

ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL

CONFIRMED MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF ALREWAS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 15 APRIL 2024 AT THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.30PM**Present:**

Cllr J Reilly (Acting Chair), Cllr S Keane, Cllr E Lawler, Cllr M Lomas, Cllr R Stephenson.

In attendance: CCllr J Eagland, Mrs D Moss (Clerk/RFO), Ms K Powell (Retiring Clerk/RFO and Minutes Secretary).

Mrs Moss was welcomed to her first meeting as Clerk/RFO.

1 Apologies

a Noted: Cllr D Whatton (illness), Cllr G Adams (holiday), Cllr M Wilcox (a meeting at LDC), District Cllr D Cross (a meeting at LDC).

b Noted: that the meeting was quorate.

2 Declaration of Members' new Interests

a Noted: that no new Interests were declared.

b Noted: that no new Dispensations were requested.

3 Minutes

a Approved: the Minutes of the monthly meeting held on 11 March 2024 were approved without amendment (**APC/23-24/9/M**).

b Noted: the updated Action Sheet (**APC/23-24/10/1**).

Noted: that the Action relating to the RBL Lease for the allotments had been finalised. **RESOLVED:** The Chair, Clerk and another Cllr were approved to sign the 5 year lease on behalf of the Parish Council. **ACTION: Chair, Clerk and another Cllr**

4 Public Participation

a) **RESOLVED:** to suspend Standing Orders.

b) Public Participation – None

c) District Cllrs: Noted: that a written report from District Cllr M Wilcox had been circulated to Cllrs. Cllr S Wilcox was thanked for arranging to have material that had been fly tipped in Alrewas removed by LDC.

d) County Cllr: Noted: CCllr Eagland reported that she had received complaints from residents objecting to the proposed pedestrian crossing on Main Street and about the proposal to remove safety barriers across footpaths which had been requested on disability access grounds. Noted: that the Parish Council were unaware of these complaints and can only act on complaints made to it. A meeting would be arranged between CCllr Eagland and the Clerk to discuss the issues. **ACTION: Clerk**

CCllr Eagland reported that HS2 had appointed a new officer for the area, Mr William Slater, and that she would be meeting with him. He would provide regular updates which she would circulate to local parish councils. He would also welcome an opportunity to attend a meeting with Alrewas Parish Council. **ACTION: Chair/Clerk**

CCllr Eagland requested that she was informed of any potholes on main roads that needed attention as SCC were commencing a project to address the issue.

ACTION: All Cllrs/Clerk

Cllrs were reminded of the availability of community funding for local groups and projects.

The Parish Council was asked to make a recommendation for the SCC Voluntary Service Award

ACTION: All Cllrs/Clerk

Cllr England reported that complaints had been made to Cllrs about the state of the canal towpath. She reported that this was not a matter for SCC but was the responsibility of the Canal and Rivers Trust. The issue should be reported to them.

ACTION: Clerk

Cllr England suggested that funding could be sought from Cemex or Tarmac to support any improvements to the towpath

RESOLVED: to reinstate Standing Orders.

Matters for discussion/approval

5 Planning

a Considered: Planning Applications from LDC: (**APC/23-24/10/2**)

24/00330/FUL Agreed: to support the application on the assumption that there is an existing PCP5

24/00257/FUH Agreed: to support the application subject to a suitable traffic management plan and that arrangements in place to stop debris blocking drains

24/00373/TCN Noted: that the following strong concerns were expressed about this Proposal:

- It is not clear if this is for a new provider or a replacement facility for an existing provider
- It is not clear that the required consultations have taken place. E.g. no pre application contact has been made with the Parish Council or District Cllrs
- The documentation presented refers to another location so the reason that a new structure is required in Alrewas is not clarified
- No technical justification for the proposal is available

Agreed: to recommend a strong objection

ACTION: Clerk

6 Financial matters

a **Approved** the Accounts for March 2024 (**APC/23-24/10/3**)

b **Approved:** the Cheques for Payment list for March 2024 (**APC/23-24/9/4**)

ACTION: Chair/Clerk

c Online banking: Noted: a verbal update from the Clerk that no further action had been taken. A further a discussion would be held with the Internal Auditor when she visited at the end of April 2024.

7 Parish Council grants

Noted: that the Communications working group had considered 4 of the 6 applications. The other two would be considered shortly and reported to the May 2024 meeting.

ACTION: Communications Group

RESOLVED: to accept the recommendation of the working group for the following grants which would be paid after the May 2024 meeting:

- All Saints School for the library £500
- Alrewas Arts Festival Shed project £250 but to note that the Arts Festival would be responsible for any on going maintenance which would not be the practical or financial responsibility of the Parish Council
- Alrewas Crochet Club for materials £100
- Drop In for support for activities £400

ACTION: Clerk/Accounts Officer

8 The Precept

- a Noted: that a full report on the rationale for the increase in the Precept had been published on the Parish Council website. LDC had approved the requested increase. As no member of the public had asked to speak to this matter in the Public Participation section of the agenda the matter was deemed closed.

