

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER
2022 AT THE VILLAGE HALL STARTING AT 7.30PM**

CONFIRMED**Present:**

Cllr Jane Reilly (Acting Chair), Cllr Gail Adams, Cllr Mark Hupperdine, Cllr Donna Moss, Cllr Jessica Nicklin, Cllr Stuart Threlfall, Cllr Michael Wilcox

In attendance:

County Cllr Janet Eagland, Ms Kathryn Powell, Clerk.

1. Apologies

- a Received and approved: Apologies for absence from Cllr Whatton (health). Best wishes were sent to Cllr Whatton for his recovery. **ACTION: Clerk** Cllr Reilly took the Chair in Cllr Watton's absence. Cllr E Lawler (family commitment), District Cllr Derick Cross, District Cllr Sonia Wilcox,
- b Noted: the meeting was quorate

2 Police Liaison

- a Noted: the Smart Alerts (already circulated)

3 Declaration of Members' Interests

- a Noted: that Cllr Nicklin declared an interest in planning application **22/01449/FUH** and did not participate in the discussion.
- b Noted: that no Dispensations were requested.

4 Minutes

- a Approved: the Minutes of the meeting held on 10 October 2022 without amendment **APC/22-23/4/M**. Cllr Hupperdine was thanked for taking the notes at the last meeting.
- b Considered: the updated action sheet **APC/22-23/5/1**
 Noted: that the developers have erected fencing on Dark Lane so APC's request for LDC to carry out this work has been cancelled.
 Noted: that Marston's has not responded to any requests re the alleyway. **RESOLVED:** the Parish Council would repair the structure and ask the Civic Society to contribute to planting. **ACTON: Clerk**

5 Public Participation

- a) **RESOLVED:** to suspend Standing Orders
- b) Members of the public Dr Muller spoke about their planning application **22/01429/COU** to convert the old chapel into a dwelling for a family member. The family respected the history of the property and wished to keep historical features in place. The lights installed on the building by the Parish Council to illuminate the alleyway would be kept. She was thanked for her comments.
- c) District Cllrs:
 LDC was waiting for the Autumn Statement to clarify the budgetary position. LDC was hoping to set up a Local Council Tax reduction scheme to help residents struggling in the current financial situation. LDC hoped to receive funding from the national government's Shared Prosperity Fund.
- d) County Cllr:
 The CCllr reported her strong concern over the postponement of the cycle path to the NMA by SCC without consultation. She had contacted members and officers of SCC to register her views. Although detailed plans were in place for the development, it appeared that Amey, SCC's contractor, had decided not to take the initiative forward at this time because of the cost of materials and the long timescale for availability of materials. The Parish Council shared the CCllr's concerns and objected to the decision making process without consultation. Noted: HS2 and CEMEX had indicated willingness to consider helping with the project by providing materials and, possibly, labour under their community schemes. Agreed: the Clerk was asked to contact SCC and ask officers to attend an APC meeting to discuss concerns and also to arrange a meeting with SCC representatives, SCC Officers, APC and representatives from the NMA. **ACTION: Clerk**
 Cllr Threlfall would talk to HS2 at their forthcoming open meeting, noting that this project would support climate change initiatives by encouraging travel to the NMA and Whitemoor Lakes by foot and cycle rather than car. **ACTION: Cllr Threlfall**
- Noted: SCC's ongoing actions to address their declared Climate Change emergency.

RESOLVED: to reinstate Standing Orders

Matters for discussion/approval**6 Planning**

- a Considered: planning applications from Lichfield District Council **APC/22-23/5/2**
 Recommended:

22/01449/FUH Strong Objection recommended for the following reasons:

1. The property is on the heart of the village conservation area opposite the church and the modern design is not in keeping with the street scene
2. The new development would overlook another property so affecting their amenity
3. The new building could easily be used as a separate dwelling, so increasing house numbers in the village.
4. The area could be over developed by the application being allowed.

5. The issue of creepage of development is a strong concern for the Parish Council in the village generally, and especially in the conservation area. Although the Neighbourhood Plan expressed a preference for small infill developments rather than large scale housing estates, this was in the context of the threat from the Greenacres development of 121 houses which was subsequently approved on appeal by the Secretary of State. The subsequent amount of infill housing plus the Greenacres housing has taken the village well above its housing allocation.
6. The size of the building in relation to the plot is a concern and does not fit into this sensitive part of the conservation area.
7. Although SCC Highways have not objected to the location of the entrance it is on a sharp bend and could be dangerous for pedestrians and other road users as the road is narrow at the point
8. Other developments in this part of the village have been refused on the above grounds and similar issues
9. The Parish Council objects to the planned removal of a tree and old hedges.

