Clerk**
Quotations for the Jubilee garden project would be considered at the April meeting. **ACTION: Cllr Nicklin**
A productive meeting had been held with SCC about footpaths and funding was available for information signs for the village from SCC. **ACTION: E&D working group**
Funding requests might be made to external organisation including HS2 and the Cannock Chase AONB fund.
Noted: the poor condition of the footpath near the gas station. Cllr Reilly agreed to contact the Trent Valley Way Partnership. **ACTION Cllr Reilly**

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c Quarry Working Group

Cllr Threlfall reported that the RSPCA and Police had visited the dog shelter and were satisfied with the conditions. Cllr Threlfall was thanked for his work on the letter sent to SCC (**APC/21-22/11/10**). The Clerk was given permission to confirm that SCC could share the Parish Council's letter with Tarmac.

ACTION: Clerk

d Traffic Management Group

Agreed: Cllr Hupperdine would join the group. Noted: that National Highways had cleared the Burton Road footpath. Noted: there had been no improvement in the condition of Roddidge Lane and the Cllr would be asked to see if SCC would undertake remedial work on it. **ACTION: Clerk/Cllr England**

e Walkfield working group

Discussions had been held with LDC about undertaking work including clearing of land near the path to the canal and provision of a hedge around the play area. A dangerous tree had been felled. A tree inspection had been recommended. Quotes would be provided to a future meeting. A meeting of the Sports Forum had been held.

Noted: that the Dark Lane workings had not been finished off well to date by the developers. Further inspections would be undertaken as work progresses.

ACTION: Cllr Moss

Noted: the mole catcher had visited several times since the last APC meeting as requested.

17 Residents comments

Noted: an anonymous letter had been received about events on Alrewas Island. Agreed: that the Council could not respond to anonymous correspondence. The Parish Council was aware that the owners of Alrewas Island were following all required procedures when arranging events and no further action would be taken.

Another complaint had been received from a resident about dangerous parking on the corner of William IV Road and Main Street. The Traffic Management Group were asked to take action. **ACTION: Traffic Management Group**

Matters for report

18 Information Commissioner

a Noted: that the Parish Council has re-registered with the Information Commissioner for data protection and information matters. The Certificate is on display in the Parish Council Office.

19 Update on planning applications

a Noted: updated decisions by LDC on planning applications since the last meeting (**APC/21-22/11/11**).

20 Correspondence received since the last meeting

a Noted: that correspondence included:

- SCC updates on Covid 19, including and testing and vaccination locations

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- Information on the Government's Living with Covid Strategy
- HS2 information
- SCC highways bulletins
- Information from Highways England on planned works on the A38
- Information from SCC on road repairs
- Information on road closures
- Information from SCC on named storm preparations and damage February 2022
- information from SCC on business support
- Information from SCC on holiday activities for children and food support
- Updates from Staffordshire Libraries and Archives
- Information from LDC on business support
- Information from LDC on funding opportunities
- Information from SCC on air quality measures

21 Update from the Civic Society

a Noted: that the Civic Society had not held a meeting since the last APC meeting.

22 Parish Council Diary

Noted:

a Past dates
None

b Future Dates
7 May 2022 Parish Assembly/Fair

23 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

Noted: that the April 2022 meeting of the Parish Council will be held at 7.30pm on **Monday 11 April 2022** in the Village Hall

b Noted: that the deadline for agenda items is 12 noon on **Thursday 31 March 2022**

The meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

Kathryn Powell, Clerk,
Alrewas Parish Council, 21 March 2022
UNCONFIRMED