

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING MONDAY 10 JULY 2023 HELD AT THE VILLAGE HALL
STARTING AT 7.30PM**Present:**

Cllr Dave Whatton (Chair), Cllr Donna Moss (Vice Chair), Cllr Gail Adams, Cllr Shaz Keane, Cllr Elizabeth Lawler, Cllr Mark Lomas, Cllr Jane Reilly, Cllr Richard Stephenson

In attendance: Cllr Janet Eagland, Kathryn Powell, Clerk.

1 Apologies

- a Received and approved apologies for absence: Cllr M Wilcox and District Cllr S Wilcox, holiday. District Cllr Cross, another meeting.
- b Noted: the meeting was quorate

2 Police Liaison

- a Noted: the Smart Alerts (Already circulated)

3 Declaration of Acceptance of Office by new Cllrs

- a Considered and accepted: The Declarations of Acceptance of Office from the two new Cllrs who were co-opted at the last meeting, Cllr Shaz Keane and Cllr Richard Stephenson. They were welcomed to the Parish Council. **ACTION: Clerk**

4 Declaration of Members' new Interests

- a Noted: that no new Interests were declared.
- b Noted: that no new Dispensations were requested or approved.

5 Minutes

- a Approved: The Minutes of the monthly meeting held on 12 June 2023, without amendment. **APC/23-24/2/M**
- b Considered: the progress made on actions **APC/23-24/3/1**
 - In particular: Another request had been made to Cadent to make good the damage on the Somerville Road/Fox Lane corner
 - The action to order planters by the School is on hold as school holidays mean they are not needed

6 Public Participation

- a) **RESOLVED:** to suspend Standing Orders
- b) Members of the public: noted that no members of the public had asked to speak.
- c) District Cllrs: noted that no District Cllrs were available to give a report.
- d) County Cllr: She reported that the feasibility study for traffic calming on Main Street could not be paid for from her budget. Noted: the importance of the pedestrian crossing to the elderly and those with children. A site meeting had been held with the Highways Team. Agreed: the Highways Team would be invited to the next monthly meeting of the Parish Council to discuss issues and make a presentation. The Cllr would provide the Clerk with contact details. **ACTION: Cllr and Clerk**

The Cllr had paid for the vegetation to be cleared from the footpath between Rykneld Street and Poppy Gardens following a complaint from a resident.

The Cllr reminded the meeting that Community Funds could be bid for and that enquiries should be made to her in the first place.

The Cllr reported that a bus service might be reinstated that called at the NMA. Discussions were ongoing.

The Cllr reported that she had received reports of flooding in the village. She noted that the weekend's heavy rain had caused flooding across the area, with a number of roads impassable and some properties flooded. She was asked to request a drainage survey of the whole village by SCC given the amount of new developments on recent years and the increasing likelihood of flooding as the present drainage system was not adequate. **ACTION: Cllr**

The Cllr was reminded of the damage to the A38 footpath and cycle way from the village to Streethay and asked if remedial weeding and repairs could be carried out while the major works were ongoing on the A38. She noted that this was a Highways England issue and the Clerk was asked to write to them. **ACTION: Clerk**

- e) **RESOLVED:** to reinstate Standing Orders

Matters for discussion/approval**7 Planning**

- a Considered: a planning application from Lichfield District Council **APC/23-24/3/2 23/00746/FUH** Noted: that the proposal per se did not cause any major concern. However, the Parish Council was not in a position to recommend approval as the legality of moving the boundary of the property to incorporate enable the building work was not clear. Concern was also expressed about the loss of a tree and whether the proposed works outside of the current boundary would damage other trees. District Cllr Wilcox would be asked to call in the application. **ACTION: Clerk and District Cllr Wilcox**

8 Financial matters

- a Approved: the Accounts for June 2023 **APC/23-24/3/3**
- b Approved: the Cheques for Payment list for July 2023 for a total of £3326.96 which included the annual insurance payment **APC/23-24/3/4 ACTION: Chair/Vice Chair/Clerk**
- c Considered: a verbal update on financial processes from the Vice Chair. A useful meeting had been held with the Accounts Officer and Clerk to clarify processes and consider issues for the forthcoming budget setting meeting in October 2023. The need to be more proactive when setting the budget was recognised and to allocate spending to agreed projects at the start of the year. A revised grant application process would be considered at the October 2023 with a recommendation

that the process became an annual application process, to better monitor spending and to inform the precept setting exercise.

d **RESOLVED:** That the Chair and Vice Chair have permission to sign cheques in August 2023 and October 2023 as the August and October meetings will not be held

e **RESOLVED:** to renew the Insurance cover with BHIB **ACTION: Clerk**

9 Cricket Club agreement

a Approved: the recommendations about the financial agreement with the Cricket Club from the Task and Finish Group that an extra fee of £125 per annum should be charged each June until 2030 when the full lease will be reviewed. **APC/23-24/3/5**
ACTION: Clerk

10 Dark Lane traffic issue

a Considered: a verbal update from Cllr Moss. The central movable bollard had been installed by LDC and the two concrete bollards were on order. Noted: that the neighbours and the emergency services may need access. **ACTION: Clerk**

11 Working groups (Standing item – reports when required)

a Communications No report.

b Environment and Development Working Group

Jubilee Garden update: Noted: that a quotation of over £6000 had been received from SSW to connect a water supply **APC/23-24/3/6**. The Jubilee Garden group did not wish to recommend that the project is taken forward at this time. It might be possible to apply for a grant to get the water installation carries out. The Clerk was asked to contact the allotment holders to enquire about ongoing costs for the water supply. **ACTION: Clerk**

A proposal to buy a sign for the Jubilee Garden would be brought to a future meeting. **ACTION: Cllrs Moss and Adams**

c Quarry working group

Agreed: Cllr Moss was appointed as the Parish Council representative on the Tarmac Liaison Group.

d Traffic Management working group

Confirmed: that the quotation of £5820 + VAT had been approved virtually to purchase two solar powered Speed Indicator Devices and the order placed. Funding for the project had been taken from reserves.