22/01445/FUL This application refers to the same property as application **22/01449/FUH** and the same **Strong Objection** applies, namely:

1. The property is on the heart of the village conservation area opposite the church and the modern design is not in keeping with the street scene
2. The new development would overlook another property so affecting their amenity
3. The new building could easily be used as a separate dwelling, so increasing house numbers in the village
4. The area could be over developed by the application being allowed.
5. The issue of creepage of development is a strong concern for the Parish Council in the village generally, and especially in the conservation area. Although the Neighbourhood Plan expressed a preference for small infill developments rather than large scale housing estates, this was in the context of the threat from the Greenacres development of 121 houses which was subsequently approved on appeal by the Secretary of State. The consequent amount of infill housing plus the Greenacres housing has taken the village well above its housing allocation.
6. The size of the building in relation to the plot is a concern and does not fit into this sensitive part of the conservation area. The area could be over developed by the application being allowed.
7. Although SCC Highways have not objected to the location of the entrance it is on a bend and could be dangerous for pedestrians and other road users as the road is narrow at the point
8. Other developments in the area have been refused on the above grounds and similar issues
9. The Parish Council objects to the planned removal of a tree and old hedges.

22/01429/COU Noted: that this was a redevelopment of an existing historical building on the village and while it would increase housing numbers, it was not a development that would destroy open green space. It would preserve a historic building. Noted: the proposed design was in keeping with the surrounding street scene. Agreed: to recommend **Approval** subject to support for the proposal from the LDC's Conservation Officer and Arboricultural Officer.

22/01523/FUH Noted: that this proposal was for a rear extension and would have no impact on the street scene. Recommend **Approval**

ACTION: Clerk

7 Financial matters

- a Approved: the Accounts for October 2022 **APC/22-23/5/3**
- b Approved: the Cheques for Payment list for November 2022 **APC/22-23/5/4**. **ACTION: Vice Chair, Cllr Moss, Clerk**
- c Noted: that the unions and central government had made an agreement on pay for local government staff retrospective to April 2022 which has been implemented for APC staff.

8 Dates of Parish Council meetings 2023

- a Approved: the proposed dates for Parish Council agenda setting and meetings for 2023. **APC/22-23/5/5**.

ACTION: Clerk

9 Closure of Alrewas Post Office

- a The Clerk was asked to contact the Post Office to see if a drop box or mobile service could be introduced in the village. It was decided not to pursue the issue of post boxes as no further removals were planned at this time. **ACTION: Clerk**

10 Working groups (Standing item – reports when required)

- a Communications
Noted: that the group is working on the Newsletter for issue in December
- b Environment and Development Working Group
Considered: the notes of the latest meeting of the working group **APC/22-23/4/6**. Cllr Lawler would join the working group. **ACTION: Clerk**
RESOLVED: The Group to set up the Friends of the Jubilee Garden. **ACTION: Cllr Nicklin/Clerk**
The Clerk was asked to create wording on the Jubilee Garden project for the website and the Newsletter. **ACTION: Clerk**
- c NPWG
No report
- d Quarry working group
Noted: that an informal meeting with CEMEX will be held on 23 November 2022, chaired by Cllr Eagland and attended by Cllr Threlfall and supported by the Clerk.
Noted: that Cllr Threlfall will speak to Tarmac about the future of the proposed cycle lane **ACTION: Cllr Threlfall**
Noted: that Cllr Threlfall had nominated a local resident to join the formal liaison Committee for Orgreave Quarry with SCC, APC and CEMEX **ACTION: Clerk**
- e Traffic Management working group
Considered: a verbal update on actions: The Chair had held a meeting with Cllr Eagland and SCC Highways about installing speed reminder signs. Sites on Fox Lane and Main street were possible but residents' views would be required. There would be about an 18 month lead in time for works if SCC undertook work so a list of approved contractors would be supplied by SCC to Cllr Hupperdine.
The cost of installation of signs would be similar to the cost of a 20mph scheme for the village (c. £7000) so the working

group would consider which proposal to make to a future Parish Council meeting. SCC had confirmed that a speed reduction project in Alrewas would be a low priority for SCC based on data collected so funding would be required from the Parish Council. **ACTION: TMWG**

f Walkfield working group

Considered: a quotation of £100 from LDC for pruning an overhanging tree at Walkfield affecting the football pitch.