9 Reappointment of the Website Hosting and Management service

- a **RESOLVED:** to reappoint the existing contractor at the increased rate, noting his excellent support for the Parish Council (**APC/23-24/10/7**). **ACTION: Clerk**

10 Waste collections

- a Considered: a complaint from a local resident about the nuisance of early morning waste collections from a local business (**APC/23-24/10/8**). Noted: that this had been raised with the local business by residents and the collections had been moved to a mid-morning collection. The matter was deemed closed.

11 Litter issues

- a Considered: a request from the Keep Alrewas Tidy group to erect "No litter" signs at locations around the village (**APC/23-24/10/9**). Agreed: that the Parish Council did not believe that such signs would be effective and it did not wish to see a proliferation of signs in the village. The Parish Council **DID NOT** agree to the proposal. **ACTION: Clerk**
Agreed: the Clerk was asked to request that the fish and chip shop should increase the waste bin provision outside of the shop, perhaps by having an extra waste bin which could be taken in every night, to minimise the rubbish around the shop. **ACTION: Clerk**

12 Proposed Christmas Market

- a APPROVED: the proposal from the Communications Working Group. It was recommended that a Christmas Food and Drink Fair was created on Main Street. No craft stalls would be provided to stop any adverse impact on existing Christmas Craft fairs in the village. The date was agreed as 15 December 2024 from 4pm to 7pm. It was hoped that local businesses would stay open and they would be contacted by the working group as plans developed. A road closure would be required. **ACTION: Clerk**

As there was little budget allocation for this proposal the working group would bring a further report to the June 2024 future meeting to see how costs such as Christmas lighting and the provision of a Santa's Grotto etc could be funded. **ACTION: Communications Working Group**

13 Council Working groups (Standing item – reports when required)

- a Communications:

Noted: that 450 individuals were now part of the Parish Council Facebook page

RESOLVED: to pay £35 for a table at the Arts Festival Market

ACTION: Clerk

Work was ongoing to develop a CCTV policy.

- b Environment and Development Working Group

Considered: the Jubilee Garden funding request: Noted: that Cemex had approved a grant of £2000 towards the cost of the water supply installation. The Parish Council noted its gratitude for the grant.

ACTION: Clerk

RESOLVED: to pay a for the cost of water installation, with the Cemex grant and to allow the Chair to approve up to a 10% increase in the quotation without bringing the matter back to the Parish Council, given the current increases in building work costs. This would be taken from the forthcoming savings in administrative costs. The Parish Council agreed to budget for approximately £150 per annum for the ongoing water charge, based on the costs of the Allotment Society

ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Adams

Other local groups would be approached for support for the costs of benches and seeds.

ACTION: Cllrs Adams/Reilly

AGREED: the Clerk would keep a tally of spending allocated against the savings in administrative costs, noting that the consultant in financial support would incur a cost to be included in the figures. **ACTION: Clerk**

d Quarry working group

Cllrs Lomas and Stephenson were thanked for taking on the role as APC representative on the quarry and HS2 liaison groups on shared basis.

ACTION: Clerk

e Traffic Management working group

The response from the Diamond Bus Company that the average speed of their buses through the village is 25mph was noted.

f Walkfield working group

Cllr Lomas was thanked for agreeing to Chair the working group

ACTION: Clerk

The Clerk would investigate whether the work on footings at the play area had been completed by LDC

ACTION: Clerk

g Utilities working group

Noted: that no report was made

14 Residents comments/correspondence

a Noted: that correspondence included:

- A request from a resident to update the Village noticeboard to be taken forward by the Clerk and Cllr Reilly **ACTION: Clerk/Cllr Reilly**

Matters for report

15 Update on Planning Applications

a Noted: the update (**APC/23-24/9/7**)

16 Correspondence received since the last meeting

a To note that correspondence includes:

- HS2 construction information including road closures
- Information from SCC on bus service changes
- Information from SCC on business support
- SCC consultation on adult health and social care provision
- SCC Newsletter
- Information from SCC on HAF Holiday activities
- Information from LDC about holiday activities "getin2it Easter 2024"
- 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
- Updates from the Rural Services Network
- Updates from CPRE

17 Police Liaison

a Smart Alerts which had been circulated to Cllrs were noted.

18 Update from the Civic Society

Noted: that a damaged bench had been repaired.

19 Parish Council Diary

a Past dates: None

b Future dates: John Taylor High School Presentation Evening 16 July 2024 at 6pm.

Drop in attendance dates would be confirmed

ACTION: Clerk

Dates for Parish Council surgeries would be confirmed at the May monthly meeting

ACTION: Cllr Wilcox/Clerk

20 Date of the next Parish Council Meeting

a To note that the Parish Assembly will be held on **Monday 13 May 2024 at 7pm** in the Village Hall

b To note that the Annual Meeting will be held on **13 May 2024 following the Parish Assembly** in the Village Hall

c To note that the May monthly Meeting will be held on **13 May 2024 following the Annual Meeting** in the Village Hall

b To note that the agenda deadline is **12 noon on Thursday 4 May 2024**

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Kathryn Powell

Clerk acting as Minutes Secretary

17 April 2024.

Unconfirmed