Noted: that concerns over flooding in the village following the weekend's heavy rains had been raised with SCC by Cllrs Wilcox and Moss

Noted: that the report on Cllr Wilcox's meeting with the Lichfield Police Commander had been circulated to Cllrs for information

Noted: that the safety concerns about a tree on the verge in Mellor Drive raised by a resident had been referred to the Traffic Management Working Group and to Cllr Eagland.

Noted: that Cllrs Moss and Wilcox have reminded the workers dealing with the Rykneld Street closure that Green Acres residents need information on access to the estate. Noted: that the A513 would also be closed for part of the period of the A38 closure and this was a concern for the village. Cllrs Moss and Wilcox would draft a letter to SCC Highways and South Staffordshire Water raising concerns. **ACTION: Cllrs Moss and Wilcox**

Complaints about inconsiderate and dangerous parking in the village: A number of complaints had been received about dangerous and illegal parking, including the blocking of drives and parking on corners blocking views onto main roads. Parking on pavements was damaging the sandstone kerbstones. The Clerk was asked to contact the Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner to ask for his long term plan to tackle this issue, given the impact on residents and danger to road users. **ACTION: Clerk**

Residents would be asked to contact the police to report dangerous parking and a contact would be obtained. Photos and CCTV footage would be provided to enforcement officials. **ACTION: Cllr Wilcox**

The complaint raised by a resident about poor visibility from Overlay Lane due to an unmown grass verge would be passed to Cllr Eagland to discuss with SCC Highways on safety grounds. **ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Eagland**

Concern about a tree on Mellor Drive being a danger to pedestrians would be forwarded to Cllr Eagland to ask SCC Highways to prune an safety grounds. **ACTION: Clerk and Cllr Eagland**

e Walkfield working group No report

12 Residents comments/correspondence

a Noted: that correspondence included:

- A request for the grass verge to be cut to improve vision at the junction of Overlay Lane and the A513 had been passed to the Traffic Management Working Group and to Cllr Eagland.
- A query about responsibilities for monitoring CCTV and traffic violations referred to Chair of the Traffic Management Group – response made by Cllr Wilcox who is liaising with the Police about actions and sanctions
- A query about purchasing tickets for the Open Gardens and Village Show had been responded to
- An update from the PPG on defibrillators had been circulated to Cllrs for information
- A letter of thanks from John Taylor High School for the grant to recognise student achievement had been received and circulated to Cllrs
- A complaint about parking on Main Street blocking residents' drives was passed to Traffic Management Group
- A reminder had been received that the dog waste bin on Micklehome Drive is damaged

Matters for report

13 Update on Planning Applications

a Noted: the update **APC/23-24/3/7**

14 Correspondence received since the last meeting

a Noted: that correspondence included:

- HS2 construction information including road closures
- Invitation from HS2 to webinars on funding opportunities
- Information from the organisers about the Bloodstock festival at Catton Hall 11-13 August 2023
- Further information from Highways England on planned works on the A38
- Information from SCC on road repairs
- SCC information on Croxall Road repairs
- Information from SCC on bus service changes

- Information from SCC on business support
- SCC Newsletter
- SCC consultation on climate change
- Updates from Staffordshire Libraries and Archives
- Information from SCC on funding opportunities
- Training information for Cllrs and Officers from SPCA and SLCC circulated
- Information from LDC on business support
- Information and updates from Staffordshire Association of Parish Councils (SPCA) and SSLC
- Updates from the Rural Services Network
- Updates from CPRE
- Pest treatment report for Walkfield circulated to Chair of Walkfield Working Group and Parish Council Chair
- Information from central government on registering defibrillators circulated to Cllrs and to the PPG

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

Noted: that the Open Gardens event had been very successful.

16 Parish Council Diary

a Past dates: Invitation to the Chair to attend the installation of the Knife Angel statue Saturday 1 July 2023. This had been a very moving and positive event.

b Future dates: John Taylor High School Presentation evening 11 July 2023

Cllrs visit to the Drop In 24 July 2023

Surgery at the George and Dragon – date to be confirmed. The Cllr was invited to participate when the date was confirmed by Cllr Wilcox. **ACTION: Cllr Eagland, Cllr Wilcox**

Celebration of the Transforming the Trent Valley Project at the NMA 6 September 2023

18 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

a Noted: that the August 2023 meeting would be cancelled.

b Noted: that the next meeting would be held on Monday 11 September 2023 at 7.30pm in the Village Hall

c Noted: that the agenda deadline is 12 noon on Thursday 31 August 2023

d Noted: that the October 2023 meeting would be cancelled.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Kathryn Powell,
Clerk,
11 July 2023.
Confirmed