RESOLVED: to approve the tree pruning by LDC at a cost of £100.

ACTION: Clerk

Noted: that the cost of planting hedging around the play area was added to the Budget for 2023-2024.

11 Residents comments/correspondence

a Correspondence includes:

Concern over poor mobile phone signal in Alrewas noted

Request from the Football Club to have overhanging tree by the Walkfield football pitch pruned (see agenda item 12f above) – approved and actioned by LDC

Request from the Civic Society for bins to be emptied more frequently at the Mill Stream and by the Alrewas Fryer addressed. The bin at the Mill Stream belongs to the Civic Society and was their responsibility. The Clerk had contacted the Alrewas Fryer about their bin and they will empty more frequently.

Request from resident to ask the Canal and River Trust to resurface the towpath in the village **ACTION: Clerk**

Community litter pick notice 26 November 2022

Repair of the war memorial railings – residents updated and the Clerk was asked to gather quotes for the work

ACTION: Clerk

Matters for report

12 Update on Planning Applications

a Noted: the update **APC/22-23/4/7**

13 Correspondence received since the last meeting

a To note that correspondence includes:

- HS2 information including road closures
- Notice of temporary diversion of PRoW Alrewas 31 due to HS2 works
- Information on the 18T weight limit on the Chetwynd Bridge imposed for 18 months
- Information from Highways England on planned works on the A38
- Information from SCC on road repairs
- information from SCC on gritting service during the winter 2022-2023
- Information from SCC on bus service changes
- Information on West Coast Main line overnight closures for HS2 workings
- Information from SCC on business support
- Information from SCC on the stopping smoking campaign
- SCC Newsletter
- Information on warm space at the Garrick Theatre, Lichfield
- Information on Covid inoculation clinics
- Updates from Staffordshire Libraries and Archives
- Information from SCC on funding opportunities, including the new Climate Fund
- Training information for Cllrs and Officers from SPCA and SLCC circulated
- Information from LDC on business support
- Information from LDC on funding opportunities including the Cllr Local Community Fund
- Consultation on proposed Council Tax support from LDC
- Invitation accepted from Cllr England to the Clerk to visit SCC headquarters, December 2022
- Information and updates from Staffordshire Association of Parish Councils (SPCA)
- Updates from the Rural Services Network
- Notice from Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Service that they are providing warm spaces this winter
- SCC Climate Change report and five year action plan circulated to Cllrs
- Information on local elections and restrictions on co-opting Cllrs before the May 2023 elections

14 Update from the Civic Society (Standing item – report if required)

Agreed: Parish Council comments on planning applications would be shared with the Civic Society. **ACTION: Clerk**

Noted: The bin at the Mill Stream belongs to the Civic Society and is their responsibility to keep emptied.

15 Parish Council Diary

a Past dates:

Trees of Life, a Service of Remembrance at Westminster Abbey - Tuesday 11 October 2022, 12 noon – Chair invited

Service of Remembrance at Royal Albert Hall 11 November 2022 – Chair invited. Cllr England attended.

Remembrance Services at NMA 11 November 2022 and Alrewas All Saints Church and the War Memorial 13 November 2022

b Future dates: None reported.

16 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

a Noted: that the next meeting will be held on **Monday 12 December 2022** at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

b Noted: that the agenda deadline is **12 noon on Thursday 1 December 2022**

The open meeting closed at 8.35pm.

Kathryn Powell,
Clerk, November 2022
Confirmed

CONFIDENTIAL

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 14 NOVEMBER 2022 TO BE HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL FOLLOWING THE MAIN OPEN MEETING

All members of the public and District and County Cllrs left the meeting at this point as the Parish Council went into closed session.

17 Proposed Budget priorities for 2023-24

a Noted: documentation provided to support the discussion on the budget **APC/22-23/5/8**. Noted: that CIL money would be spent on projects before council reserves.

RESOLVED: to add the following projects into the budget for 2023-24. Quotes for work would be obtained at a later date:

Upgrade the MUGA

Add equipment to Trim Trail to create an outdoor gym

Anti-speed project to a cost of c. £10,000

Tree planting to support the climate change agenda

New village welcome signs

Contribution to cycle trail to NMA if the project is taken forward.

Noted: that the repair to the war memorial railings and the repair to the George and Dragon alleyway planter would be taken from the 2022 budget

RESOLVED: Not to increase the amount per household of the Precept. **ACTION: Clerk**

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Kathryn Powell,
Clerk, November 2022
Confirmed